

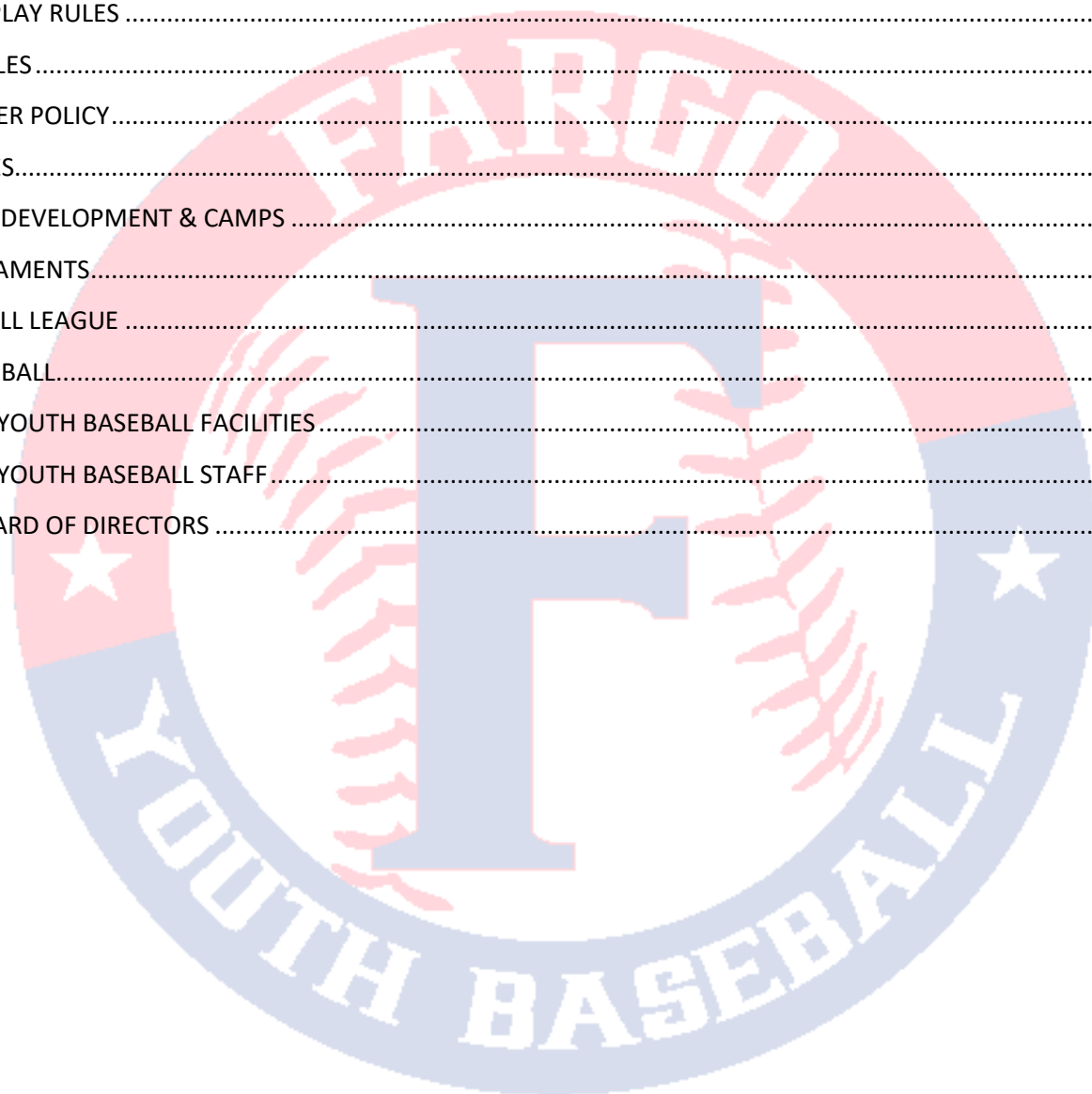


THE FARGO YOUTH BASEBALL EXPERIENCE

Table of Contents

MISSION	4
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE	5
PARENT ROLES AND EXPECTATIONS.....	6
PARENT’S CODE OF ETHICS:	6
CALENDAR OF EVENTS	7
CHARTER INFORMATION	8
RED RIVER VALLEY LEAGUE.....	9
REGISTRATION INFORMATION	10
DATES	10
PLAYER FEES.....	10
AGE CHARTS.....	11
FUNDRAISING.....	11
SCHOLARSHIPS	11
UNIFORM TRY ON DAYS.....	12
TEAM FORMATION/ASSIGNMENTS	13
TRAVEL TEAMS.....	14
LITTLE LEAGUE ALL-STAR PROCESS.....	15
TIMING:	15
ALL-STAR PLAYER SELECTION PROCESS:	15
IN THE EVENT OF A TRYOUT SHOWCASE:.....	15
EXPECTATIONS:	16
COACH INFORMATION AND ROLES	17
FYB Coaches Box	17
Coaching Requirements.....	17
COACH’S CODE OF ETHICS	18
CONCERNS/FEEDBACK	20
SPONSORSHIP & DONATIONS.....	21
INDOOR FACILITIES	22
the ATTIC:.....	22
Overview:	22
Rentals:	22
Birthday Parties:.....	23

Policies/Rules:	23
The Metro Rec.....	24
Overview:	24
Rentals:	24
Policies/Rules:	24
GAME PLAY RULES	25
BAT RULES	26
WEATHER POLICY	27
UMPIRES.....	28
PLAYER DEVELOPMENT & CAMPS	29
TOURNAMENTS.....	30
FALL BALL LEAGUE	31
SPRING BALL.....	32
FARGO YOUTH BASEBALL FACILITIES	33
FARGO YOUTH BASEBALL STAFF	34
FYB BOARD OF DIRECTORS	35



MISSION

Fargo Youth Baseball is a youth baseball organization for youth ages 5-15. Fargo Youth Baseball operates under the kid's first philosophy with the core values of sportsmanship, respect and honesty.

The organization was created in October of 2017 by the merging of Fargo Babe Ruth and Fargo Little League with support from the Fargo Park District. This merger allows us to provide the best experience for all youth baseball players in the Fargo area.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to Fargo Youth Baseball!! We are excited to be a partner in your baseball experience. A lot of transition and growth has happened in the last couple years with the merger of Fargo Babe Ruth and Fargo Little League into Fargo Youth Baseball. With the merging of the two organizations, we are able to provide more resources to your player's baseball experience.

Fargo Youth Baseball bases each and every decision on Kids First and we strive to ensure Fargo Youth Baseball does its job to provide the best experience possible. We have two indoor baseball facilities that we take great pride in to allow players to train year-round along with 4 full time employees that are committed to you and your child's experience.

Recently, Fargo Youth Baseball has partnered with the Fargo Park District and Post #400 Legion Baseball on renovating Helling Field (now STARION FIELD) at the Tharaldson Baseball Park. Starion Field has a fully turfed infield, grandstands, concession stand, batting cages, a smooch ball field and a state-of-the-art scoreboard. Updates and upgrades will continue to take place at Starion Field in the upcoming years.

We know you have lots of options competing for you and your family's time, so thank you for being part of Fargo Youth Baseball. I am personally excited about what we can do together for the kids of this community through baseball.

If you have any questions or concerns, we are available to hear your feedback. If you wish to contact me personally, my email address is alex@fargoyouthbaseball.com.

Thank You,

Alex Sumner

PARENT ROLES AND EXPECTATIONS

Parents play an extremely important role in the athletic and personal development and growth of their child(ren)....even if they are not coaching. Fargo Youth Baseball appreciates the ongoing support from the adults in our community who engage their children in youth athletics. We ask that parents be positive and supportive role models for not only their own child(ren), but for everyone involved in the Fargo Youth Baseball organization. Fargo Youth Baseball has enacted the following code of ethics and asks that all adults supporting our youth players embrace and help others embrace these. If there is an issue or you have feedback that you feel needs to be addressed, we ask that you contact your coach to discuss the situation. If the issue/feedback cannot be resolved between the parent and coach, we ask that the coach contact the FYB office for additional assistance, guidance, input or resolution. If the parent does not feel comfortable bringing the issue/feedback to the coach first, they may then bring it to the FYB office on their own. However, we prefer that you work through your coach first if at all possible. In any instance, the 24 hour rule MUST be abided by. The FYB office will not address any issue or feedback until 24 hours after the initial situation occurred.

PARENT'S CODE OF ETHICS:

Parents should:

- Remember that youth are involved in organized sports for their enjoyment, not yours
- Encourage players to learn, understand and abide by the rules
- Teach their children that honest effort is as important as winning
- Try to turn defeat into victory by helping your child work towards skill development and good sportsmanship. Define winning for your child as giving her/his best effort.
- Recognize the value and importance of our volunteer coaches
- Attend as many games as possible and participate actively in parent/coach meetings.
- Be on time when dropping off or picking up your child for practice or games
- Encourage others to refrain from negative or abusive sideline behavior.
- Honor the game and show respect for all involved including coaches, players, opponents, spectators, and umpires.
- Learn the rules of baseball and support the efforts of the umpires.
- Refrain from "coaching" their child from the stands.
- Follow the "24-hour Rule" – no discussions with coaches or FYB staff about any potentially controversial issue(s) relating to the team, an individual or coaching decision until at least 24 hours after the game has ended.

Parents should not:

- Force an unwilling child to participate in sports
- Publicly question an official's judgment or honesty
- Ridicule or criticize a player or coach for losing or any other reason
- Condone physical or verbal abuse of players, coaches or umpires
- Confront any umpire or official, EVER. Give your feedback to the Fargo Youth Baseball office.

