

CGAA Baseball - Travel Baseball Player Evaluation Process

CGAA Baseball is committed to holding a fair and open evaluation process for all eligible baseball players. The evaluation is an opportunity for all players to demonstrate their skills to an independent group of evaluators and to be placed on a team that meets their baseball ability and skill level. The evaluation process will be conducted over the period of two days. DAY 1 will consist of station drills that are scored so the population at each age group can be ranked. DAY 2 of the evaluation will consist of coach-lead activities including but not limited to offensive and defensive drills and/or a scrimmage. After the completion of the second day the AAA level Head Coach for each age group will pick his team, then the AA Head Coach, etc.

CGAA baseball has developed the following evaluation process and guidelines with the best intentions for the program. Unforeseen circumstances may arise during the process, CGAA Baseball reserves the right to change or amend the process as needed for the best interest of the program using common sense and fairness in those circumstances.

Coaches Selection:

Coaching applications will be available on-line to all interested candidates. All coaching applicants will interview with the Travel Director and Coaches Selection Committee. The Coaches Selection Committee shall be appointed by the Travel Director. The selection committee will be made up of CGAA Baseball Board members and/or additional members appointed by the Travel Director.

Head Coaches will be selected based on experience, knowledge of the game, past involvement, and support of the entire baseball program. *Prospective* Head Coaches will be tentatively selected prior to evaluations. The *prospective* Head Coach will not participate during DAY 1 of the evaluation process for the age level they have applied for. If allowed by the Travel Director coaches may observe DAY 1 of the evaluations and take notes, but will not be allowed near or talk with the evaluators during the DAY 1 to influence or compromise the evaluation process.

- In order to be a coach for the top team the coach's son must rank from 1-16 in the evaluation.
- In order to be a coach for the second team the coach's son must rank from 1-32 in the evaluation.
- In order to be a coach for the third team the coach's son must rank from 1-48 during the evaluation process. A similar process will continue for subsequent teams.
- A coaching applicant that does not have a son in the level in which they are applying may be considered for any team.

Once the *prospective* Coaches son has made the team based on the Day 1 evaluation rankings the Head Coach will be officially appointed at that time. The coaches will be contacted at the conclusion of DAY 1 of the evaluation process and given the rankings and names of players they will be able to observe on DAY 2.

All Assistant Coaches will be selected from players who have made the team as outlined above and in the Player Selection Process. If an Assistant Coach has no son playing they may be selected to coach at any level.

Team Philosophy:

CGAA Baseball will make every attempt field teams at each level of play with AAA being the highest, AA second highest, and A third highest, so long as the teams are competitive with other surrounding communities.

CGAA Baseball will attempt to field one AAA team at each age level. If determined by the Travel Director, with input from the coaches that the top team in an age level cannot play competitively at the AAA level, the team may be placed at the AA level.

Multiple teams may be formed at the AA or A level if determined by the Travel Director, with input from the coaches that there is enough talent to support competitive teams. CGAA Baseball will attempt to form as many A level teams at each age level with the players at evaluations and including players recruited after evaluations. If multiple teams are formed at either the AA or single A level, the teams will be formed equally. An alternating draft scenario will be enacted in these cases in an effort to create equally talented teams.

All Travel teams and players will abide by all CGAA Baseball Division bylaws, general rules and policies as well as league rules of Metro Baseball League (MBL) and Gopher State Baseball League (MYAS).

Evaluation Process:

Travel team evaluations for ages 10U to 15U will be held in the fall prior to the upcoming season. Evaluation dates and times will be published on the CGAA Baseball Travel webpage.

Fall evaluations will consist of at least two sessions and no more than three sessions. The length of the evaluations will be determined prior to the first evaluation session, but may be adjusted by the Travel Director if necessary to conduct a fair evaluation process.

Players must attend all evaluation sessions or be given a waiver to be eligible to participate on AAA and AA level Travel teams. If additional players are needed to fill A level teams, players may be recruited by the Travel Director or potential coach after evaluations to fill out A level teams.

Players that move into town after the fall evaluation process has been completed and teams have been made will be given the opportunity to be evaluated by the Travel Director and the Head Coaches for the appropriate age level to determine what level the player will compete at during the following season. The evaluation process will be conducted in a manner as to best evaluate the skills of the individual. The extent of the evaluation may be limited by the venue.

Evaluation Waivers:

The CGAA Travel Director must approve any evaluation waiver. Non-medical waivers will not be given. A letter from a licensed physician providing the basis for requesting the waiver must be provided. Waivers will ONLY be granted if notification is made to the Travel Director PRIOR to the scheduled evaluation time. Players that become ill or injured during evaluations will be handled on a case by case basis.

Teams are not required to pick up evaluation waiver players. In order for an ill or injured player to make a traveling team, careful consideration about the player's ability had they been able to participate will be used, including but not limited to

discussions with current and past coaches. After the Travel Director has made consideration of the player's ability, it will be compared with the evaluations of current year participants at evaluations. Based upon this comparison a final decision will be made on the player's team placement.

Evaluation Process:

Independent evaluators will rate each player based on fielding, throwing, and hitting skills. Pitching, catching, and running skills may be taken into consideration at older age levels. No potential coaches will be allowed to evaluate during the DAY 1 evaluation process for the level they are applying to coach. Evaluations will be done by a point system. The scores from the evaluators will be totaled and the players will be ranked from highest score to lowest score.

DAY 2 evaluations will consist of coach-lead drills and/or scrimmages. The pools for DAY 2 evaluations (i.e., AAA, AA and A) will be made as follows:

AAA Pool – This group will consist of the top 16 players based on DAY 1 evaluation scores. Exception: Pitchers and Catchers may be chosen to fill a specific team need with the approval of the Travel Director; the pitcher or catcher must be ranked from 1-18 during the evaluation process and must be considered a primary pitcher or primary catcher.

