



LOYD SPETZ POST 1 BASEBALL

2026 Season Information | Cal Ripken

General Registration Information

Opening Dates

- December 1, 2025 - Registration Opens!
- Online registration will be available on our website and the system will prompt you to create your Sports Engine account - if you don't already have one.

Reminders for Registration

- New players will be required to upload a copy of their birth certificate.
- Please have your child's birth certificate scanned prior to registration.

League Registration Closing Dates

- **Majors, AAA, and AA Divisions** - registration will close on March 30, 2026
- **Rookie and T-Ball Divisions** - registration will close on April 15, 2026

Any late registrations will be put on a wait list. All team formations will be made, and any roster spots available will be filled from the waitlist. Waitlist registration requests can be emailed to info@bismarckyouthbaseball.org.

Processing and Cancellation Fee Policy

Processing Fee

- A **\$35 processing fee** will be applied to all registration cancellations. This fee is non-refundable and covers administrative costs associated with processing cancellations.

Late Registration and Late Fee

- Registrations submitted after the official registration deadline will incur a **\$25 late fee**.
- Late registrations may be placed on a waitlist depending on team availability, and placement is not guaranteed.

Refund Policy

- Once teams are formed, no refunds will be issued.

Waitlist Policy

- Players who register after the deadline or once divisions are full, will be added to a waitlist.
- Waitlisted players may be added to a team as space allows, with placement on a first-come, first-served basis.



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2026 League Divisions

5YO T-Ball	designated for 5-year-old players. (May 1, 2020 – April 30, 2021)	\$135
6YO T-Ball	designated for 6-year-old players. (May 1, 2019 – April 30, 2020)	\$135
Rookie	designated for 7-and 8-year-old players. (May 1, 2017 – April 30, 2019)	\$175
AA	designated for 9-year-old players. (May 1, 2016 – April 30, 2017)	\$175
AAA	designated for 9- and 10-year-old players. (May 1, 2015 – April 30, 2017)	\$175
Majors	designated for 11- and 12-year-old players. (May 1, 2013 – April 30, 2015)	\$175
Cal Ripken Travel	designated for 9-12-year-old players wanting to play travel division only. Players will need to complete all scheduled evaluations to be considered for a travel team. (May 1, 2013 – April 30, 2017)	See travel letter
Little League	Designated for 11 & 12 year old players wanting to play travel division in the Little League Tournament Trail. Players will need to complete all scheduled evaluations to be considered for a travel team. (September 1st, 2013 - August 31, 2015)	See travel letter
<i>Note: SportsEngine adds a management fee, which will be applied at checkout.</i>		

The above division ages are followed. Bismarck Youth Baseball is a charter member of both Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth League and Little League and must adhere to their guidelines. With this, we are unable to approve any requests to move a child to a different division.

Note: Travel players will not be rostered on a BYB league team or play in BYB league during the week.

A complete overview of each division can be found on the Bismarck Youth Baseball website.



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Skills Evaluations For AAA 9-Year-Old League Players

9 YO players will need to participate in a AAA skills evaluation, if they would like to play up in the AAA division with the 10 year-old players. If they are not selected to play in the AAA division, they will be placed in the AA division. Again for the 2026 season, BYB will be forming league teams by schools and will not require skills evaluations for the Cal Ripken league divisions, with the exception of 9YO players wanting to play in the AAA league division.

The skills evaluation date is Sunday, March 8th, 2026 from 6:00 - 7:00 pm at Sanford Sports - Bismarck.

Parent Volunteers

Bismarck Youth Baseball relies on dedicated parent coaches to lead our league teams and Cal Ripken travel program. BYB will provide additional coaching resources designed to support both experienced coaches and those new to coaching. These resources will offer valuable tools and guidance to help our coaches create a positive, skill-building experience for all players.

League Game Days and Times

T-Ball sessions will be played on Sunday evenings. Each session will be a combined practice/game.

All other divisions will have scheduled practices and/or games two nights a week - rotating Sunday - Thursday at either 5:30 or 7:30 pm. Detailed schedules will be posted once teams have been determined.