If any parent, guardian or adult is verbally or physically abusive to an umpire, coach, official, league representative or player, his/her child may be suspended from the League and the offender may be banned from future games at all complexes. This decision will be made by the Fargo Youth Baseball Board of Directors after a review of the situation.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Each off-season, FYB will post a calendar of events on our website. This will be under the “MORE” tab, then “CALENDAR”. Or, you can click the link below to go directly to the calendar. The calendar of events will include important dates for Fargo Youth Baseball happenings, some of which include: picture dates, season start dates, uniform try-on day, etc. This calendar is reviewed and updated each year and some dates are tentative or subject to change. Any updates or changes to the calendar will be posted on the same page on the website, so check back often to ensure the date(s) did not change.

<https://www.fargoyouthbaseball.com/page/show/35577-calendar>



CHARTER INFORMATION

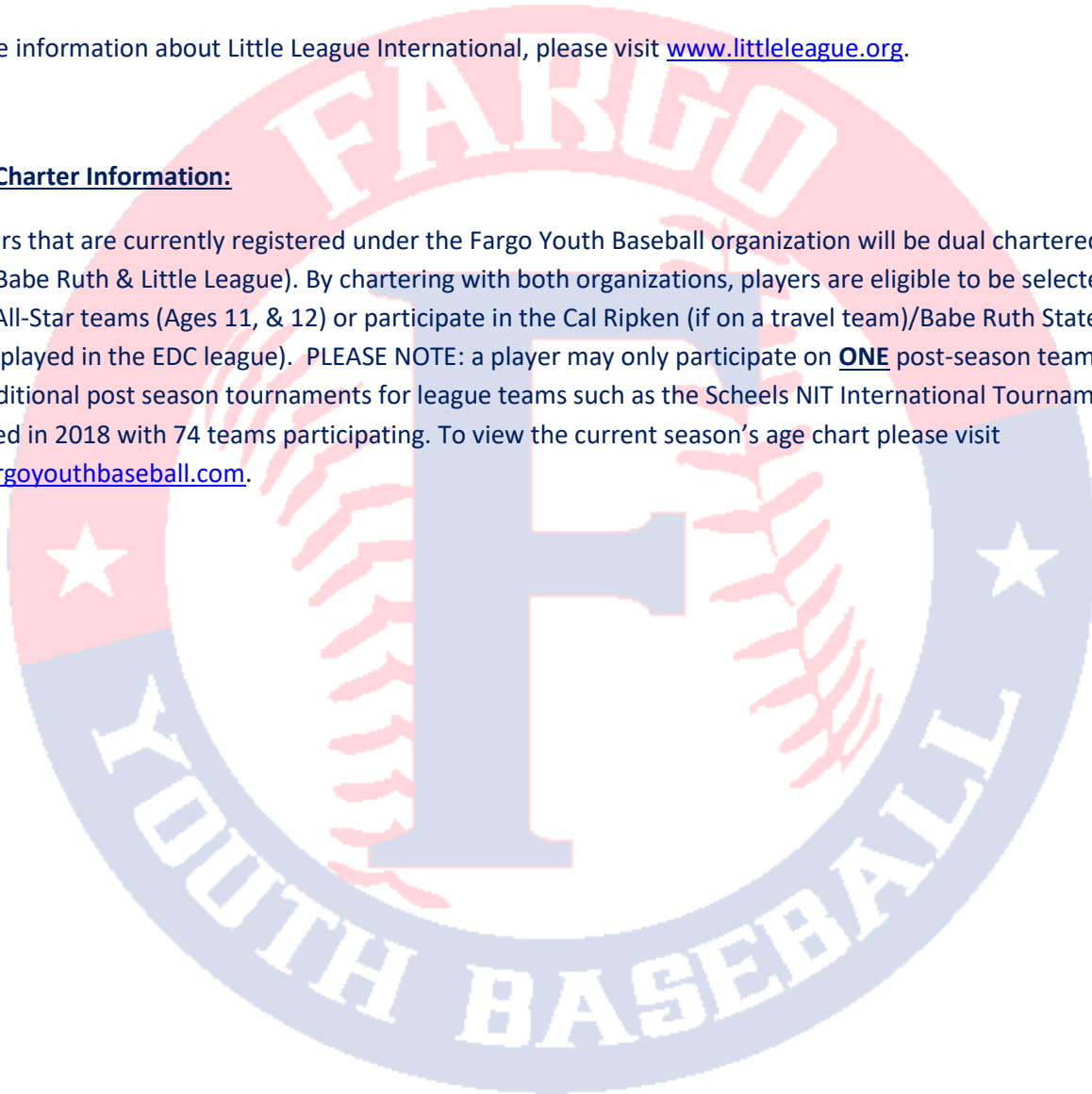
Fargo Youth Baseball is a proud member of both Babe Ruth International and Little League International. With the merging of Fargo Babe Ruth and Fargo Little League, our board of directors saw value in both organizations. Therefore we opted to charter with both the Babe Ruth and Little League organizations.

For more information about Babe Ruth International, please visit www.baberuthleague.org.

For more information about Little League International, please visit www.littleleague.org.

League Charter Information:

All players that are currently registered under the Fargo Youth Baseball organization will be dual chartered (Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth & Little League). By chartering with both organizations, players are eligible to be selected to the Little League All-Star teams (Ages 11, & 12) or participate in the Cal Ripken (if on a travel team)/Babe Ruth State Tournament (if team played in the EDC league). PLEASE NOTE: a player may only participate on ONE post-season team). We also offer additional post season tournaments for league teams such as the Scheels NIT International Tournament which originated in 2018 with 74 teams participating. To view the current season's age chart please visit www.fargoyouthbaseball.com.



RED RIVER VALLEY LEAGUE

The Red River Valley League is our in-house (non-travel team) league. The league is comprised of teams from Fargo, West Fargo, and Moorhead. Depending on the year and age group, we may also have teams from additional surrounding communities involved as well. Games will be played in all 3 cities (Fargo, West Fargo & Moorhead).

The purpose of the Red River Valley League is to include additional surrounding cities so teams play different competition throughout the summer and avoid having to play the same teams over and over. We make every attempt to balance the schedule for the teams from a competitive standpoint and location standpoint. Fargo Youth Baseball has the discretion to modify a certain team's schedule in order to keep the competitive balance of the league.

Red River Valley League teams will play approximately a 20 game, regular season schedule with most age groups playing one game, two nights a week. Depending on the number of teams and field availability, Fargo Youth Baseball may have a certain age level play one doubleheader a week instead of the one game, two nights a week. If a team is from outside the Metro area, that team will play one doubleheader, once a week. Red River Valley League games will be played Monday-Thursday. We DO NOT play any league games on Fridays or the weekends. Fargo Youth Baseball encourages teams to schedule and play additional games outside of their schedule if they so choose. There are several tournaments around the area and Fargo Youth Baseball does host some as well. FYB will host a 9-12 NIT tournament in June and a 8-15 NIT tournament the last weekend of July each year. These tournaments are for in-tact, league teams ONLY....no All-Star or Travel teams. Entry fee is \$150. We encourage all of the Red River Valley League teams to participate as this will be the ONLY end of season tournament. We will NOT host a league tournament.

As part of their registration and membership, players of Fargo Youth Baseball will receive a jersey and hat and is theirs to keep.

Once teams are formed, which is immediately following registration close, no refunds will be given unless it is an extenuating circumstance in which these must be brought to the Fargo Youth Baseball office.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Fargo Youth Baseball utilizes SportsEngine as our website provider and this includes using their registration system. By using this system, it streamlines our registration process and makes it easy for us to gather the pertinent information necessary for participation in our program. During the registration process, some information requested may be personal or sensitive in nature. Any personal information is kept confidential and is only accessible by the Fargo Youth Baseball office. If you prefer to fill out a registration off-line, please contact the office and we will supply you with a paper copy of the registration. Additionally, you **MUST** be registered for the current season in order to utilize any of our indoor facilities.

DATES

- Registration opens in Mid-November and closes in Mid-March every year
- We will keep registration open after the mid-March close date, however, there will be a \$25 administrative fee added on and we cannot guarantee placement on a team roster. Typically, we are able to place late registrants on teams as we do not want to turn anyone away, but based on what the numbers are in a particular age group be aware that we may not always be able to accommodate late registrants.
- If a player is intending to try-out for one of our Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth travel teams, registration **MUST** be in no later than **FEBRUARY 14th** every year. The reason for this hard deadline is to allow us time to set up for the proper number of players trying out. Anyone registering after this deadline will not be allowed to try-out for a travel team and will be placed on a Red River Valley league team.

PLAYER FEES

There is a fee associated with participating in Fargo Youth Baseball. These player fees are necessary to cover expenses that include jerseys, hats, equipment, umpires, field fees and administrative work associated with running the local league. *****these are subject to review and may change or vary when registering*****

- Current Fees per age group:
 - 5 & 6 year olds: \$100/player
 - 7 & 8 year olds: \$200/player
 - 9-12 year olds: \$300/player
 - 13 year olds: \$380/player
 - 14/15 year olds: \$325/player
- We do offer a discount on your registration if you register prior to January 1st
- We offer a payment plan option when registering online where you will pay half the fee upon completing registration and the other half will be automatically withdrawn on April 1st.
- Any registrations received AFTER the mid-March deadline will incur a \$25 administrative fee.
- Refunds will be granted based on the following division and dates:
 - League – prior to the close of registration (mid-March)
 - Travel – prior to the first tryout date. No refunds once tryouts have begun.
 - Any requests after these dates will not be granted, except for a player having unexpected medical reason(s).
- **TRAVEL ONLY:** Any player that is selected to a Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth travel team will incur an additional fee that will be due by **May 15th**. This actual amount of this fee will be based on the number of games and tournaments the specific travel team schedules (determined by the head coach of each team).

