

TRAVEL BALL



INFORMATION AND LETTER OF INTENT - BABE RUTH

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your interest in having your child tryout for Bismarck Youth Baseball's (BYB) 2026 travel ball program. BYB is a non-profit organization that sponsors youth league baseball and travelling teams for Babe Ruth baseball. Bismarck Youth Baseball is committed to growing the game of baseball, and this off-season BYB evaluated ways to provide additional opportunities in our travel program.

BYB is currently planning to form the following teams for the 2026 season:

- 13YO Americans AAA (*top 12-14 13YO players*)
- 14YO Americans AAA (*top 12-14 14YO players*)
- We will also have two AA teams. They may be 13/14 split evenly or split by 13s and 14s, the travel committee will make a decision following tryouts what is best for the program.

Note: In Babe Ruth, BYB will not allow players to self-designate for AA only.

AGE BREAKDOWN

13YO | May 1, 2012 - April 30, 2013

14YO | May 1, 2011 - April 30, 2012

NEW FOR 2026 - Online Travel Form

For 2026, BYB will be sending out an online travel registration form prior to tryouts rather than a hard copy form as we have done in the past. Please still select "interested in travel baseball" during registration.

TRAVEL BALL



INFORMATION AND LETTER OF INTENT - BABE RUTH

TRYOUT INFO

Tryouts for Babe Ruth Travel will be held on March 21st and March 22nd. Players are required to attend both tryout sessions. All sessions will be at Sanford Sports - Bismarck.

Babe Ruth Travel Make Up Session | March 25th 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm @ Sanford Sports - Bismarck (must have requested to attend and received approval)

13YO Players

Session 1 | Saturday, March 21 | 11:30am - 1:00 pm | Last Names A-G

Session 1 | Saturday, March 21 | 1:00 - 2:30 pm | Last Name H-Z

Session 2 | Sunday, March 22 | 4:30 - 6:45 pm | All 13YO Players

14YO Players

Session 1 | Saturday, March 21 | 2:30 - 4:00 pm | Last Names A-N

Session 1 | Saturday, March 21 | 4:00 - 5:30 pm | Last Name O-Z

Session 2 | Sunday, March 22 | 6:45 - 9:00 pm | All 14YO Players

Locations:

Sanford Sports - Bismarck, 3451 N 14th St. Ste. C

Players should arrive for tryouts no less than 15 minutes before their scheduled start time to get checked in. Baseball attire should be worn for tryouts (wear tennis shoes – no cleats) and players should each bring their own glove. Players are not allowed to wear any BYB travelling jerseys from previous years, or any clothing with their name on it. Hats and helmets with the BYB logo are permitted, as long as their name is not on it.

There is a \$20 per player travel tryout fee that must be paid at the first travel tryout session, to cover the facility rental.

TRAVEL BALL



INFORMATION AND LETTER OF INTENT - BABE RUTH

Note: UPDATE for Travel Tryout – Session 2 -- All players will be invited to attend the second tryout session. *It is the parent's responsibility to spend time getting players in basic shape (i.e. arm strength, aerobic conditioning, etc.) prior to tryouts.*

BABE RUTH TRAVEL OPEN GYM DATES AND TIMES - FEBRUARY 28, MARCH 7, MARCH 14

BYB will be hosting pre-travel tryout workouts on February 28, March 7, March 14. This will be a chance for players to get a feel for the tryout process and get additional reps prior to travel tryouts. This is optional, and players are not required to attend to be placed on a travel team.

All open gym sessions will take place at Sanford Sports - Bismarck. These sessions are intended for those interested in trying out for Babe Ruth travel 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(exception March 7th). More information and details regarding open gym registration will be shared in December.

Location: Sanford Sports - Bismarck, 3451 N 14th St. Ste. C

Time breakdown per groups for each week are listed in the *2026 Babe Ruth Season Information Letter*, which can be found on our website.

TRAVEL BALL



INFORMATION AND LETTER OF INTENT - BABE RUTH

Tryout Process Overview

The tryout sessions will be judged by independent (i.e. none of their own children will be players in the tryout group), experienced, and knowledgeable adult volunteers, coaches and/or college baseball players. Each player will be assigned a number for scoring, and the tryout process will ensure that no scoring mix-up occurs.

The tryout sessions will consist of a pro-style workout that focuses on the following areas:

Session 1

Hitting	Mechanics, Ball Contact, and Quality of Contact. Pitches will be delivered by BYB pitching machines (Jr. Hack Attacks). <i>Pitching speeds will 52-53 MPH for 14YOs and 51-52 MPH for 13YOs and will be set at 50FT.</i>
Infield	Mechanics (footwork, body positioning, and throwing), Defensive Movements (i.e. moving right, left, charging the ball, etc.), Fielding the Ball, Quality of Throw, and Arm Strength.
Outfield	Mechanics (footwork, body positioning, and throwing), Defensive Movements (i.e. moving up, back, right, left), Fielding the Ball, Quality of Throw, and Arm Strength.
Pitching	Mechanics, Ability to Consistently Pitch Strikes, and Arm Strength.
Running	Players will be evaluated on their overall speed. Home to 1st and shuttle runs will be utilized to determine a player's speed.