- AA, AAA, and Major Divisions will start the week of May 17, 2026.
- Rookie and T-Ball Divisions will start the week of May 31, 2026.

See the BYB website for the season opening and ending dates.

Travel Opportunities and Competition for BYB Baseball Players

Bismarck Youth Baseball is committed to continuing to grow the game of baseball. In preparation for the 2026 travel season, BYB aims to form two teams for each age division: Americans AAA and Americans AA. Depending on participation levels, additional AA teams may be formed. Last year, BYB was able to form two AA travel teams in most age groups. Teams typically practice two or three times a week, although some weeks may involve doubleheader games or practices during the week and games or tournaments on the weekend.



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Bismarck Youth Baseball is proud to announce that we have officially secured a Little League charter beginning in the 2026 season, creating even more opportunities for players and families throughout our community. With the addition of Little League, BYB players now have access to the Little League tournament trail, including the opportunity to compete for a spot at the Little League World Series in Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

For 9YO and 10YO's, the Americans AAA teams will be composed of the top 12 players from each age group, engaging in a more extensive tournament schedule on weekends, including participation in the North Dakota Cal Ripken AAA state tournament. The Americans AA teams will follow a competitive schedule, participating in local tournaments hosted by BYB or nearby Cal Ripken programs and will participate in the North Dakota Cal Ripken AA state tournament.

For 11YO and 12YO's, parents of players trying out will have the opportunity to rank their preference of level of play (Little League, AAA, AA). After tryouts have concluded, BYB Staff and the travel committee will consider this information during team formation.

In addition to weekend tournaments, travel teams will have the exciting opportunity to compete against local and regional Cal Ripken travel teams. Regular practice sessions, occurring two to three times a week, are planned for the teams, with some weeks featuring doubleheaders or midweek practices alongside weekend games or tournaments. Again, this year, the 11YO and 12YO AAA teams will continue to compete in the West Region Travel League.

Before travel tryouts, BYB will continue to share more information about the upcoming travel season.

2026 Cal Ripken Travel and Little League Tryouts - Saturday, Jan. 24 & Saturday, Jan. 31

Players trying out for a Cal Ripken travel and Little League team are required to attend both tryout dates. Please see more information regarding make-up dates below. Each session will take place at Sanford Sports - Bismarck facility. Below are the time sessions for each age group. Depending on interest levels, age groups may have staggered starts but will remain within the times listed below. (i.e. The 12YO session is from 10:30 am - 12:30 pm, one group will start at 10:30 am and the other group will start at 11:30 am). More information will be shared prior to tryouts.

Tryout Session Times:

10:30 am - 12:30 pm	12YOs
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	11YOs
3:00 - 5:00 pm	9YOs
5:00 - 7:00 pm	10YOs



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Make-Up Date – (9-12YO) – Sunday, Jan. 25 & Sunday, Feb. 1

If you find yourself unable to attend any of the designated tryout dates, we are pleased to offer an alternative opportunity. To request participation in the make-up tryout, please follow our simple process. Submit your request via email to travel@bismarckyouthbaseball.org by January 5th, outlining the reasons for your inability to attend the scheduled tryout and expressing your interest in the make-up date. The BYB Travel Committee will review each request; however, exemptions will be granted on a limited basis.

Make-up sessions will take place from 7:00 - 9:00 pm at Sanford Sports - Bismarck.

Cal Ripken Travel and Little League Open Gym Dates and Times - January 3, 10 & 17

All open gym sessions will take place at Sanford Sports - Bismarck. These sessions are intended for those interested in trying out for one of our Cal Ripken travel and Little League teams. BYB staff and board members will be available to answer any questions related to the travel program.

For 2026, pre-registration will be required for all open gyms and there will be a minimal fee of \$10 per session. More information and details regarding open gym registration will be shared in December.