AGE CHARTS

Fargo Youth Baseball charters with both the Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth and Little League national organizations. Charts can be accessed on our Fargo Youth Baseball website or on the corresponding national organization website. Due to this dual charter, we utilize and recognize age charts from both organizations. These age charts are slightly different in their structure. For league play and team placement, your player can utilize either age chart to determine what age group they would fall into. In some instances, a player may fall into a different age bracket on one chart than the other. If this is your situation, you are able to choose either age group to participate in. Age charts are posted on our website.

****NOTE FOR ANY CAL RIPKEN/BABE RUTH TRAVEL PLAYERS ****

- Any player trying out for a Cal Ripken or Babe Ruth travel team **MUST** follow the Cal Ripken (9-12) or Babe Ruth (13-15) age charts.

****NOTE FOR ANY LEAGUE PLAYER (ages 11 & 12) WHO WANTS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR CONSIDERATION FOR THE LITTLE LEAGUE ALL-STAR TEAM****

- Any league player (ages 11 & 12) who would like to be eligible for consideration for the Little League All-Star teams **MUST** follow the Little League age chart.

FUNDRAISING

Fargo Youth Baseball does NOT require any player or family to fundraise. However, we do offer families the opportunity to fundraise to recoup some of the registration fee cost.

- League players will have the opportunity to recoup up to \$150 of the registration cost
- Travel players will have the opportunity to recoup up to \$300 of the registration cost and additional fees.

We do not require fundraising as we have found that many families prefer not to fundraise. However, we do provide the option for those families who would like to have the opportunity to make some of their money back. During the registration process, you will be asked if you are interested in fundraising. If you select 'yes', the Fargo Youth Baseball office will reach out to you once registration has closed to give you additional details about the fundraising option(s). These options may vary from year to year, but we will always offer a fundraising program for those who are interested. For information on the current year's fundraising option, please visit <https://www.fargoyouthbaseball.com/fundraising>.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Fargo Youth Baseball wants to provide an opportunity for all youth to participate if they so desire. We understand that there are circumstances that make it difficult for some families to afford the registration cost. In order to be eligible for a scholarship, we require that the family provide us with a copy of the free or reduced meal plan from the school the player attends. This fulfills the necessary information regarding financial hardship. We also will ask that you fill out a form with some additional information for our records. Once the 2 pieces of information are received by the FYB office, we will review to either approve or deny a scholarship. Once approved, the scholarship will cover half of your registration cost. Being that this process involves some personal information, we ask that anyone interested in obtaining more information or applying for a scholarship contact our office and speak with one of our staff members.

UNIFORM TRY ON DAYS

****THIS IS FOR RED RIVER VALLEY LEAGUE PLAYERS ONLY. TRAVEL TEAMS DO NOT NEED TO ATTEND THESE DAYS****

It is Fargo Youth Baseball's goal and responsibility to ensure each family has a fun and smooth baseball season. This includes uniform and hat fitting, knowledge of Fargo Youth Baseball's program, and equipping parents with the knowledge they need for the upcoming season.

Each year Fargo Youth Baseball will be hosting uniform try on days at the ATTIC (1892 17th Ave S). These days will be the 3rd week in March (the week following the close of registration; check calendar of events for dates each year). There are scheduled time slots depending on age group. Please check our website at www.fargoyouthbaseball.com and your email for the appropriate time slots. We HIGHLY recommend coming to information day as the jerseys and hats may vary in sizing from year to year.

During uniform try on days, players will have the opportunity to:

- Try on jerseys for correct size.
 - Players are not able to take the jersey home that day, as we have uniform try-ons to make sure the jersey fits for the season. Once the jersey size has been confirmed it takes close to 4 weeks before the player will receive their jersey. Because of the fast turnaround from registration closing to first game, jerseys will typically arrive just in time for the first game.
 - If you are unable to attend one of the uniform try-on days, we will order the jersey size you put on the registration form. If, when the jersey arrives, it does not fit, we can order a new one. However, there will be an additional charge for any jersey re-orders. It will take a few weeks to get the jersey in.
 - Players will receive their jersey from their coach once they arrive. AS SOON AS the jerseys arrive, we immediately hand them out to the coach.
 - What happens if I lose my jersey?
 - Please contact the office at 701-232-9225 or email info@fargoyouthbaseball.com to order a new one. There will be an additional charge and it does take a few weeks to get the jersey in.
 - For the time being please wear a shirt that matches your team color. Players and teams will not be penalized for not having a matching jersey on.
- Try on hats for correct size.
 - Players will try on a hat to make sure it fits for the season. The player can take the hat home with them and it is theirs to keep.
 - What happens if I lose my hat?
 - Call the Fargo Youth Baseball office at 701-232-9225 or email info@fargoyouthbaseball.com to make sure hats are available. For an additional hat, it is \$20 to purchase a new one.
- Information Table
 - FYB will have an information table set up to answer any questions and may have some handouts. For more detailed information about the program and what to expect for the season, please visit our website at www.fargoyouthbaseball.com for the parent manual called the FYB Experience.

Fargo Youth Baseball does NOT supply pants and individual equipment such as bats, glove, cleats, socks, etc. To purchase those items please visit Scheels or Play It Again Sports to fully equip your player.

TEAM FORMATION/ASSIGNMENTS

Fargo Youth Baseball allows Red River Valley League teams to stay together year after year. Any player can request a desired coach and may also request to play with a certain player(s). Please keep in mind that we cannot guarantee a player will be placed on the same team as their desired coach or a certain player(s), but we will do our best to accommodate your request. We feel this is the best option to allow kids to play with their friends and to develop familiar chemistry with teammates and coaches.

Coaches may also submit a roster of desired players to the Fargo Youth Baseball office by sending an email to info@fargoyouthbaseball.com.

For those who do not have specific requests or those whose requests are not able to be met, the player will be placed on a team based off what school they attend and their geographical location if registered before the deadline. Any registrations received AFTER the registration deadline, those players will be placed on a waiting list and assigned to a team that has roster spots open; regardless of school or geographical location.

For 9-12 year old teams, any team that plays in the Red River Valley League will **NOT** be eligible to compete in the Cal Ripken state tournament. Only travel teams will be allowed to compete at the state tournament.

For 13-15 year old teams, in order to be eligible for the state tournament, a team **MUST** compete in the EDC league. This can be a travel team or a formed team. Anyone who competes in the Red River Valley League is ineligible to compete at the Babe Ruth state tournament.

Cal Ripken and Babe Ruth travel teams will be selected through a try out process. For more information on travel teams, please visit the Travel Teams section of this document.

Little League All-Star teams (11 and 12 year olds ONLY) will be selected in early June from Red River Valley league players. For more information on Little League All-Star teams, please visit the Little League All-Star section of this document.

TRAVEL TEAMS

Fargo Youth Baseball offers an opportunity for players looking for a competitive experience. We offer the travel program for ages 9-15. Players must go through a try out process to be considered for one of these teams with the exception of the 13 – 15 year old age group. Team that are formed in the 13 – 15 year old age group are allowed to submit in writing to the Board of Directors if they choose to participate in the Babe Ruth State Tournament. Each team is considered on a case by case scenario. Our travel teams are affiliated with Cal Ripken and Babe Ruth International and must follow the rules and guidelines as set forth by these organizations. The deadline to register and declare intent to try out for a travel team is February 14th each year.

TRY OUT PROCESS:

Travel team tryouts are typically held in late February or early March. The tryout schedule will be posted on the Fargo Youth Baseball website when dates are finalized. There will be two tryout dates/times for each age group and a player **MUST** attend at least one to be considered for a team. Attending both is not a requirement, but it is highly recommended. ***Once a player tries out for a team, no refunds will be given.***

During the tryout process, players will be evaluated and teams will be chosen by an independent evaluator group, along with the head coach of the team. Our evaluators will have no ties to the players (except the head coach if a parent) and are typically local high school baseball coaches, legion baseball coaches, former college baseball players and Fargo Youth Baseball staff. Parents (unless a head coach) are NOT allowed in the facility during the tryout process. If a player is NOT selected for a travel team, that player will be placed on a Red River Valley League team.

EXPECTATIONS:

Travel teams do require a high level of commitment. These teams can expect to play 30-50 games, (schedule is dependent on each individual coach) which includes some weekend games, 3-4 tournaments and the opportunity to compete at the North Dakota Cal Ripken (9-12) or Babe Ruth (13-15) State Tournament.

- The 9 and 10 year old teams will be Cal Ripken affiliated and play on 60' bases with a 46' pitching mound distance. There is no leading off, but stealing is allowed once the ball crosses the plate.
- The 11 and 12 year old teams will also be Cal Ripken affiliated and play on 70' bases with a 50' pitching mound distance. Leading off and stealing is allowed.
- The 13, 14 and 15 year old teams will be Babe Ruth affiliated and play on 90' bases with a 60'6" pitching mound distance.

Players who are selected to a travel team will incur an additional fee on top of the initial registration fee to cover additional game field cost, umpires, tournaments, etc. This fee must be paid to the Fargo Youth Baseball office by May 15th each year.

*****Please note: For 11 and 12 year olds, any player selected to one of the travel teams will NOT be eligible for the Little League All-Star teams as you may only play on ONE post season team. Travel players are NOT eligible to play in the NIT tournaments.***

LITTLE LEAGUE ALL-STAR PROCESS

When it comes to All-Star teams, it is the intent of Fargo Youth Baseball to field a team that will best represent our league in competition and character. All of the baseball players need to have an opportunity to make the team regardless of popularity, school affiliations, or parental influence. For those that are not selected for the team, the details regarding their candidacy shall be held in the strictest of confidence and remain private.

All selection decisions regarding All-Star teams need to be made with these Board and District approved ideals in mind. Several characteristics permeate our selection process for players and managers for the All-Star teams.

