





## **“THE LITTLE LEAGUER”**

He stands at the plate with his heart pounding fast

The bases are loaded, the die has been cast

Mom and Dad cannot help him, he stands all alone

A hit at the moment would send the boys home

The ball nears the plate, he swings and he misses

There's a groan from the crowd with some

Boo's and some hisses.

A thoughtless voice cries, “Strike out the bum,”

Tears fill his eyes, the games no longer fun

Parents and spectators with faces of stone

Remember he's just a little boy who stands all alone

So open your heart and give him a break

For it is moments like this, a man you can make

Keep in mind when you hear someone forget

He's just a little boy and not a man yet.

# INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Westmont Youth Baseball Association. The purpose of this book is to familiarize both the players and the parents with the operation and organization of the Westmont Youth Baseball Association (W.Y.B.A.). We encourage you to use this book as a reference throughout the season to answer questions you may have. However, should you desire additional information or interpretation, please contact your team manager, league representative or board president.

**You can also log on to our website at [www.westmontyouthbaseball.org](http://www.westmontyouthbaseball.org)**

The W.Y.B.A. is a program of service to youth. It is geared to provide an outlet of healthful activity and training under good leadership in the atmosphere of wholesome community participation. The program is dedicated to helping children become good and decent citizens. It strives to inspire them with a goal and to enrich their lives toward the day when they must take their places in the world.

The W.Y.B.A. should not be viewed as a baseball program alone, but as a leadership program, the vehicle of baseball is used to teach our youth about teamwork, fair play, sportsmanship, responsibility and discipline.

## BILL OF RIGHTS

### **All Children Have The:**

- I. Right to participate in sports.
- II. Right to participate at a level commensurate with each child's maturity and ability.
- III. Right to have qualified adult leadership.
- IV. Right to play as a child and not as an adult.
- V. Right to share in the leadership and decision-making of the sport.
- VI. Right to participate in safe and healthy environments.
- VII. Right to proper preparation for participation in sports.
- VIII. Right to an equal opportunity to strive for success.
- IX. Right to be treated with dignity.
- X. Right to have fun in sports

# COMMENTS FROM THE W.Y.B.A. BOARD

Dear Friends of the W.Y.B.A.:

2018 marks the 35th anniversary of the Westmont Youth Baseball Association. The W.Y.B.A. was formed in the fall of 1983 as a cooperative effort involving the Little League and Babe Ruth League. The W.Y.B.A. is an independent non-profit corporation which, through efforts of its many volunteers who manage, coach, help and sponsor teams, attempts to provide the best possible baseball experience for the children of Westmont.

Approximately 300 area youth, ranging in age from four to twenty, will participate in our program in the 2018 season. Total expenses to operate the program are approximately \$95,000 per year. The funds needed to cover these expenses come from parent contributions, sponsor fees, and other fund raising activities. **Special recognition is due to our league sponsors.** We encourage you to show your appreciation for their support whenever possible.

Great strides have been made in improving fields, conducting coaching clinics and making baseball a great experience for the youth of Westmont. We are proud of these many accomplishments, but much remains to be done. We need the continued support of all parents as well as the rest of the community. Please help us to continue in providing a quality youth baseball experience.

The W.Y.B.A. recommends that you read all the information in this program. Hopefully, all of your questions will be answered. If you have any further questions or concerns about the W.Y.B.A., the board will try to answer any questions that you have at any time. General meetings for the W.Y.B.A. are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Westmont Park District Community Center, 75 E. Richmond Street. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. Your involvement is welcome at any level!

Once again, thank you for your confidence in the W.Y.B.A. to provide the best possible experience for the children of Westmont. See you at the ballpark!

Sincerely,

*W.Y.B.A. Board of Directors*

## HAVE A GREAT 2018 SEASON!

# 2018 W.Y.B.A. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dave Meneses – President/Babe Ruth Sr. League Representative  
George Kelecich – Vice President/Minor League Representative/Player Agent  
Alex Laskowski – Treasurer  
Steve Golembiewski – Secretary/Sponsorship/Umpire Coordinator  
Bob Freitag – Major League Representative/Player Agent/  
Storm Travel Representative  
– Instructional Representative  
– T-Ball Representative  
– Babe Ruth Jr. League Representative

## 2017 W.Y.B.A. CHAMPIONS

<b>Babe Ruth Jr. League</b>	<b>Regular Season Champions:</b> Rebco Machines (Red Sox)	<b>Managed By:</b> George Kelecich
<b>Major League</b>	<b>Regular Season Champions:</b> Red Sox (American Legion)	<b>Managed By:</b> Bob Freitag
	<b>Tournament Champions:</b> Red Sox (Clarendon Hills)	<b>Managed By:</b> Steve Contreres
<b>Minor League</b>	<b>Regular Season Champions:</b> A's	<b>Managed By:</b> Jason Pecard Bill Belmonte
	<b>Tournament Champions</b> A's	<b>Managed By:</b> Jason Pecard Bill Belmonte

# Westmont Youth Baseball Association

## 2018 REGISTRATION

### *PLEASE READ CAREFULLY*

#### **Registration:**

Registration for the 2018 Baseball Season will be held at the Westmont Community Center at 75 E. Richmond St., on Saturdays, January 20th and 27th from 8:30 am – 12 noon and on Thursday, February 1st from 6:30pm – 8:30pm. Try-outs will be held at the Westmont High School Gym. The dates and times are to be determined.