Saturday, January 3

2:30 - 4:00 pm	12YOs
4:00 - 5:30 pm	11YOs
5:30 - 7:00 pm	10YOs
7:00 - 8:30 pm	9YOs

Saturday, January 10

2:30 - 4:00 pm	11YOs
4:00 - 5:30 pm	10YOs
5:30 - 7:00 pm	9YOs
7:00 - 8:30 pm	12YOs



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Saturday, January 17

2:30 - 4:00 pm	10YOs
4:00 - 5:30 pm	9YOs
5:30 - 7:00 pm	12YOs
7:00 - 8:30 pm	11YOs

2026 Sponsorship Opportunities

For those interested in sponsoring a league team, looking for other ways to support or wanting to learn more about BYB's sponsorship program, please email andrew@bismarckyouthbaseball.org.



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2026 Season FAQs | Cal Ripken

1. When can I register my child for the 2026 baseball season?

Registration opens on December 1st, 2025. All registration will be conducted online through our website. You will need to create a Sports Engine account if you do not already have one.

2. What are the league age divisions for the 2026 season?

Bismarck Youth Baseball adheres to Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth league age guidelines. The divisions are based on your child's age as of April 30th:

T-Ball: 6-year-olds

Rookie: 7 and 8-year-olds

AA: 9-year-olds

AAA: 9 and 10-year-olds

Majors: 11 and 12-year-olds

3. My child is 9 years old and wants to play in the AAA division. Is this possible?

Yes, 9-year-old players can try out for the AAA division. Skills evaluations for 9-year-olds interested in playing AAA will be held on **Sunday, March 8th, 2026 from 6:00 - 7:00 pm at Sanford Sports - Bismarck**. Players not selected for AAA will be placed in the AA division.

4. When do the different Cal Ripken league divisions start?

AA, AAA, and Majors: The week of May 17th, 2026

Rookie and T-Ball: The week of May 31st, 2026

5. What nights do Cal Ripken league teams have practice and games?

5YO T-Ball: Sunday afternoons. There will be a 45-minute practice starting at 3:30 pm, followed by a game until 5:15pm

6YO T-Ball: Sunday evenings. There will be a 45-minute practice starting at 5:30 pm, followed by a game until 7:15pm. Depending on the number of teams, we may also have practice game times that will begin at 7:30pm on Sundays.

Rookie/AA/AAA/Majors Divisions: Two nights per week on either Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday. (Practice/Game Times are 5:30pm or 7:30pm) Days and times will be rotating between teams each week.

6. Are uniforms provided?

BYB will supply players with a team hat, shirt, belt, baseball pants, and socks.



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6. What equipment do players need?

It is recommended that each player have their own baseball glove, and players may also want to wear baseball cleats. Other items such as a helmet and hat can be purchased, but each team will receive an equipment bag for their team. Items that will be available to the team: bats, game and practice baseballs, batting helmets, and catchers gear.

7. What are the tryout dates for the 2026 Cal Ripken Travel Teams?

Tryouts for Cal Ripken travel teams will be held over two Saturdays: **January 24th and January 31st, 2025, at Sanford Sports - Bismarck**. Players are required to attend both tryout dates. Specific times for each age group are listed on the Bismarck Youth Baseball website.

8. What if my child cannot attend the scheduled Cal Ripken Travel Team tryouts?

A make-up tryout date is scheduled for **Sunday, January 25th and Sunday, February 1st, 2026**. To request to attend the make-up tryout, please email travel@bismarckyouthbaseball.org by January 5th, 2026. Your request should outline the reasons for your inability to attend the scheduled tryout dates. Exemptions will be granted on a limited basis.

9. My child is interested in Cal Ripken Travel Baseball. Are there any opportunities to practice before tryouts?

Yes! Open gym sessions for those interested in Cal Ripken Travel Baseball will be held at Sanford Sports - Bismarck on **Saturdays, January 3rd, 10th, and 17th, 2025**. Times for each age group are listed on the Bismarck Youth Baseball website. BYB staff and board members will be available to answer any questions.

For 2026, pre-registration will be required for all open gyms and there will be a minimal fee of \$10 per session. More information and details regarding open gym registration will be shared in December.