- Skill-level and ability to compete
- Attitude, hustle, team spirit, team leadership, and
- Overall character, integrity, and sportsmanship

Winning is fun, but it is very important that we remember that Fargo Youth Baseball is a child development program and that we are about teaching life lessons, building and demonstrating the positive ideals and characteristics that we hope for all our children.

TIMING:

The All-Star team selection process will begin no sooner than two weeks prior to the first tournament game or on the 1st of June, whichever is first. The All-Star team CANNOT be announced at any earlier date than is prescribed by Little League Rules each year. The All-Star practices typically begin around the third week in June. Practices begin immediately upon team selection and usually run 2 to 3 hours per day and can be up to 6 days a week up to the time of the All-Star tournaments. The All-Star tournaments typically begin the second or third weekend in July. There is no advancement tournament for the 11-year-old All-Star team. However, for the 12-year-old team, if Fargo wins the State tournament they would move on to the regional tournament and the Little League World Series that take place in early August to late August.

ALL-STAR PLAYER SELECTION PROCESS:

The All-Star team selection process will consist of a committee selected by the Board of Directors. The committee will consist of board members and league coaches. At the start of the process coaches will nominate players that they feel meet the needs of Fargo Youth Baseball that will best represent the league. If a player is not nominated by a coach, this does not exclude him or her from the All-Star process. A list of players per age group is put into a pool amongst their peers. The committee, throughout the season, will keep notes of each player per age group. These notes are strictly confidential. When deemed necessary, the Board of Directors can call for a tryout showcase for further assessment surrounding fielding the most competitive team. The committee will then choose a roster of 12-13 players per age group that best fit the qualifications assigned by the League and will be finalized by the Board of Directors. For the 12-year-old age group, due to Little League International's rules, no more than 4 players per league team can be selected for the All-Star team.

IN THE EVENT OF A TRYOUT SHOWCASE:

The pool of players that has been set forth by the All-Star committee may receive a special invite for a showcase to determine the finalized roster. At the showcase, players will be evaluated on the board approved ideal characteristics.

Players will perform drills based on the desired coach's and committee's needs. Some drills include but not limited to: ground balls, flyballs, pitching, catching, speed, and hitting. After the showcase the All-Star committee will meet at a scheduled date to finalize the roster.

EXPECTATIONS:

All-star teams do require a high level of commitment. These teams can expect to play 10 games, (schedule is dependent on each individual coach) which includes some weekends and multiple practices during the week.

- All-Star teams will be Little League affiliated and play on 60' bases with a 46' pitching mound distance. There is no leading off, but stealing is allowed once the ball crosses the plate.

All players ARE REQUIRED to continue practicing and playing with their league team. If at any time a player decides not to commit to their normal league team, consequences could result in removal from the All-Star Team.

Players who are selected to an All-Star team will incur an additional fee on top of the initial registration fee to cover additional game field cost, umpires, tournaments, etc. This fee must be paid to the Fargo Youth Baseball office at an assigned date set forth by the Fargo Youth Baseball Staff. Payment is typically asked upon acceptance of the All-Star team. The additional fee can range anywhere from \$100 - \$200.

*****Please note:***

- ***Players that are selected for the All-Star team are ineligible for the end of season NIT Tournament.***
- ***Also, players that participate on a Cal Ripken Travel Team are ineligible to participate in the Little League All-Star process.***

COACH INFORMATION AND ROLES

Fargo Youth Baseball relies on volunteer coaches to manage our teams. The only exceptions to this are Travel coaches (if they so choose to use some budget to take a salary) or Red River Valley League teams that do not have a volunteer step forward to coach the team. If a Red River Valley League team does not have a volunteer coach, there may be an additional cost for each player's family in order to supply and pay for a coach. Additional information, documents, coaching tips and the coaching application may be accessed on our website at the following link:

<https://www.fargoyouthbaseball.com/coaches>.

FYB Coaches Box

Fargo Youth Baseball is excited to announce our new coach's education program. This will be the online headquarters for Fargo Youth Baseball coaches and will contain modules to enhance your knowledge of the game, sample practice plans, drills and training tips. To see all the great features the FYB Coaches box has to offer, please visit the following link: <https://www.fargoyouthbaseball.com/coachesbox>

Coaching Requirements

In order to be eligible to coach, anyone who will be coaching in any capacity (head coach, assistant coach, or just helping at practice) **MUST** complete the coaching/volunteer application form on our website **AND** have a picture of a valid ID on file with the FYB office. The coaching/volunteer application and ID is required as this provides the necessary information for our organization to conduct background checks for anyone working with our youth players. If any information is reported back to us from the background check that is of concern, FYB will have a conversation with the coach applicant and said applicant may not be allowed to coach determinant on the information received. For questions regarding how to complete the necessary requirements to be a certified FYB coach, please visit the following link:

<https://www.fargoyouthbaseball.com/coacheschecklist>

Coaches are vitally important in the development of the players and the overall success of the Fargo Youth Baseball organization. Without these volunteers, we would not have a program. Red River Valley League coaches are allowed to form their own teams as long as the player chooses to play for them and teams are allowed to stay together year over year. Any coach wishing to submit a roster must do so by the March deadline listed on the coach's page on our website.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

1. Baseball is a game of repetition and therefore practice is a key component in the development of every player, regardless of skill level. For this reason, FYB makes it mandatory that each coach hold a ***minimum of 1 practice a week (this does not apply for 5&6 year olds)***. Practice days and times are determined by each team's coach(es). FYB encourages coaches to speak with the players' parents to determine which day and time works best for their team.
 - a. Please keep in mind that practice fields are based on a first come, first serve basis. This is the policy of the Fargo Park District that we must abide by. ***No team or individual will have exclusive rights to a field.*** If more than one team is at the same site at the same time, we ask that the coaches work together to share the field and space available.
2. FYB encourages every team to have at least 2 or more coaches (you can never have enough!). Having more coaches is beneficial in helping run a more productive practice to keep all kids engaged.

3. FYB also encourages coaches to utilize coaching resources provided by USA Baseball, Little League and Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth. Each of these organizations provides in-depth information on practice plans, drills, rules, and fun games to keep your players engaged.
4. Read, understand and follow Red River Valley League rules. **ALL** teams **MUST** adhere to the rules put in place and cannot play under altered rules. These rules can be found on our website at this link: <https://www.fargoyouthbaseball.com/leaguerules> and are also in the coaches Red River Valley League handbook. These rules are in place not only for the safety of the players, but also for the development of every player.
5. A meeting for all coaches will be held prior to the start of each season. The purpose of this meeting is for FYB staff to share any new updates and information with all coaches, go over rules and rule changes and answer any questions prior to the start of the season. Team equipment will also be handed out at this meeting.
6. Hold a parent meeting prior to the season. The purpose of this meeting is for the coaches to get a chance to get in front of all their parents and cover expectations for the season.
7. Appoint a team parent to assist in handling off field duties. Coaches put in quite of bit of their own time on the field and it is extremely helpful if each team has a team parent who can assist with off field duties such as emailing out information to the team regarding practices, games, team events, etc.
8. If utilizing one of our indoor facilities, please help abide by the facility rules. These can be found on our website site at this link: <https://www.fargoyouthbaseball.com/indoorfacilities>. This includes no food, gum, seeds or drink on turf areas, bringing a second pair of dry shoes to keep the turf clean, etc.
9. If any issues arise during the season, we ask that you have your parents contact you (the coach) first. If it is something that needs to be brought to the attention of the FYB office, we ask that the coaches contact the office. In any instance, no matter if it is a coach or a parent, please abide by the 24 hour rule before contacting anyone.

COACH'S CODE OF ETHICS

1. Coaches will:
 - Keep in mind that the player is the most important part of the program and that learning and developing is more important than winning.
 - Understand the rules of the game and share that understanding with the players
 - Treat players fairly and equally
 - Maintain a neat appearance
 - Be prompt
 - Display kindness, consideration, and understanding towards the players
 - Share ideas and techniques with other coaches for the betterment of the League
 - **Attempt to use all players at each position during the regular season, especially for younger age groups**
 - Be considerate of other teams
 - Be well prepared for practices
 - Have a positive attitude at all times
 - Have a knowledge of first aid
 - Teach players to respect officials' decisions.
2. Coaches will not:
 - Yell at or across the field at or attempt to intimidate or influence umpires.
 - Use offensive language or engage in disruptive or inappropriate behavior.
 - Physically or verbally abuse players, coaches, or officials

- Use tobacco, alcohol or illegal drugs prior to or while supervising players during practice or games. Violation of this rule will result in immediate dismissal from this organization.

Non-compliance with this code of ethics will result in a review of the coach by the appropriate city's board to determine disciplinary action. A coach thrown out of any game may face additional game suspensions and possibly dismissal from the league based on their actions.

*****ALL coaches MUST sign the coach's code of ethics form, which is included on the on-line coach registration*****



CONCERNS/FEEDBACK

As with any organization, Fargo Youth Baseball recognizes that concerns may arise from time to time and that there are differing varieties of concerns. We do ask that, no matter who or what the situation is regarding and who (whether coach, parent, etc.) is bringing forth the concern, the 24 hour rule be abided by. This means that we ask that the concern NOT be brought forth until AFTER 24 hours has passed. This gives everyone a “cool down” period and allows anyone involved an opportunity to reflect on the situation. If, after 24 hours has elapsed, it is deemed the concern needs to be addressed, we then ask that you follow the procedures and chain of command listed below. Additionally, we send out a survey at the end of each season to give anyone an opportunity to share their feedback (good or bad) which allows us to consider possible adjustments or changes for the upcoming year and years to come.

COACHES:

If a coach has a concern and 24 hours has passed, please feel free to contact the Fargo Youth Baseball office at info@fargoyouthbaseball.com or by calling at 701-232-9225. Typically, an agreement, compromise or move forward plan can be made after meeting with the FYB Grievance Committee. In some circumstances, depending on the nature of the concern, it may be brought forth to the FYB board of directors for a review of the situation and possible disciplinary action may follow based on that review.

