

NBSA Travel Policies

[NBSA Team Insurance Certificate](#)

Selection of Coaches and Teams

NBSA Policies for Travel Teams (Revised 11/19/2021)

I. SELECTION OF TRAVEL TEAM COACHES

- A. Each individual who desires to be the head coach of a travel team must submit a letter (by July 15 or other later date to be determined) to the Board of Directors setting forth the team and/or age group he/she is interested in coaching along with a synopsis of his/her experience.
- B. The Travel Committee will consider the NBSA coaching activities of Travel/Tournament coaching candidates. In addition to coaching ability, it is strongly advised that a Tournament Team coach has recent or current NBSA coaching experience within the same age group.
- C. The Board of Directors will review and act upon each coaching request.
- D. The Board of Directors will strive to select head coaches for the subsequent year's teams by late July or early August.

II. PLAYER TRYOUTS

- A. The "A" team head coach at each level is responsible for scheduling and conducting tryouts. He/she should include the coach(es) of all other eligible Travel Teams in tryout planning. NBSA recommends that the coach(es) also try to have several non-affiliated (no direct involvement with the age group) coaches assist with evaluations during tryouts.
- B. It is strongly recommended that the incoming coaches for an age group request the assistance of the outgoing coaches with player evaluation (in other words, the 2021 12u coaches assist the 2022 12u coaches).
- C. Before any player participates in an off-season workout, tryout or fall league activity, the player's parents/guardians must sign all relevant waivers.
- D. Tryouts will consist of at least:
 1. Two sessions of at least two hours in length (4 hours total) at the 8U - 13U age groups.
 2. One session of at least two hours in length (2 hours total) at the 14U and up age groups.
 3. Coaches may hold private tryouts for individual athletes as needed.
- E. Softball will hold tryouts at the even numbered age groups (8U, 10U, 12U, 14U, 16U, 18U).

- F. Coaches should work diligently to communicate the dates and times of their tryouts. Suggestions for information dissemination include emailing all age-appropriate House players and previous Travel players. Coaches should work with the House and Travel chairs to facilitate this process. NBSA recommends that coaches also work to publicize their tryout as appropriate for their age group.
- G. Each age group will be assigned a board liaison that will act in a supporting role and will assist in resolving issues that arise across the age group during tryouts.

III. SELECTION OF TEAMS

- A. Northville may offer teams in the following age groups:
 - 1. Baseball: 8U, 9U, 10U, 11U, 12U, 13U, 14U, 15U, 16U, 18U
 - 2. Softball: 8U, 9U, 10U, 11U, 12U, 13U, 14U, 15U, 16U, 18U
- B. The NBSA Board shall determine how many teams will be fielded at each age group based on talent level, number of players, and availability of fields.
- C. When one team exists at an age group, it is recommended there be a minimum of 11 players chosen for that team.
- D. When there is more than one team in an age group, the "A" team head coach may select up to 13 players, irrespective of age, from the tryout pool before the "B" team head coach may select players.
- E. All coaches at each age level are encouraged to work together to provide the most effective and beneficial placement of players possible. For example, if an individual will be a part-time player on the "A" team, but a starter on the "B" team, consideration should be given to placing the person on the "B" team if it is felt that such placement will be in the long term best interest and development of the player. If there is a disagreement between coaches as to where a player should be placed, the head coach doing the selecting shall work with the Travel Chair and /or board liaison to resolve the issue.
- F. With respect to team names, the "A" team will always be the Northville Broncos. The "B" team will be the Northville Mustangs. The "C" team will be the Northville Stampede. Additionally, at the 15U and older age group, teams may seek Travel Committee approval to play as a Broncos Scout team based on previous years results, schedule, and planned schedule for the upcoming year.

IV. COMMUNICATION

- A. A list of players who make the travel teams should be provided to the NBSA Travel Committee.
- B. Coaches should inform the Travel Committee of off season workouts and locations.

Player Eligibility

I. RESIDENCY RULES

- A. "Resident" is defined as any player who resides in the City of Northville, Northville Township or the Northville Public Schools District boundaries.
 - 1. A player who resides in Northville Township, but attends Plymouth schools is considered a resident.
 - 2. A player who resides in Novi or Salem Township, but attends, or could attend, Northville Schools is considered a resident.
 - 3. A player who resides in Farmington Hills, attends Farmington schools, but has a Northville mailing address is considered a non-resident.
 - 4. A player who resides in the City of Northville, Northville Township or the Northville Public School District boundaries but attends a private school in another community is considered a resident.
 - 5. A player who does not reside in the City of Northville, Northville Township or within the Northville Public School District boundary, but attends a private school in Northville (i.e. Our Lady of Victory, Northville Christian, St. Paul's, etc.) is considered a non-resident.
- B. Travel teams are allowed to have no more than:
 - 1. Baseball
 - a) Up to two (2) non-resident players allowed across the 8U age group.
 - b) Up to two (2) non-resident players allowed for each team in the 9U-13U age groups. These exemptions may be shared between teams in the same age group.
 - c) Up to four (4) non-resident players allowed for each team in the 14U-18U age groups; however, those exemptions shall not be shared between teams in the same age group.
 - 2. Softball
 - a) Up to two (2) non-resident players allowed for each team in the 8U-12U age groups; however, those exemptions shall not be shared between teams in the same age group.
 - b) Up to four (4) non-resident players allowed for each team in the 13U-18U age groups; however, those exemptions shall not be shared between teams in the same age group.
- C. Requests for any additional non-resident players must be approved by the Travel Committee, in advance, and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

