



Hello Proctor Area Youth Baseball families,

Welcome back to baseball. Even though we are still in the middle of winter, there are many new things happening in baseball for 2019. Please read all info below.

1. Board Changes and open positions
2. Summary of 2019 changes
3. Changes by level
4. New for 2019

To summarize the biggest change, local baseball associations have gathered and voted to stop using Little League as the authority and start with a new local league that mirrors Minnesota Gopher State league. What does that mean for you?

**Board Change:** WE NEED HELP! Now that we are not under the Little League Charter, we need to establish a new board for the new league. This requires setting up a new organizations name, bylaws, insurance, etc. Currently we have 7 board positions filled of 17 positions. We need some strong volunteer support here. Please volunteer to support Proctor Area Youth Baseball to ensure we can keep having baseball in Proctor. We have a lot to accomplish this season.

Current board transitioning over: Vance Okstad President (outgoing after 2019), Gregg Berglund VP, Andy Donahue Secretary (President elect), Ann Mathieu Treasurer, Brian Ross Player & Coach Agent, Dave Reyelts Tournament Coordinator, Ryan Mathieu Level Coordinator, Ian McShane At-Large – New, Matt Loberg At-Large – New.

*Quick summary of openings:*

Secretary: Coordinates board meetings with normal processes, support website and scheduling

Concession Manager: Mileage will be reimbursed for concession runs. Kelly Okstad will support the 2019 person. Concession stocking.

Fundraising coordinator: Supports raising funds for jerseys, supplies and updates. Needed ASAP.

Chief Umpire: Will be a paid position. 75% coordination of umpires 25% advising on rules

Fields manager: Supports getting the field ready for the season and prepped for games.

Equipment manager: Support getting the equipment needed for the season.

Level coordinators (multiple open): Supports level with coordinating level details. Smaller task; usually has a child in the age level.



### **Summary of changes to Proctor Area Youth Baseball 2019:**

Quad Cities league: This does not change, and our league will stay the same. However, there will not be a break anymore in July. This was the main reason for going away from Little League. We can now play through July without the 2-3 week break.

Little League rules to Gopher State rules: In summary, we are not following the Little League rules and we will be following a mirrored program from the Gopher State organization. Rules are mostly the same minus some small changes. We are finalizing these. Noteworthy differences. USA bats and other bat options will be allowed. Age brackets change slightly. Allows grade aged players to play with their grade.

Fields: Twig will be transitioned into a multi-use field for both intermediates and Majors/Rookies. Bases at 70' mound at 50'. Klang 1, Klang 2, Pike Lake Front will remain the same and be primary for Majors and below.

Tournament/Travel baseball: There are some more opportunities for individuals to play travel baseball. Some information will be listed in registration. Going away from Little League does give more options.

### **Changes by age level:**

Instructional: Age 5-6. No change – Games will be played Monday and Wednesday

Coach Pitch: Age 7-8. No change – Games will be played Tuesday and Thursday

Rookies: age 9. No change – Games will be played Tuesday and Thursday

Minors: Level eliminated. Incorporated into Majors level.

Majors: Age 10-11. Age change and this is the last level at the 200' fence. Essentially this is the Minors level from last year, but we are calling it the Majors level. Some slight rule changes.

- Games will be played Monday and Wednesday

Intermediates: Age 12-13. Level plays at 230' fence, mound set at 50' and bases at 70'. This is the same for 13s last year, this year the 12s will be joining them.

- Games will be played Monday and Wednesday

Juniors: Age 14-15. No change.

- Games will be played Tuesday and Thursday



**Other new items for 2019:**

Proctor Area Youth Baseball Volunteer program: To make our organization run properly, we do need volunteer support. This year, we will be setting a fee for all families to “earn” their volunteer money back. At the start of the season, we will be asking each family to give PAYB a check that covers their volunteer time. If you complete your volunteer hours for the year by working concession stands, field prep, field clean-up after games, supporting projects around the field, etc...you will get your uncashed check back at the end of the season. More information to come.

Proctor Home Tournament: This tournament has grown each year to record numbers and a great fundraising opportunity for the season. As this grows, the more support we need. Good place to complete some volunteer hours and make the best for our tournament. The 5<sup>th</sup> annual Proctor Baseball Classic will be held Friday, June 28<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Travel teams: This year travel teams can start forming as soon as they are all signed up in February. With the new program, it gives more options. We do need the support of the coaches that want to help these travel teams at the start of the season. If you would like your child to try out for a travel team, please register them as soon as possible.

Registration: Registration is now available. Please go to [www.proctorbaseball.org](http://www.proctorbaseball.org) to register.

As an association, we thank you for your continued support for Proctor Area Youth Baseball. Our program continues to grow along with our fields continuing to get recognition from other associations in the area. If there are ever any questions, feel free to contact any of the board members that were listed above.

Sincerely,

Vance Okstad  
Proctor Area Youth Baseball  
Outgoing President (2019)

Andy Donahue  
Proctor Area Youth Baseball  
Incoming President (2019)