PARENTS:

If a parent has a concern and 24 hours has passed, we ask that they contact their coach or coaches first. If the concern cannot be resolved between the parent and coach, we then ask that the coach contact the FYB office to determine a resolution. If, for some reason, the concern cannot be brought to the coach first, the parent may bring this to the FYB office. Typically, an agreement, compromise or move forward plan can be made after meeting with the FYB Grievance Committee. In some circumstances, depending on the nature of the concern, it may be brought forth to the FYB board of directors for a review of the situation and possible disciplinary action may follow based on that review.

UMPIRES:

If an umpire has a concern regarding a coach, player, fan or any other person or situation, we ask that they first contact the umpire coordinator/assigner. We prefer that this be done as soon as possible after the completion of the game (if applicable). If the concern needs to be brought to the FYB office, the umpire coordinator/assigner should contact the office. Typically, an agreement, compromise or move forward plan can be made after meeting with the FYB Grievance Committee. In some circumstances, depending on the nature of the issue or concern, it may be brought forth to the FYB board of directors for a review of the situation and possible disciplinary action may follow based on that review.

SPONSORSHIP & DONATIONS

Interested in becoming a Sponsor or Donor? While a nominal fee for participation is charged to families of the players, Fargo Youth Baseball relies on donations to operate the program at the highest level and to keep up with facility needs including, but not limited to, field use, equipment, uniforms, and administrative costs. Fargo Youth Baseball does not require volunteer hours from parents and all funds are raised from local community donations and through local sponsorships. All sponsors will receive their logo on the Fargo Youth Baseball website with a direct link to the company's website. Sponsors receive recognition for their donation and receive a record of their donations for tax purposes. For more information on how you can become a sponsor please contact Fargo Youth Baseball office at 701-232-9225.

Naming Rights & Personal Donations:

Fargo Youth Baseball is currently accepting donations for the Indoor Facility (The ATTIC) for upkeep and payoff of the building. Donations to the Indoor Facility will be recognized on the Donor wall for any value \$250 or more. Fargo Youth Baseball appreciates the support from our families in the Fargo Youth Baseball Program. Please visit www.fargoyouthbaseball.com for more information.

Team Sponsorship - \$600

A \$600 sponsorship includes a Fargo Youth Baseball team, company logo on the front of the players' uniform, a picture of the team and website presence on Fargo Youth Baseball's website, www.fargoyouthbaseball.com. Fargo Youth Baseball will arrange to have jerseys made and pay for the cost of uniform.

Banner Sponsorship - \$500

A \$500 sponsorship includes a banner on the outfield fence at Tharaldson Little League Complex and/or Brunsdale Complex. The banner design will be agreed upon between the company and Fargo Youth Baseball. Companies will have the option to commit to a 1-year opportunity for \$500 or a 3-year opportunity for \$1,400. Signs will be up for all games and tournaments played April – October. Local and out of town players and fans will see the fence signs throughout the summer, creating great exposure for your business. Fargo Youth Baseball will arrange to have the sign made, pay for the cost of the sign, and display your website/logo on Fargoyouthbaseball.com.



INDOOR FACILITIES

Fargo Youth Baseball currently has two indoor facilities, the ATTIC and the Metro Rec Center, that are available to our members and outside groups for training and practice. Both facilities are free for any player that is registered with Fargo Youth Baseball for the current season. If it is found that a player is not registered for the current season and they are utilizing one of our facilities, they will be asked to sit out or not participate until registered. This is for liability reasons. The facilities are also available to non-members and other organizations for a rental fee. Anyone 18 and under must be supervised by an adult at both facilities.

FYB members must reserve times for use using our on-line reservation tool. This can be accessed on our website at: <https://www.fargoyouthbaseball.com/indoorfacilities>. Due to high demand, we would like to have the ATTIC available and used for team and larger group practices in order to give all FYB teams an opportunity to practice in the pre-season. Individuals or small groups should reserve and use the Metro Rec.

the ATTIC:

Overview:

The ATTIC is the headquarters for Fargo Youth Baseball at the Tharaldson Little League Complex. It is located at 1892 17th Ave. S. in Fargo, across the street to the south of Fargo South High School. The ATTIC is an 11,000 square foot indoor practice facility and is sponsored by All-Terrain Grounds Maintenance and includes the following features:

- Fully turfed infield
- 6 pull out batting cages
- Pitching mounds
- Hitting equipment including bats, helmets, wheeled ball caddies, smush balls, whiffle balls and a pitching machine
- Parents lounge (called The Upper Deck) which includes our donor wall, a hospitality station, a TV, Wi-Fi and viewing area overlooking both the indoor practice field and All-Terrain field (the NW field of the Tharaldson Baseball Little League Complex).
- Mezzanine (next to The Upper Deck) which includes a bar rail overlooking the indoor practice field, Wi-Fi, picnic tables, 65" TV, Bubble Hockey and Big Buck Hunter arcade games.
- Water Machine for water bottles
- Fargo Youth Baseball offices

Rentals:

The ATTIC is available to rent out for anyone not registered with FYB for the current season or outside groups. These rentals will be based on a first come, first serve basis based on availability. For availability of rental times, please email us at info@fargoyouthbaseball.com. We do require that a waiver be signed by each individual using the facility for liability purposes. Below are the rental rates:

- Single Cage: \$40/hour
- Double Cage: \$60/hour
- Entire Facility: \$150/hour

Birthday Parties:

The ATTIC is available to reserve for birthday parties for all members of FYB and non-members. Birthday parties receive access to the entire facility. Outside food and beverages are allowed, however all food and beverage **MUST** stay upstairs. **NO FOOD OR BEVERAGES ARE ALLOWED ON THE TURF AREA.** We have also partnered with Games to Go as an option for your birthday party. For more information on the exclusive Games to Go birthday party packages, please visit our website at the following link: <https://www.fargoyouthbaseball.com/birthdayparties>. Below are the birthday party rental rates:

- Fargo Youth Baseball member: \$100/2 hours
- Non-FYB member: \$150/2 hours
- If adding a Games to Go package: facility rental cost will be reduced by \$50

For availability and to reserve the ATTIC for your birthday, please contact Fargo Youth Baseball at info@fargoyouthbaseball.com.

Policies/Rules:

1. **ABSOLUTELY NO SEEDS OR GUM ALLOWED.**
2. **NO FOOD OR DRINK** is allowed on the turf area. A water cooler is available in the rubber floor area. We recommend bringing your own water bottle to fill up.
3. **ABSOLUTELY NO SPIKES ALLOWED.** Only tennis shoes will be allowed on the turf.
4. Anyone under the age of 18 **MUST** be supervised by an adult.
5. Helmets **MUST** be worn in the batting cages at all times. We have helmets available to use.
6. Return all equipment back to the storage area to its proper place when done. L-screens should be placed on the brown batter's mats.
7. In order to keep the turf clean, your players **MUST** bring a second pair of shoes. It is very difficult to clean mud spots off the turf. Wet shoes must be stored on the rubber flooring area.
8. Bathrooms are located in the entry/office area. Please respect the office area and keep your players off the carpeted area and away from office desks.
9. Do not allow anyone to run through the office area, up and down the stairs or in the mezzanine or parents' lounge.
10. Do not sit or stand on the bar ledge in the mezzanine level.
11. Do not stand on any chairs or picnic tables.
12. Throw all trash in a trash receptacle.
13. Check to be sure you have all your equipment before leaving. Anything left behind will be held in the office for a short time. If items are not claimed, we will donate them to goodwill.
14. Report all mishaps and/or damage to the Fargo Youth Baseball office within 12 hours.
15. Fargo Youth Baseball members may block a maximum of **ONE (1)** hour at a time no more than 48 hours in advance and must do so through the FYB office.
16. Teams are allowed a maximum of one, one hour practice per week (max of 3 cages) to allow time for other teams to use the facility. Additional times/practices may be added in a week if there are spots open 48 hours in advance.
17. Respect others using the facility and be sure you are done when your allotted time is up.

The Metro Rec

Overview:

The Metro Rec Center is the headquarters of FYB League Operations. It is located at 3110 Main Ave in Fargo. Fargo Youth Baseball has office, meeting and equipment storage spaces inside this facility as well as 2 batting cages. Some equipment is provided such as baseball, helmets, tees and 2 pitching mounds. We do recommend bringing your own equipment and recommend pants and long sleeves in the Metro Rec. If equipment disappears, we will not continue to supply it. The Metro Rec also is home to the Archery Club and some local soccer clubs as well. The soccer fields are STRICTLY OFF LIMITS. Access to the Metro Rec cages is through the NORTH DOOR facing Main Avenue. When time is reserved by a FYB member, they will receive an email with a key box code. The key in this key box will get through the outside door and also unlock the cages. We recently have upgraded the lighting in the cage area. The light switch will be along the south wall once inside the cages.

