

To: SYB 11 Year Old Parents/Players
From: Alan Osetek, Major League Coordinator
Marji Warfield, SYB Summer Ball Coordinator
Date: May 20, 2009
Re: Summer Baseball Opportunities and Selection Process

Although the spring season just got into full swing, the summer baseball season will soon be upon us! Consistent with the last couple of summers, Southborough Youth Baseball plans to offer multiple summer ball opportunities for our 11 year old players who have participated in the Major league this spring.

Teams:

- The “Southborough 11 Americans”, will be comprised exclusively of eleven year old players (11 as of April 30, 2009). There will be up to 12 players on the team which will compete in the District and Milford tournaments.
- The “Southborough Nationals”, will be comprised of a blend of eleven and twelve year old players and will compete in the Hopkinton Sizzler. There will be 12-14 players on this team.

Team Selection:

Team selection will be based on both coach evaluations from spring ball play and on field evaluations conducted during one-day tryout sessions. **The evaluators at the tryouts will be selected from an experienced group of SYB coaches and league officials who do not have a child in that age group participating in the evaluations.**

- Depending on the number of players who choose to be evaluated for summer ball, ‘cuts’ may be required to maintain planned roster sizes. Please consider your child’s ability to handle the emotion of not being selected for a team when making the decision to tryout for summer baseball as this can be a difficult experience for some children.
- Further, please recognize that the summer baseball tournaments are competitive. Thus, please consider your child’s interest and maturity in competing in that type of environment.

Summer ball evaluations will be conducted on the following dates & times @ the Major League Diamond.

11 Year olds –Friday June 5th 6pm – 8pm

Every effort should be made to attend a summer ball evaluation session. Players who cannot attend the designated session for their age group should attend an alternate session during the weekend to give themselves the best opportunity to earn a spot on a summer team.

Selection Criteria:

Players will be evaluated on the following baseball skills (in no particular order of importance)

Running – Ability to run with speed and agility on the baseball field

Arm Strength and Accuracy

Pitching – Ability to throw strikes with consistency and poise

Fielding – Ability to consistently field ground balls and fly balls with proper baseball technique

Hitting – Ability to consistently hit the ball for contact and into the outfield

Catching – Ability to catch a pitched ball from a live pitcher with proficiency. Ability to throw the ball to prevent steals or base advancements with accuracy and velocity

Game Knowledge – Demonstrated ability to execute the correct play both offensively and defensively in common baseball situations

Sportsmanship and Attitude– Consistent exhibition of sportsmanship and team attitude during the regular season

Coach Selection:

Coaches will be selected based on their interest in coaching summer baseball, experience, coaching effectiveness, sportsmanship, and overall level of contribution to SYB. Summer ball coaches will be selected from the current pool of head coaches, assistant coaches, and league officials.

Commitment:

Summer ball entails a strong commitment on the part of all players, parents, and coaches. Summer season practices are expected to begin mid to late June and the season will generally run from late June through late July. Each team will likely play 10-12 games or more during this time period. In total, the commitment is likely to be as much as 4-5 days per week (including most weekends) for a 4-6 week time period.

It is expected that a player's summer ball team will be a top priority for the player during the summer season. Parents should consider their summer vacation plans, summer camp, and other sports commitments before choosing to play summer baseball. Coaches will expect 80% or better attendance at practices and games during the summer season.

Cost:

Summer ball teams are 'self-funding' to cover tournament fees, uniforms, and equipment costs. It is estimated that summer ball costs will be \$75-110 per player.

Questions

Please direct any questions about 11 and 12 year old summer ball to [Alan Osetek at alanosetek@hotmail.com](mailto:Alan.Osetek@hotmail.com). General administrative questions regarding summer ball may also be directed to Marji Warfield @ marji_mail@yahoo.com. Also, please check our website for updates and additional information @ www.southboroughbaseball.net.