

NORTHVILLE BASEBALL-SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

POLICIES FOR TRAVEL TEAMS

Revised March 6, 2008

1. SELECTION OF TRAVEL TEAM COACHES

- A. Each individual who desires to be the head coach of a travel team must submit a letter (by August 1) 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 no later than its regular August meeting.

2. PLAYER TRYOUTS

- A. The "A" team head coach at each level is responsible for scheduling and conducting tryouts. He/she should include the coach(s) of all other eligible Travel Teams in tryout planning. NBSA recommends that the coach(s) 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 2007 12u coaches assist the 2008 12u coaches).
- C. Anyone who has registered to play on a travel team will be invited to the tryouts. Before any player participates in an off-season workout, tryout or fall league activity, the player's parents/guardians must sign a Liability Waiver.
- D. Tryouts will consist of at least 4.5 hours of activity. Ideally, at least 3 sessions, at least 1.5 hours in length, will be held. Circumstances may dictate other formats. However, the total amount of tryout time may not be less than 4.5 hours.
- E. Coaches should work diligently to communicate the dates and times of their tryouts. Suggestions for information dissemination include e-mailing all age-appropriate House players and previous Travel or Tournament Team members. Coaches should work with the NBSA Registrar to facilitate this process. NBSA recommends that coaches also put notice in the Northville Record.

3. SELECTION OF TEAMS

- A. Northville may offer teams in the following age groups:
Baseball: 8U (tournament), 9U (tournament), 10U, 11U, 12U, 13U, 14U, 15U, 16U, 18U
Softball: 10U, 11U, 12U, 13U, 14U
- B. 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. After the "B" team head coach has selected up to 13 players, the "C" team head coach (if there is one in the age division) may select up to 13 players. The last team selecting may choose as many players as their league allows.
- C. 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 will decide the issue.

- D. With respect to team names, the “A” team will always be the Northville Broncos. The second team may be referred to as the “Mustangs” or distinguished by color. For example, the “A” team could be Broncos Black and the “B” team Broncos Orange. If the teams are distinguished by color, the “A” chooses its color first.
- E. Each team is allowed 2 non-resident (outside of the City, Township or School District boundaries) players. Requests for additional non-resident players must be approved by the Board, in advance, and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- 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. A list of players who make the travel teams should be given to the NBSA Travel Committee.
- H. In order to maintain the identity of our program and our community, uniforms will be a combination of black, orange and white – the same as Northville High School. Gray may be used as an accent color. The primary uniform for each team will include the word “Northville” along with the team name.
- I. Coaches should advise the Committee of off season workouts and locations.

4. PICKING UP INDIVIDUALS FOR POST-SEASON TOURNAMENT PLAY

- A. Each individual added to a team for post-season tournament play may participate only as a pitcher. Exceptions:
 - I. When all the “original” team members have played in a game, the picked up player(s) may play any position
 - II. When the Board of Directors has approve, on a case-by-case basis, the picked up player(s) may play non-pitching positions(s), the affected picked up individuals may play any position.

5. COACHING

- A. Sportsmanship: head coaches must at all times insure that the highest levels of sportsmanship are displayed by themselves, their assistant coaches, their players, and their team supporters. Rule 6 outline remedies available to umpires when dealing with un-sportsman-like conduct.
- B. Head and assistant coaches shall adhere to the NBSA Code of Conduct.
- C. Coaches are expected to uphold their team’s parents and spectators to the same sportsmanship standards. Coaches are responsible for the behavior of their team’s spectators!
- 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.

6. CONSEQUENCES FOR UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

As outlined in Rule 5.A and 5.B, sportsmanlike conduct is expected. The penalty for un-sportsman-like conduct (e.g., 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 a un-sportsman-like 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 human skills while learning to play baseball.