Rentals:

The Metro Rec is available to rent out for anyone not registered with FYB for the current season or outside groups. These rentals will be based on a first come, first serve basis based on availability. For availability of rental times, please email us at info@fargoyouthbaseball.com. We do require that a waiver be signed by each individual using the facility for liability purposes. Below are the rental rates:

- Single Cage: \$40/hour
- Double Cage: \$60/hour

Policies/Rules:

1. ABSOLUTELY NO SEEDS OR GUM ALLOWED.
2. NO FOOD OR DRINK is allowed on the turf area. Please keep these items outside the cage area on the benches in the hallway.
3. NO SPIKES ALLOWED.
4. Anyone under the age of 18 *MUST* be supervised by an adult.
5. Helmets *MUST* be worn in the batting cages at all times. We have helmets available to use.
6. Return all equipment back to its proper place when done.
7. In order to keep the turf clean, we ask that your players bring a second pair of shoes. It is very difficult to clean mud spots off the turf. Wet shoes must be stored in the hallway outside the cages.
8. STAY OUT OF THE SOCCER FIELDS.
9. Throw all trash in a trash receptacle.
10. Check to be sure you have all your equipment before leaving. Anything left behind will be held in the office for a short time. If items are not claimed, we will donate them to goodwill.
11. Report all mishaps and/or damage to the Fargo Youth Baseball office within 12 hours.
12. Fargo Youth Baseball members may block a maximum of *ONE (1)* hour at a time.
13. Respect others using the facility and be sure you are done when your allotted time is up.
14. Please be respectful and DO NOT take Fargo Youth Baseball equipment home with you. If equipment disappears, we will not replace it and you will need to provide anything you need on your own.
15. Be sure to return the key to the lockbox and be sure it is locked when you leave.
16. Ensure the door is shut tight behind you when you enter and leave. You may need to pull it to shut tight.

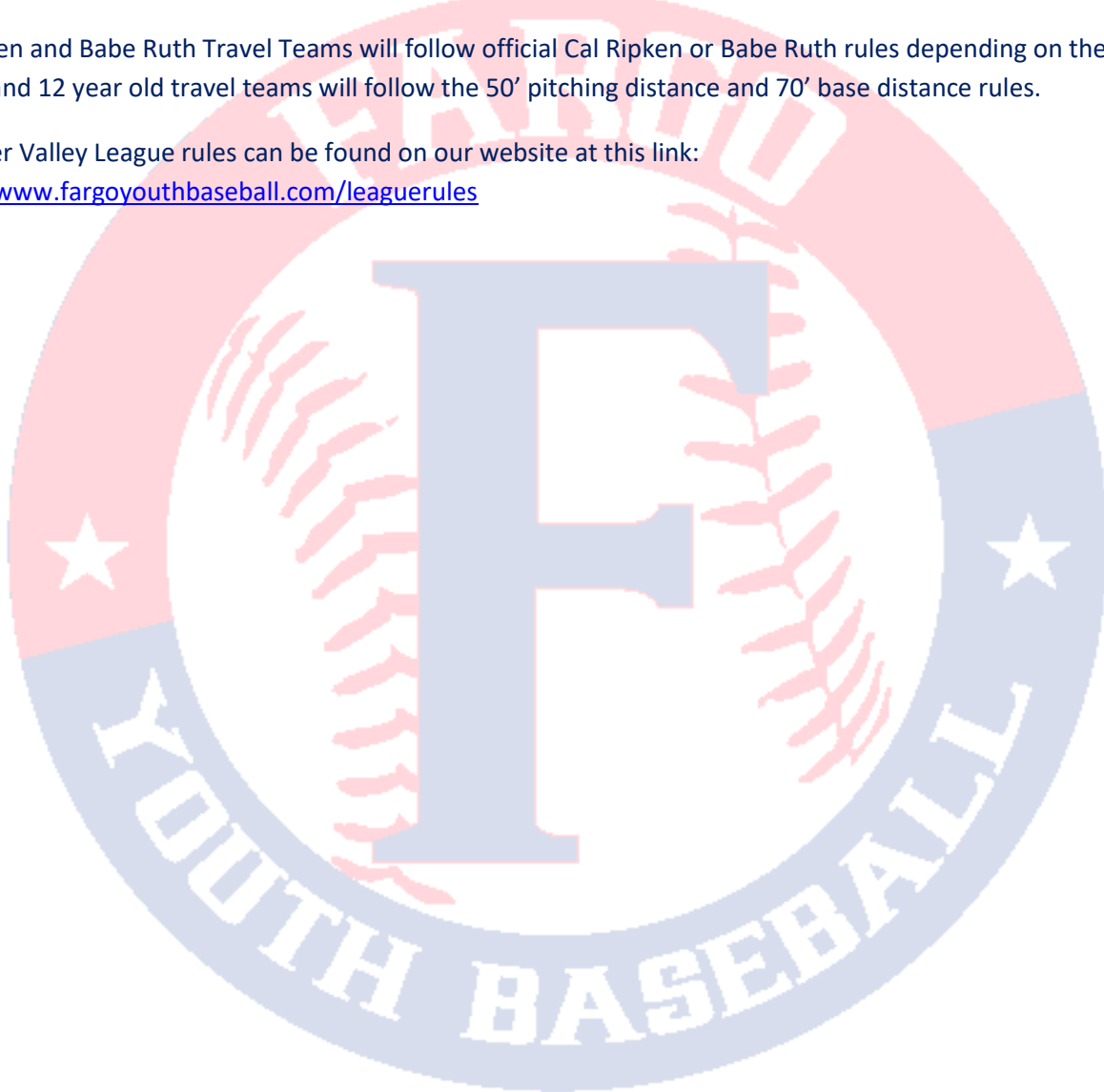
GAME PLAY RULES

Fargo Youth Baseball charters with both the Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth and Little League International organizations. FYB follows official Little League rules for age groups 12 and under. FYB follows official Babe Ruth rules for 13-15 year olds. Additionally, we have local league rules for our Red River Valley League. These rules differ slightly depending on the age group. The rules are reviewed on an annual basis and may be changed or amended at any time. These rules are in place to allow every player the opportunity to develop their baseball skills.

Cal Ripken and Babe Ruth Travel Teams will follow official Cal Ripken or Babe Ruth rules depending on the age group. Our 11 and 12 year old travel teams will follow the 50' pitching distance and 70' base distance rules.

Red River Valley League rules can be found on our website at this link:

<https://www.fargoyouthbaseball.com/leaguerules>



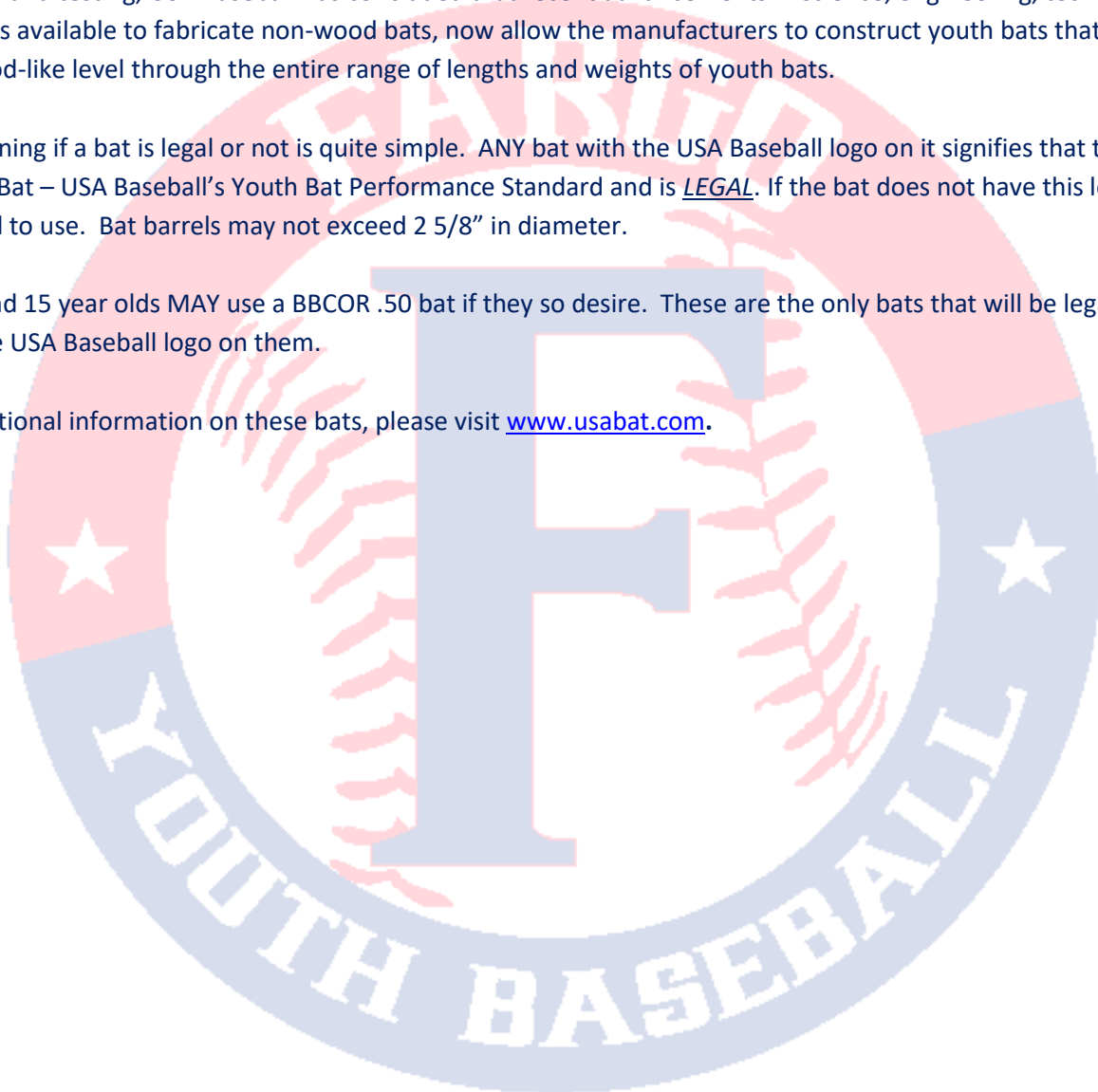
BAT RULES

Fargo Youth Baseball charters with both Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth and Little League International organizations. Both of these organizations partner with USA Baseball who is the national governing body for the sport of baseball in the United States. USA Baseball requires and mandates that all youth follow specific bat rules they have set forth. Based on their research and testing, USA Baseball has concluded that recent advancements in science, engineering, technology, and the materials available to fabricate non-wood bats, now allow the manufacturers to construct youth bats that can perform at a wood-like level through the entire range of lengths and weights of youth bats.

