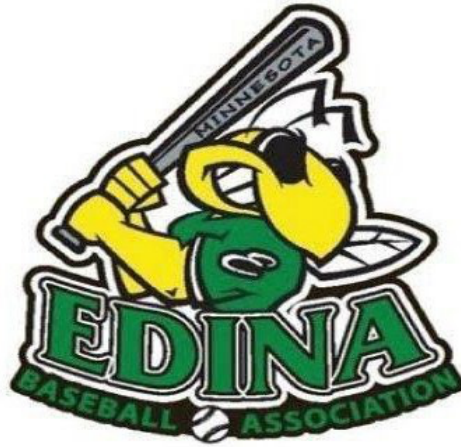


# EDINA BASEBALL ASSOCIATION



## House League May/June 2026

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## **Welcome**

Thank you for taking the time to coach! The success of the league and development of our players starts with you! If you are a new coach, welcome, and thank you to all the returning coaches as well. You are much appreciated.

The spirit of the league is to get as many kids (and families) as possible to learn and enjoy the game of baseball. The Summer league continues to have increased registration and thanks to your efforts, all the teams and baseball fields are full to the max again.

Kid pitch starts in 3rd grade.

Thanks again for coaching and we are looking forward to a fun and successful inaugural season!

## League Objectives

- Create a fun and an engaging environment to build passion for the game
- Introduction to baseball basics such as throwing, catching, hitting, running the bases, positions on the field, and fielding during practices and games.
- Player and Team development
- Enjoy baseball

## Role of the Coaches

- 1) Develop and support all players to improve skills
- 2) Create a fun and engaging baseball environment
- 3) Foster Trust and Teamwork
- 4) Show good sportsmanship
- 5) Maintain a positive attitude
- 6) Encourage all players
- 7) Teach baseball skills and strategies
- 8) Celebrate success appropriately
- 9) Help the team learn from adversity
- 10) Prepare players for next level – Travel level and get them ready for it
- 11) Keep all communication between parties respectful
- 12) 24 Hour Rule – encouraged to wait 24 hours following a game before engaging with other coaches, parents, and players

## League Format

Teams are organized based on such factors as schools and efforts are made to match play-with request, although this is not always possible. Teams are led by a parent coach; it is ideal to have 2-3 coaches per team.

## Practices and Games

### **Practices:**

- Practices start first full week of May
- Practices dates and times have been loaded on website ([www.edinabaseball.org](http://www.edinabaseball.org)) and in your sports engine under the team name
- 45 minutes to hour for K/1/2/3 grades
- If you need to contact the scheduler, please email [info@edinabaseball.com](mailto:info@edinabaseball.com)

### **Games:**

- Games will start the second week of the season.
- Location: Practices for K/1<sup>st</sup> will be at York, 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> at Normandale
- All Games at Countryside
- Games will be played against other Edina teams in same age group
- Games will be pre-scheduled, see the EBA website for team schedules
  
- K and 1<sup>st</sup> Grades:
  - 60-minute games
  - Teams practice for the first 15-20 minutes before starting the game.
  - No new inning to start after approx 40 minutes (based on when practice part ends).
  - No umps; coaches will need to volunteer.
  
- 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> 75-minute games
  - No new inning to start after 1 hour
  - Welcome to come early before game to warm up
  - No umpires for 2nd grade
  - Every attempt will be made to supply umpires to each game starting in 3rd grade. In the case no umpire shows, coaches should call games from behind the pitcher's mound.

## 2nd Grade – Game Rules

### Pitching:

- Machine pitch ( Blue Flame machine) – Coach will need to set up before the game, the recommended setting is 4-4-3 and about 3-4 inches in front of the pitching rubber.
  - Max 5 pitches, if the batter doesn't hit the ball in play after 5 pitches, a tee is used
  - A ball far outside the plate will be considered “no pitch” and not counted
  - If the machine isn't working, then the coach can pitch 5 pitches, we recommend pitching from a knee or sitting on a bucket so that the pitch is more at the player's eye level
- No walks or strike outs -
- Outs only registered on fielding plays (ex: pitcher to 1<sup>st</sup> on ground ball)

### Baserunning:

- No lead offs
- No Steals
- Overthrows – no extra base

### Hitting:

- Continuous batting order
- Each player should get roughly average the same number of at-bats per game for the season
- Goal is to have each player bat 2 or more times in a game

### Fielding:

- Require 2 innings in the infield and 2 innings in the outfield
- Rotate positions each inning

### Runs:

- Half inning ends after one full rotation of lineup, 3<sup>rd</sup> outs or 4 runs

Before the game starts, coaches have the flexibility to make changes as they seem appropriate.



