

To: SYB 12 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 12 year old players who have participated in the Major leagues this spring.

Teams:

- The “Southborough 12 Americans”, will be comprised exclusively of eleven and twelve year old players (11 or 12 as of April 30, 2009). There will be up to 12 players on the team which will compete on the Williamsport Tournament team which will also compete in the Milford tournament.
- 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:

Per Williamsport rules, the Williamsport Tournament team cannot be selected via on field tryout process like we do for other age groups. Instead, players are selected by unanimous vote of major league head coaches. The process is an iterative process where each coach nominates 12 players for the team via confidential ballot. Any players who appear on all 8 ballots are then selected for the team. Remaining players will then be considered for subsequent rounds of balloting and so on until all 12 team slots are filled.

Note: By Williamsport rules, eleven year old players are eligible for selection to the Williamsport Tournament team. As such, eleven year old players who are be selected for this team will have the choice of playing on either the 11 year old District team or the Williamsport team. Players may not play with more than one team.

12 year old players who are not selected for the Williamsport Tournament team will be eligible for the 11 and 12 year old Hopkinton Sizzler team. Per Sizzler rules, a maximum of 9 twelve year old players will be selected for this team.

Selection Criteria:

Coaches will consider the following criteria when selecting 12 year old players for summer ball teams.

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. Expectations for attendance for the Williamsport Tournament team will be even higher.

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 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.