Determining if a bat is legal or not is quite simple. ANY bat with the USA Baseball logo on it signifies that the bat meets the USABat – USA Baseball's Youth Bat Performance Standard and is LEGAL. If the bat does not have this logo on it, it is not legal to use. Bat barrels may not exceed 2 5/8" in diameter.

13,14 and 15 year olds MAY use a BBCOR .50 bat if they so desire. These are the only bats that will be legal that do NOT have the USA Baseball logo on them.

For additional information on these bats, please visit www.usabat.com.



WEATHER POLICY

In the event of inclement weather, please **DO NOT CALL THE FARGO YOUTH BASEBALL OFFICE!** We must wait for the Fargo Park District to let us know if the fields are playable or not. They make this decision no later than 4:00 pm. If games are cancelled, we will post a message on our website, Facebook and Twitter. If no cancellation announcement has been posted by 4:00 pm, the games are still on as scheduled.

Fargo Youth Baseball has adopted the following weather related policies:

- If, once a game has started, inclement weather moves in, the umpires have the final decision on whether to halt the game temporarily or cancel the game altogether. This will be based on field conditions and safety of players. For games without umpires (8u and below), coaches from both teams shall make this decision, keeping in mind the safety of the players.
- If lightning is seen, play **MUST** be halted immediately and all players and coaches must leave the field of play. The game cannot start back up until 30 minutes have elapsed AFTER the last visible lightning strike. No additional time is added and the time limit rule is still in effect. **ABSOLUTELY NO EXCEPTIONS!!**
- If the temperature is at or below 40 degrees at game time, the game shall be cancelled.
- Coaches and umpires do have the discretion to halt or cancel the game at any time due to weather conditions, however all parties must be in agreement. Again, keeping player's safety as the top priority in making this decision.

If a game is cancelled due to weather, it will **NOT** be rescheduled or made up. However, if both teams would like to schedule a make up day and time on their own, they may do so. The coaches would need to work with the FYB office to secure a field and umpires.

UMPIRES

Fargo Youth Baseball uses umpires for age levels 9 and up. For 8u and 6u games, coaches shall serve as the umpires. Most 9-12 Red River Valley League games will have 1 umpire, while the 13-15 year old games will have 2 umpires. Most travel team games will have 2 umpires.

Fargo Youth Baseball hires an umpire coordinator/assigner to manage all umpire game assignments for all Red River Valley League and Travel team games. This individual works closely with the Fargo Youth Baseball office for all umpire related matters. The umpire coordinator/assigner shall be the main point of contact for all umpires and anything related to umpiring. He/she shall report any issues or concerns to the Fargo Youth Baseball office and will have input on any disciplinary action that may be necessary for any coach, player or umpire.

Fargo Youth Baseball requires that our umpires be at least 16 years of age or older. It is each umpire's responsibility to read, learn and understand the rules for the games they are working. Fargo Youth Baseball will provide some opportunities prior to the season for umpires to receive training and instruction from seasoned/veteran umpires. We also provide an umpire packet outlining the rules for all age levels and divisions. We continue to work with our umpire association in helping our umpires learn and improve through additional training, veteran observation at games, etc.

Just as with players, umpires come with varying levels of ability and experience. We ask ALL coaches, parents, fans and players to support our umpires in a positive manner. For many of our umpires, this is their first job and possibly their first time umpiring and are learning. Understand that umpires will make mistakes, just as players and coaches will. If a coach has a question, simply approach the umpire in a respectful manner. Do not yell at umpires across the field, from the dugout or from the stands. Parents and coaches are role models for the players....if you show respect for umpires, the kids will, too. Remember, every umpire is someone's son or daughter and treat them how you would want your child treated. If there is a concern that a team feels needs to be addressed, we ask that the COACH contact the FYB office 24 hours after the game to discuss the matter. Additionally, we encourage our umpires to report any inappropriate behavior by a coach, player or fan to our office. The FYB staff and possibly board of directors will review the situation and if the behavior is deemed inappropriate and non-sporting, said coach, player or fan may be suspended from future games.

All FYB umpires are sub contractors and therefore are required to fill out a W-9 to have on file at the FYB office. This is REQUIRED before umpires can be paid. Once the season begins, umpires are paid every other week and checks will be mailed unless other arrangements have been made with the FYB office.

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT & CAMPS

It is Fargo Youth Baseball's goal to have every player continue to improve and develop their baseball skills. We make every effort to provide opportunities for players which are listed below. Additionally, it is important that each team practice during the season to work on skills and get repetitions. Ultimately, it is upon each player and family to take advantage of the opportunities available to develop their skills.

CAMPS:

There are many baseball camps that take place throughout the year. Most times these are held in the off-season and run by colleges in the area or by former baseball players and coaches. Fargo Youth Baseball will promote any camp that is brought to us by the camp organizer, however there are many other camps out there and we recommend any and all of them. For information on camps that partner with Fargo Youth Baseball, please visit the following link on our website: <https://www.fargoyouthbaseball.com/camps>

Additionally, if time and availability allow, Fargo Youth Baseball may hold some day camps during the season. If these do happen, we will post on our website and notify all families via email.

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS:

We will once again hold some player development sessions prior to the season. **PLEASE NOTE: our program allows teams to stay together each year, so some individuals may already be on a roster. These sessions are intended for those players who are NOT currently on a roster.** If you are already on a roster, please contact your coach as they should already be scheduling some time to practice. The player development sessions are intended to give those not on a roster an opportunity to get some practice time before the season since they are not assigned teams yet. These sessions are typically held on Saturdays for 4-5 weeks beginning in February. They will be held at the ATTIC. The sessions are FREE, but you MUST be registered for the current season in order to attend.

You must register for these sessions as space is limited and will be available on our website when dates are finalized.

Please direct any questions to info@fargoyouthbaseball.com.

EXTRA INNINGS PROGRAM:

The Extra Innings program is for kids looking for extra instruction. We have partnered with Cole Jirik from Dynasty Performance on strength, speed and agility and Mike Skogen from The Ball Yard on a HitTrax league, bat speed and velocity program. We will also have additional opportunities for lessons at a minimal cost with professional clinicians such as Andy Young (Arizona Diamondbacks), Mike Lang (St. Paul Saints), the FM Ball Yard and the FYB staff.

ON-DECK PROGRAM:

We are also excited to announce our newly renovated player development program, the On-Deck Program. The On-Deck program introduces kids to basic fundamentals of baseball in hopes kids will enjoy our great pastime and sign up for summer baseball. There is a slight charge for this program, however if your player decides to continue playing baseball for the summer season, 100% of your On-Deck registration fee will be transferred over to your summer registration.

TOURNAMENTS

Fargo Youth Baseball hosts several tournaments throughout the summer. We have tournaments geared towards all age levels 8-15 years old and each tournament is geared different ability levels. It is our goal to give all players and teams the opportunity to experience a tournament atmosphere if they so desire. All tournaments will be a 3 game guarantee minimum, weather permitting (only exception to this would be any state or regional tournaments). Entry fees are collected, there will be an admission charge for fans and concessions will be available during all tournaments. Below is a description of the tournaments we offer and who they are geared towards. More information and specific dates can be found on our website at the following link: <https://www.fargoyouthbaseball.com/fargotournaments>

FARGO INVITATIONALS and ROGER MARIS INVITATIONAL:

Each year FYB will host 2 Invitational tournaments for 9, 10, 11 and 12 year olds. We will host 1 Fargo Invite for 13, 14 and 15 year olds. These tournaments are geared more for all-star or travel teams and are typically quite competitive; however these are not solely restricted to these types of teams. These tournaments will follow the Cal Ripken (12 and under) or Babe Ruth (13-15) rules. Information on these tournaments can be found at this link:

<https://www.fargoyouthbaseball.com/fargoinvite>

NIT INTERNATIONAL:

Each year FYB will host 2 NIT International tournaments. One will be held near the beginning of June for 9, 10, 11 and 12 year olds. The second one will be held at the end of July for all age groups 8 through 15. These tournaments are geared towards in tact/league teams **ONLY**. These tourneys **DO NOT** allow all-star or travel teams or any players that are participating on these types of teams. The intent of these tourneys is to give all youth baseball players an opportunity to participate in a tournament atmosphere against comparable competition. Current Fargo Youth Baseball league rules and regulations will be used and can be found at this link: <https://www.fargoyouthbaseball.com/leaguerules>. Information on these tournaments can be found at this link: <https://www.fargoyouthbaseball.com/nit>

BACK TO SCHOOL TOURNAMENT:

Each year FYB will host a Back to School Tournament. There will be a 10U division and a 12U division and will be held in the middle of August. This tournament is open to all teams (league, travel or all-star). This will be the final tournament we host each year. Information on this tournament can be found at this link:

<https://www.fargoyouthbaseball.com/backtoschool>

NORTH DAKOTA CAL RIPKEN/BABE RUTH STATE TOURNAMENT:

In designated years, Fargo will host a state tournament and that will be run by Fargo Youth Baseball. Specific age group and year is determined by the North Dakota Babe Ruth board of directors. These tournaments are held in the 2nd or 3rd week of July based on the age group. Winners of these tournaments advance to regional play.