#### **Levels of Play:**

The W.Y.B.A. offers 6 different levels of play for youths 4-20 years old. (All youths must meet the youngest age requirement by May 1, 2018 and not be older than the maximum age by August 31, 2018 for all levels). The different levels include:

<u>League</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Before 2/5</u>	<u>After 2/5</u>	
Tee Ball	4,5,6	1 player \$150	\$160	Each Additional Player \$130
Instructional	7-8	1 player \$175	\$190	Each Additional Player \$155
Minor	9-11	1 player \$200	\$220	Each Additional Player \$180
Major	10-12	1 player \$200	\$220	Each Additional Player \$180
Babe Ruth Jr.	13-15	1 player \$225	\$245	Each Additional Player \$205
Babe Ruth Sr.	16-19	1 player \$235	\$255	Each Additional Player \$215
	20 yr. old	1 player \$255	\$275	Additional \$20 for insurance

#### **Try-Outs:**

1. All 9-12 year olds must try-out.
2. Try-outs will be assigned at the time of league registration. Try-outs for Minors/Majors will be held at the Westmont High School Gym. Dates to be determined.
3. Try-outs for Babe Ruth Jr. League will be held at the Westmont High School Gym. (Visit us on the web at [www.westmontyouthbaseball.org](http://www.westmontyouthbaseball.org))
4. Babe Ruth Sr. try-outs will be held to be determined at the Westmont High School at 2:00pm.

#### **Special Notes:**

1. All first time registrants must have a birth certificate.
2. All Players that are non-residents of the Westmont Park District will be assigned an additional per player fee of \$25/T-Ball & Instructional, \$25/Minors & \$25/Majors and Babe Ruth.
3. Due to limited space, roster spots are available on a first come, first served basis. Players will be put on a waiting list if rosters are full.
4. It is recommended that all parents and players new to the W.Y.B.A. thoroughly read the W.Y.B.A. Program Booklet for all the information you need regarding our program. The W.Y.B.A. Board is always available to answer any questions you have for the upcoming season.
5. The W.Y.B.A. Board holds a general meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm at the Westmont Community Center. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend. If you have any questions, please call us at 630.963.5252.

## **TRY-OUTS**

Try-out times will be assigned at the time of league registration. The try-outs will be held at Westmont High School Gym at 909 Oakwood Drive.

1. All 10-12 year olds must try-out for a Major League team.
2. All 9 year olds must try-out for a minor league team.
3. Try-outs for Babe Ruth Jr.'s and Babe Ruth Sr.'s will be at the Westmont High School to be determined.
4. Boys and girls are required to wear sneakers or tennis shoes and bring their own baseball glove and bat. All other equipment will be furnished by the league. Please wear baseball attire.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The purpose of the try-out is for players to display their skills or potential skills such as fielding, throwing and hitting. Managers and coaches observe each player to determine the level of each player's skill. This assessment is then used to determine the competitive level (Major or Minor) at which 10-12 year old youngsters will play.

**Note:** A player who becomes a member of a major league team makes a special commitment to his team concerning attendance at practice and games.

## **QUESTIONS MOST OFTEN ASKED**

### **What is a try-out?**

A try-out is a method by which the managers and coaches observe a youngster's skills and are then able to determine the player's competitive level. Children try-out with their own age group and are competing within their own age group.

### **Does my child have to try-out?**

NO!! If he/she is 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 years old or if he/she is already on a Major League or Babe Ruth team, a try-out is not required.

### **What happens after try-outs?**

Players selected by a team will be notified by their team manager about two weeks after tryouts. All other players will be notified of their team assignments as soon as possible. Please do not call about team assignments before April 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **What if my child has played in the W.Y.B.A. for two years on the same level?**

If your child has played in the W.Y.B.A. program for two years, they are eligible to move to the next level. Either Instructional or Minors if they are 8.



# **SEASON PLAY**

## **PRE-SEASON PRACTICE**

The manager of your team will hold practices during the days following final team assignments and prior to the start of regular season play. Each manager will have a practice schedule and you should assist your child in maintaining regular attendance. The player's skill, development and playing position may depend upon this period of instruction. During this period, your child may participate in practice games. No uniforms are worn to these practice games.