AA Pool – This group will consist of players that ranked from 17 – 32 based on DAY 1 evaluation scores.

A Pool – This group will consist of players that ranked 33 and below based on DAY 1 evaluation scores. If more than 32 players remain in this group the group will be broken up into multiple 16 player groups for DAY 2 evaluation.

Player Selection Process:

Ages 10 to 15

AAA team selections will be made first. AA team selections will be made second, after the AAA team players are confirmed. A team selections will be made third, after AA team players are confirmed.

The top six (6) players as rated by the evaluators will play on the top team. The remaining players to fill said team will be chosen by the Head Coach with input from Assistant Coaches and the Travel Director based off of final rankings of the evaluators and their observations from DAY 2 of the evaluation process. Additional information may be obtained from the previous year coaches to help in the selection process. Other factors that will be considered are commitment, attitude, and team needs.

The same process as above will be followed for forming the AA team and A team. After the AAA team is selected, the remaining top six (6) players as rated by the evaluators will play on AA team and the coach will select remaining players to fill said team. After the AA team is selected, the remaining top six (6) players as rated by the evaluators will play on the A team and the coach will select remaining players to fill said team.

- To be eligible for selection to the AAA team a player must rank from 1-16 during the evaluation process. Exception: Pitchers and Catchers may be

chosen to fill a specific team need with the approval of the Travel Director; the pitcher or catcher must be ranked from 1-18 during the evaluation process and must be considered a primary pitcher or primary catcher. The AAA team will consist of a minimum of 11 players.

- To be eligible for selection to the AA team a player must rank in the next available top 16 remaining players during the evaluation process. If multiple AA teams are formed the teams are to be formed equally. The AA coaches must select players alternately from the next available 32 players. The AA team(s) will consist of a minimum of 12 players.
- The A level team(s) will be filled through a similar procedure as the AA teams. There is no guarantee that all players who go through the evaluation process will be assigned to a team, but CGAA Baseball will make reasonable effort to do so, including adjusting roster sizes within an age level and recruiting players after evaluations. The A team(s) will consist of a minimum of 12 players.

CGAA Baseball will make every effort to make team selections within two weeks after the final evaluation date. If necessary more time will be taken to ensure a fair and proper process. Teams will be posted on the CGAA Travel Baseball website.

All Ages

CGAA expects players to play at the highest level according to their skill and play at the level they are suited for based the evaluation process. Request to play at a lower level must be made in writing to the Travel Director prior to evaluations. Any player which chooses not to play for the team selected will be handled on a case by case basis by the Travel Director. In most cases, that player may only be eligible to play at the lowest A level team or play in-house if it is deemed a player/coach/parent is trying to gain an advantage by playing down a level.

Player Eligibility:

CGAA Travel Baseball is the feeder system to Park High School baseball and in order to accelerate player development of both programs, CGAA Travel players should play on teams with their school grade as of April 30th of the playing season as follows:

Grade	9 th /10 th	8th	7 th	6th	5th	4th	3 rd	2nd
Age Level	15	14	13	12	11	10U	10U	10U

If a player is a year older on April 30th than his grade, he will play at the higher age level as required by MBL and MYAS league rules. For example, a player is in 5th grade and is 12 years old on April 30th, he will play 12 year old baseball.

Exception will be given to players with exceptional skill desiring to play UP a level ahead of their grade and age level. Any player desiring to play up an age level beyond their school grade, EXCEPT 10U players, will be handled on an individual basis. A request in writing must be submitted to the Travel Director prior to evaluations and must be approved to participate in the DAY 2 evaluation process for the older age level. Said player will only be eligible to play for one (1) team but must evaluate in their appropriate age group as well as the age group they wish to play up to. To be eligible for the older team, the player's score must be in the top five (5) scores of the evaluation in that age level and selection must be approved by the Head Coach. If the player desiring to play up does not make the top team, the option

may be given for that player to play at the older age level AA or A team, depending on their final ranking and both team and age level needs at the discretion of the Travel Director. If the player is not chosen for any older level team, they will be put back into the lower age level and chosen based on their score and ranking at the lower age level evaluation.

Eight years old (8 years old on or before April 30th) is the minimum age to try-out for 10U teams. Eight and nine-year-old players are eligible to try-out for 10U teams WITHOUT special request from the Travel Director. Eight-year old players are not eligible to make the top level 10U team, they are eligible to make the second level and third level teams only. Nine-year-old players are eligible to make the top-level team.

Any player which attends an evaluation for another baseball association and returns to CGAA baseball will only be eligible to play on an A level team and will only play Travel baseball if players are needed to fill a roster.

Player Registrations and Payment:

All players attending evaluations will pay a non-refundable evaluation fee. NOTE: This is not your Player Registration Fee. Player registrations will take place in January thru March on-line. Notification will be sent via e-mail when player registrations are open. An initial payment of \$100 will be due by January 31st. This down payment will be used to purchase players uniforms. The remainder of the registration fee will be due by the close of registrations, usually the end of March.

Although the player makes a team in the fall after evaluations, the player has not officially claimed their place on the team roster until registration has been completed and payment has been made to CGAA Baseball. Once the registration period has closed in the spring, any player that has not paid the registration fee will no longer be able to participate in team activities and uniforms will not be issued until payment is received. Once payment is received the player may resume team activities.

Any player who quits a team after uniforms have been ordered will be responsible for the cost of the uniform and for all team expenses that they have incurred to that point. Any player who quits after they have been registered will not receive a refund unless approved by the Travel Director.

Last Revised June 2017