TRAVEL BALL



INFORMATION AND LETTER OF INTENT - BABE RUTH

At the conclusion of the tryout process, results will be reviewed by the BYB Travel Committee, BYB Staff and Coaches. Based on these results, the travel team(s) will be selected, and team rosters will be emailed with additional information for players to confirm their roster spot.

Note: Travel players will not be placed on a league team.

Travel Ball Fees

If your child is selected to be on a travel team, there will be an additional travel ball fee to help offset tournament fees, uniforms, equipment costs, umpire costs, and volunteering fee. If teams decide to play more games that require additional funds to pay for umpires the team must get permission from BYB and at the end of the season each family will be invoiced for the additional balance.

Travel Ball Costs

Babe Ruth Travel	\$225 base + \$250 travel fee = \$475 total
<i>Note: SportsEngine adds a management fee, which will be applied at checkout.</i>	

Volunteer Fee

Each player's family will be required to volunteer at BYB hosted travel tournament(s). If volunteer standards are not met, BYB will send an invoice for \$100/player to be paid at the end of the season.

TRAVEL BALL



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Raffle Tickets

Bismarck Youth Baseball is a 501-c(3) non-profit and strives to keep player costs low for parents. BYB relies upon grants, sponsorships, advertising, and player fees to fund its operations. Since these funding sources do not cover the total costs of operation, BYB will be requiring Babe Ruth travel players and parents to sell 20 raffle tickets to help make sure our program has adequate program funding for the kids. Once teams are formed, a deposit for the full value will be required once the tickets are picked up. BYB will not cash deposits until after the turn in deadline (June 30, 2026) and will only cash if terms are not met. More information will be provided during ticket distribution.

BYB understands that selling raffle tickets can be difficult for some families, but BYB must continue with a raffle until different, but reliable, funding sources are procured. Thank you in advance for helping sell raffle tickets and helping BYB support our kids

TRAVEL BALL



INFORMATION AND LETTER OF INTENT - BABE RUTH

Bismarck Youth Baseball Dual Roster Policy

1. General Principle:

Dual rostering of players is prohibited within BYB, unless approved by BYB. Players are expected to commit fully to a single team during a given season to ensure fairness, team cohesion, and consistent participation.

2. Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines regarding dual rostering of players within BYB. Once you are placed on a BYB team you are considered rostered and are not permitted to play on or be rostered on a second team that is not affiliated with BYB during the duration of the season.

3. Exceptional Circumstances:

In exceptional cases, a player may be granted permission to be dual rostered if it is deemed to be in the best interest of the player's development and the overall functioning of BYB. Such exceptions will be considered and approved by BYB's Board of Directors or designee.

4. Granting of Exception:

Players seeking dual roster status must submit a formal request to BYB, outlining the reasons for the request. The request must be submitted in advance of the season in question.

TRAVEL BALL



INFORMATION AND LETTER OF INTENT - BABE RUTH

5. Consideration and Approval:

The decision to grant dual roster status will be thoroughly evaluated by BYB's Board of Directors or designee. Factors to be considered include the player's skill level, commitment, schedule compatibility, and the impact on both teams. The decision will be made on a case-by-case basis.

6. Notification:

The player, along with the coaches and managers of both teams, will be notified of the decision regarding dual roster status. If approved, specific terms and conditions will be outlined, including expectations for attendance, playing time, and communication.

7. Monitoring:

Players with dual roster status will be closely monitored throughout the season to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions set forth by BYB. Failure to meet these expectations may result in the revocation of dual roster status.

8. Revocation of Dual Roster Status:

BYB reserves the right to revoke dual roster status if it is determined that the arrangement is not serving the best interests of the player, the teams, or the league as a whole. This decision will be made by BYB's Board of Directors or designee and communicated to all relevant parties.

TRAVEL BALL



INFORMATION AND LETTER OF INTENT - BABE RUTH

9. Amendments:

This policy may be amended or updated at the discretion of BYB's Board of Directors. Any changes will be posted on BYB's website.

By adhering to this policy, Bismarck Youth Baseball aims to ensure a positive and equitable experience for all players while maintaining the integrity of the league and promoting player development.

Bismarck Youth Baseball Program Continuity Policy

Effective February 1, 2026, any player eligible to participate in Bismarck Youth Baseball's (BYB) program who chooses to play in a different program will not be eligible for BYB's travel program for one season upon returning. This policy does not apply to BYB's league programs, where players are welcome to join at any time, or to seasons in which BYB does not offer a travel baseball opportunity. To be exempt from this policy, a player must receive a waiver from BYB to participate in another program. A player is deemed eligible if they reside within BYB's geographical boundaries.

Please view BYB's website for more information, including FAQ's regarding the policy.