NORTH DAKOTA LITTLE LEAGUE STATE TOURNAMENT:

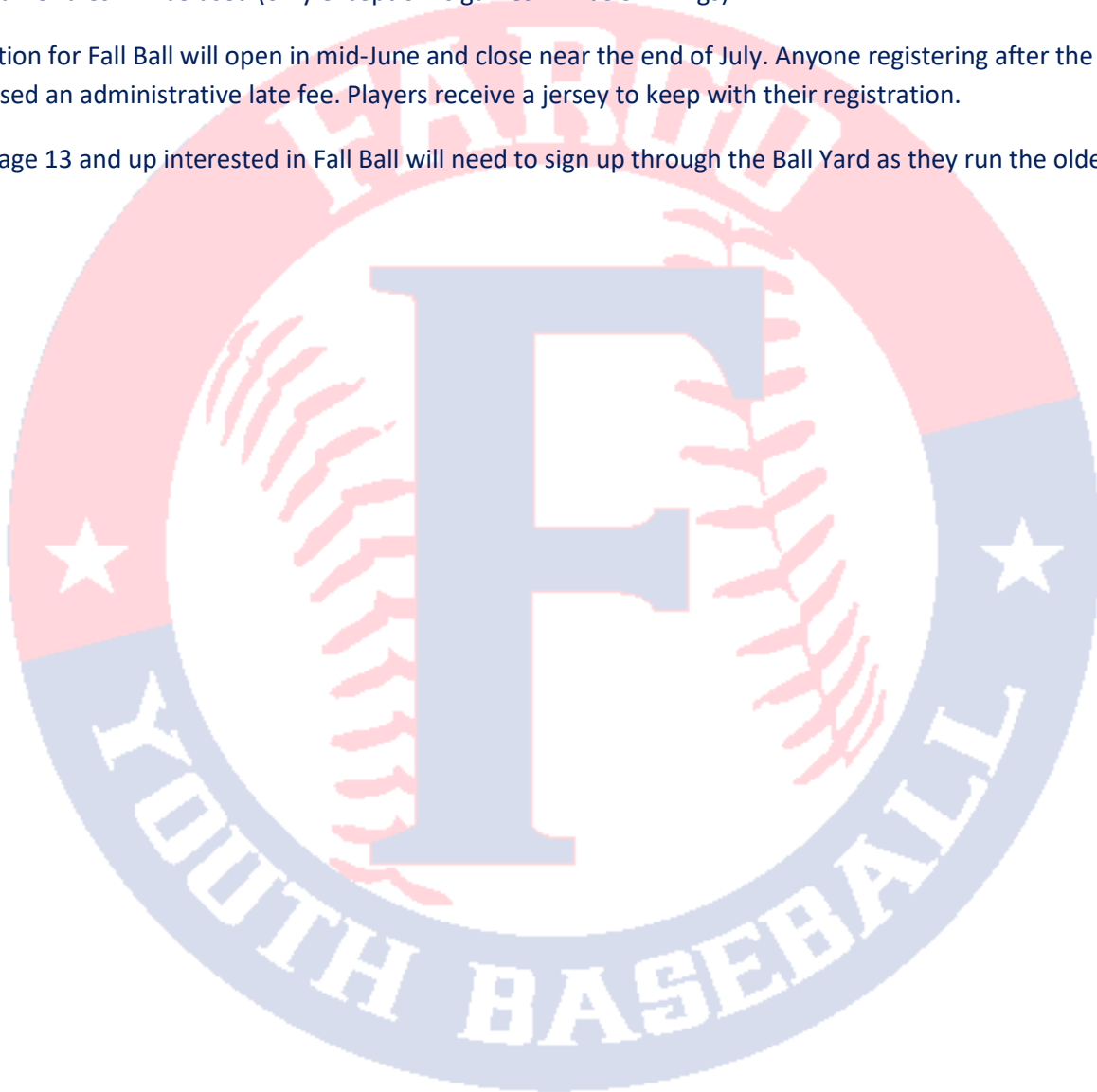
Each year FYB will host the North Dakota Little League State Tournament. There will be an 11 and 12 year old tournament. The winner of the 12 year old division will advance to regional play in Indianapolis, IN.

FALL BALL LEAGUE

Fargo Youth Baseball currently offers an opportunity for players to play some additional baseball after the summer season has concluded. Our Fall Ball League is offered for 8u, 9/10 and 11/12 year olds. Games will be held on Sunday's beginning in late August and ending in early October...typically 6 weeks. Teams may be formed and coaches may submit a roster if they so chose. We also accept individual registrations and those players will be placed on a team. Summer league game rules will be used (only exception is games will be 5 innings).

Registration for Fall Ball will open in mid-June and close near the end of July. Anyone registering after the deadline will be assessed an administrative late fee. Players receive a jersey to keep with their registration.

Anyone age 13 and up interested in Fall Ball will need to sign up through the Ball Yard as they run the older age group league.



SPRING BALL

As of Spring 2019 Fargo Davies and Fargo South High Schools have decided to no longer offer middle school baseball. Fargo Youth Baseball will take over the program and call it spring ball. Fargo North and Shanley will continue to run their program at this time. Spring ball will typically begin with practices starting the last week of March and ending middle of May before the summer season. There were many different reasons why Fargo Davies and South decided to not offer middle school ball. Some reasons include: large roster sizes, having to cut players, insurance, practice space, etc... Fargo Youth Baseball will strive to do our best to make sure the problems at hand get resolved. This will be a new experience for Fargo Youth Baseball and we are excited to offer it. We will not be perfect, but we will do our best to ensure your player has a good experience.

Rules:

Spring ball will follow high school rules with the exception of 7th grade baseball as the field dimensions will now be moved to 54' pitching mound and 80' bases. Fargo Youth Baseball understands that this is new for players, but strongly feel this will benefit player development. 8th grade baseball will play on 60' pitching mound and 90' bases.

Field Locations:

Games will be played all across Fargo. 7th Grade will be played on: Starion, Bennett (2), Brunsdale, and McKinley. 8th Grade will be played at Tharaldson Baseball Complex (4), Fargo North, McKinley, and Davies High School.

Team Assignment:

Teams are allowed to be formed on their own by parent volunteer coaches. For players that are not on a formed team, they will be placed on a team by what school they attend and where the player resides. Our goal is to keep roster sizes between 12-14 players. Some teams may have a mix of players from different schools, depending on number of players that sign up. Teams that do not have a volunteer coach, Fargo Youth Baseball will hire a coach for that team.

Schedule:

Each team will play close to a 20-game schedule consisting of 10 double headers, two 5 inning games weather permitting. Standings will be kept for each team and league. Year end playoff will be conducted to crown a league champion.

FARGO YOUTH BASEBALL FACILITIES

Fargo Youth Baseball and the Fargo Park District have partnered together to provide some top notch facilities for the youth baseball players in Fargo. In addition to those existing facilities listed below, the two organizations continue to work together to plan for additional facilities and also to upgrade existing facilities and complexes. Most, if not all, of the current facilities and complexes have some field or complex naming right opportunities still available. Also, as new complexes and facilities are built, more naming right opportunities will be available. For information on naming rights, please refer to our Sponsors/Donations section or this document.

Below is a list of current facilities and complexes that Fargo Youth Baseball and the Fargo Park District manage for youth baseball. Any facility not listed below is run by the Fargo Park District:

STARION FIELD:

Starion Field is our newest addition. Starion Field is located at the Tharaldson Baseball Complex on 42nd street south in Fargo (across from the Fargo Zoo). Fargo Youth Baseball, Fargo Post 400 Legion Baseball and the Fargo Park District partnered together to make this project happen. Starion Field has a fully turfed infield, batting cages, grandstands with a pressbox, a new, large scoreboard in right field, a clubhouse for the players, concession stand and a turf smush ball field. This field will also be the home site for Fargo South Baseball in the spring, Fargo Post 400 Legion Baseball in the summer and will also be used by Fargo Youth Baseball for league games and tournaments. We are extremely excited and very proud to provide Fargo with the only turf baseball infield. More information can be found on our website at this link: <https://www.fargoyouthbaseball.com/page/show/4472964-starion-field-project>

THARALDSON LITTLE LEAGUE COMPLEX:

The Tharaldson Little League Complex is located at 1804 17th Ave. S., across the street from Fargo South High School. TLL, as it is more commonly called, has 4 youth baseball fields for ages 12 and under. The complex also has a batting cage, concession stand and the ATTIC (our indoor facility and headquarters for FYB). TLL hosts league games throughout the week and tournaments on the weekends each summer. The FYB Fall Ball league is also played at this complex.

BRUNSDALE COMPLEX:

The Brunsdale Complex is located at 1702 27th Ave. S. Brunsdale has 2 youth baseball fields for ages 12 and under and both have grass infields. The complex also has a batting cage and a concession stand. Brunsdale hosts league games throughout the week, tournaments on the weekends and any state or regional tournaments for ages 12 and under.

The ATTIC and METRO REC INDOOR FACILITIES:

Fargo Youth Baseball and the Fargo Park District have also partnered to provide indoor facilities for training purposes for youth baseball players. Please refer to the INDOOR FACILITIES section of this document for information on these.

FARGO YOUTH BASEBALL STAFF

Fargo Youth Baseball currently has 4 full time employees. We also employ several part time workers and many seasonal workers for concessions, field work and gate. Below is Fargo Youth Baseball's full time staff.

Alex and Scott currently work out of the ATTIC location.

Jesse and Zach currently work out of the Metro Rec location.

Alex Sumner – President/CEO:



Jesse Radloff – Director:



Scott Krabbenhoft – Operations Coordinator:



Zach Frazier – Asst. Director of League Operations



FYB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Below is the current board of directors for Fargo Youth Baseball. More information can be found on our website at this link: <https://www.fargoyouthbaseball.com/page/show/3757050-board-of-directors>

- Alex Sumner, President/CEO
- Wayne Werremeyer, Vice Chair
- Kent Christianson, Second Vice Chair
- Dan Senn, Secretary
- Chad Jaroszewski, Treasurer
- Jeff Gould, Board Member
- Eric Grande, Board Member
- Mike Rerick, Board Member
- Bill Ibach, Board Member