## **3rd Grade – Game Rules**

Pitching: Combination of Kid/Coach pitch

- Yes, strike outs
- Expanded strike zone
- Coach pitch after the kid pitcher walks three batters and coach pitches the remainder of the inning. A coach can strike out a batter but can't walk a batter
- BOTH kid pitcher and coach pitcher are required to pitch from the 46 ft. mound.
- Max 2 innings pitched per game, 4 innings per week. A week is Sunday through Saturday.
- Kid pitcher can pitch up to two innings per game regardless of coach intervention.
- No curve balls, first time is a dead ball, second time is a change in pitcher
- Encourage all players to attempt pitching

Baserunning:

- No lead offs
- No Steals
- Overthrows – no extra base

Hitting:

- Continuous batting order
- Each player should get roughly average the same number of at-bats per game for the season
- Goal is to have each player bat 2 or more times in a game

Fielding:

- Require 2 innings in the infield and 2 innings in the outfield
- Rotate positions each inning

Runs:

- Max 4 runs an inning

Before the game starts, coaches have the flexibility to make changes as they seem appropriate.

## **PLAYER DEVELOPMENT**

- Player Development is a TOP PRIORITY for the Edina Baseball Association. Our focus is to improve ALL players. While competitiveness and winning are important, and we strive to do so, but not at the expense of player development
- Summer baseball is an opportune time to play kids at all positions
- All players will rotate between infield and outfield positions – catcher is considered an outfield position
- All players should have the opportunity to pitch
- No player should play more than one inning more than any other player
- If team is short players, allow players on the other team to play defense

## **Safety Reminder**

Baseball is a fun sport but the coaches should make sure the players and coaches are being safe. Some safety reminders:

- During practices remind players are throwing a baseball to another player and coach and that the other player knows the ball is coming
- During games all players watch the ball
- Consider putting a player who is good at catching at 1<sup>st</sup> base
- No swinging bats in the dugout
- Make sure players have plenty of space for practice swings
- Coaches use a L screen if pitching from a close distance
- Baserunners keep helmets when on the bases
- Make sure the kids drink plenty of water

## Uniforms and Equipment

- 1) Shirts and baseball caps will be available before the first game
- 2) Players are expected to provide their own baseball pants, baseball glove, and wear non-metal cleats or sneakers.
- 3) Equipment
  - Equipment for kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup> grade will be stored at the field sheds
    - Coaches will get the lock codes and will get and put back equipment each game or practice.
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> grade coaches will set up and put away pitching machines. The recommended setting is 4-4-3 and about 3-4 inches in front of the pitching rubber
    - Equipment bag for grades 2, 3 include:
      - (i) Bats and helmets – Players are encouraged to bring their own bat
      - (ii) Baseballs
- 4) While not required, players should begin wearing a protective cup
- 1) Players should bring a water bottle and label everything including cap and bat.

## Rainouts

- Emails will be sent out if fields are closed last minute for weather/etc.
- Check the EBA website at [www.edinabaseball.org](http://www.edinabaseball.org)
- Games/practices are NOT rescheduled for rainouts.

## Other Important Information:

**Opening Kickoff May 9<sup>th</sup>** - Games all day at Countryside

- Food trucks will be there
- Other concessions options
- More details forth coming

**Picture Day is May 16<sup>th</sup>** – Coaches sign-up for the team and add the time to the team schedule

## **Contact Information**

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Stevie Sislo – Director of Operations/Schedules [info@edinabaseball.com](mailto:info@edinabaseball.com)