II. AGE REQUIREMENTS

- A. The birthdate age cutoffs are selected by the national organizations. Currently the girls travel dates are calendar year, January 1 - December 31. The boys travel dates are May 1 - April 30.
- B. The 8u Boys travel teams shall have no more than two (2) 7u players on their roster. No 6U players shall be allowed to play on the 8u teams.
- C. Bronco teams (9u and older) shall have no more than two (2) younger age players-

- D. Mustang & Stampede teams, above the 8u age range, shall not have younger players "playing up" as NBSA strongly encourages players to play in their proper age group.
- E. For purposes of this paragraph: a Player playing with his school peers will not be considered to be a younger age player. For example: If an 11u Mustang team has 5th & 6th graders on it, a 5th grader will not be considered playing up with a younger birthdate.
- F. Before selecting a player to play up in an older age group, there must be a meeting between the player's parents, the older age coach and the younger age coach to discuss which team is appropriate.
- G. Requests for exceptions to the above clauses may be brought before the Travel Committee.

Guest Players

- I. GUEST PLAYERS
 - A. May only be used when a team is missing a positional player or a need exists to add an additional pitcher.
 - B. The other team at that age group should be sought out first for availability of a guest player.
 - C. The travel committee will be informed of the use of a guest player by the Head Coach
 - 1. Guest players coming from other Northville teams are exempt from the above clause.
 - D. Head coach must have the guest player fill out appropriate waivers and turn them in to the Travel Committee before the guest player competes.

Uniforms

- I. UNIFORMS
 - A. In order to maintain the branding identity of our program and our community, uniforms will be a combination of black, orange and white. Gray may be used as an accent color. The uniforms for each team will include the word "Northville" in the font with the swoosh underneath as shown in the picture below.
 - B. Hats should have the block "N" on the front.
 - C. NBSA approved vendors should be used for the procurement of the team's jerseys.
 - D. Special circumstances involving jerseys outside of the above standards should be brought before the Travel Committee for prior approval.
 - E. Northville branding:



Coaching Expectations and Sportsmanship

I. COACHING

- A. Sportsmanship. Head coaches must at all times ensure that the highest levels of sportsmanship are displayed by themselves, their assistant coaches, their players, and their team supporters.
- B. Head and assistant coaches shall adhere to the NBSA Code of Conduct, complete concussion training, and background checks as required by NBSA.
- C. Coaches are expected to hold their team's parents and spectators to the same sportsmanship standards expected from their team.
- D. Head coaches, assistant coaches, and players must remain in the dugout area when not actively participating. Non-participants in a game are not permitted in the dugout area.
- E. Uniformed players or designated adults may be used as 1st and 3rd base coaches. If uniformed players are used as base coaches, they must wear the designated batting helmets.

II. CONSEQUENCES FOR UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

- A. As outlined above, sportsmanlike conduct is expected. The penalty for unsportsmanlike conduct (throwing equipment in anger, obscene or abusive language or gestures, fighting, disputing ball/strike or judgment calls, etc.) by a coach, player, or spectator may be a warning or ejection from the game and playing area, depending on the severity of the incident. A second occurrence of an unsportsmanlike act by an individual should, under most circumstances, result in the ejection of the offender from the game (if applicable) and playing area. The intent is not for umpires (whose conduct must also be above reproach) to be looking to issue warnings or ejections, but that the coaches, players, and spectators should act appropriately as the participants develop their interpersonal skills while learning to play baseball.
- B. Coaches ejected from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct shall meet with the Umpires chairperson and receive approval to continue with further baseball activities

1. The board reserves the right to take further action based on the specific circumstances of the incident.

Sponsorships

NBSA Policy on Sponsorships (Effective 10/25/2021)

*All team sponsorship solicitations must comply with the NBSA Policy on Sponsorships

- I. General Guidelines:
 - A. NBSA will not seek sponsorships from companies whose activities are not appropriate for the youth membership in NBSA. For example, bars and party stores would not be appropriate sponsors. A restaurant that happens to serve alcohol may be appropriate.
- II. Impact on Amateur Eligibility:
 - A. NBSA will not do anything to jeopardize their player's amateur status.
 - B. A player may not directly or indirectly receive pay or financial benefits in consideration of or as a reward for participating in athletic competition or exhibition beyond reasonable expenses, or dispose of prizes from athletic competition for personal gain.
 - C. Player's uniforms should not display the sponsor names to avoid the appearance of advertisement.
 - D. Player's bags should not display the sponsor names to avoid the appearance of advertisement.
- III. Travel Team Specific Guidelines:
 - A. Travel teams should not solicit sponsorships from local merchants in Northville or Novi, thereby reducing NBSA's ability to solicit these sponsors. Travel team sponsorships would hopefully come from companies outside the area who may have other links to team members or parents.
 - B. Teams should not incorporate the sponsor's name into the team name. Appropriate team names are Northville Broncos, Northville Mustangs, and Northville Stampede.
 - C. Teams can purchase a banner to display sponsor names.
 - D. Teams can purchase ads indicating the companies who have sponsored their team.
 - E. Teams may apply the sponsorship dollars to tournament fees, leagues fees, uniform, and equipment costs.
 - F. In the rare instance where there are sponsorship dollars in excess of team costs, they may not be given to players or kept to benefit coaches. Excesses, if any, should be returned to the sponsors or documented and applied to next year's costs.