## **LEAGUE PLAY AND PRACTICE**

During the league season, each team will usually play approximately two games each week. In addition, practices will be scheduled during the week at the discretion of the manager. Many managers could use some help at practice. Please offer your assistance. Attendance at practices is extremely important. Pre-season practice substantially determines the position the child can play and reveals those areas of instruction that require concentration. Managers desire prior notification regarding a child missing practice. It is the parents' responsibility to assist the child in keeping to the practice and the game schedule. We strongly suggest that youngsters bring warm jackets and sweaters to the games and practices, especially during the early season when it can get extremely cold and windy.

## **MINIMUM PLAYING TIME**

The W.Y.B.A. has minimum playing time regulations at most levels as specified in the national and local rules. Exceptions to these rules shall be allowed only when a child is unable to play, fails to appear for games, misses practices for unexcused reasons, or is in the process of being disciplined. These rules do not imply equal playing time for each child, nor do they attempt to remove the strategic prerogative of the manager.

## **SPORTS CONFLICTS**

It is recognized that children participate in a number of activities throughout the year. Participants should be encouraged to experience many activities as this contributes to their growth and development. It is also recognized, that on occasion, two or more activities may conflict and a choice must be made.

## **FIELD LOCATIONS**

### **T-Ball**

### **Fritz Werley Park**

Warwick & Traube/5 Blocks East of Cass Ave.

### **Instructional**

### **Ty Warner Park**

Blackhawk & Plaza/1 Block North of Ogden Ave.

### **Minors**

### **Ty Warner Park**

Blackhawk & Plaza/1 Block North of Ogden Ave.

### **Majors**

### **Veteran's Memorial Park**

75 E. Richmond St./1.5 Blocks East of Cass Ave.

### **Babe Ruth/ Jr.'s & Sr.'s**

### **Veteran's Memorial Park**

75 E. Richmond St./1.5 Blocks East of Cass Ave.

**We urge everyone to help keep these fields neat, clean and beautiful. Please respect our residents and private property when using the fields.**

## PARTICIPATION AND RESOLUTION GUIDELINES

The following guidelines are recommended to assist in the decision making process and to assure fairness to all of the coaches, players and programs involved. Parents and coaches should recognize these programs **are for the children.**

The child's feelings should be taken into account. When dealing with conflicts, adults must not put undue pressure on young athletes.

**Communication is the key to resolving many conflicts.** If the coaches are aware of problems in advance, often the conflict can be worked out to the benefit of the participants, coaches and teams involved.

1. School related sports, activities and homework must have first priority. It is the parents responsibility to assure school commitments are taken care of before extracurricular activities are scheduled for their children.
2. A game or competition in one sport shall have priority over a practice in another. The coach of the sport the child will not attend, should be given reasonable advance notice in fairness to the rest of them.
3. When a game-game or practice-practice conflict occurs, the parents and child must make a decision. The coach of the sport the child will not attend should be given reasonable advance notice in fairness to the rest of the team.
4. When conflicts exist, a child should not be penalized for choosing one activity over another.



## **MANAGERS & COACHES CONDUCT**

Discussion must be low key and in no way theatrical. Umpires have the unrestricted authority to eject anyone who becomes abusive. When a manager, coach, player or spectator is ejected from the game, they shall leave the field immediately and take no further part of the game. They may not sit in the stands, score booth or immediate vicinity of the field of play.

If any manager, coach, spectator or player is ejected, that individual shall be suspended for the following game. A second suspension shall subject the individual to action by the W.Y.B.A. Board of Directors. Profanity by any individual is an automatic ejection.

The manager is responsible for the conduct of his fans to as large a degree as possible. He must do nothing to encourage them to cheer against the other team or umpires.

The manager should have control of team conduct at all times. Unified team cheering against the opponent is not recommended.

“Time” may be requested from the bench by the manager or coach, and they may not leave the dugout until granted “time” by an umpire.

No alcoholic beverages of any kind are allowed on Park District property or at any Little League or Babe Ruth game or function.

No smoking or tobacco chewing is allowed in the dugouts or fields of play, or in the seating areas or bleachers.

All managers, coaches or assistants must fill out a background check form provided by the W.Y.B.A. and provide a copy of a valid driver’s license. Failure to comply will preclude that individual from being involved with their team until documents are received.

## **MANAGERS: PRACTICE & FIELD CONFLICTS**

It is obvious field space is at a premium when it comes to practice. Fields and parks must be shared with soccer, softball and the general public. It is not always necessary to have a backstop and a diamond for practice. The skills of baseball, can, in many cases, be taught and learned without these amenities. The bottom line is, we all have to share the available facilities. Common sense, good will and courtesy can go a long way in fostering good relations between all sports and keep our program in very high esteem.

# INSURANCE INFORMATION

It is obvious that youngsters participating in an athletic activity may suffer injury. Therefore, the W.Y.B.A. has established procedures related to injuries that should minimize their severity and the inconvenience thereof. If a youth has sustained an injury, the manager should be notified as soon as possible. Should the injury appear serious enough to require medical attention, such care should be sought immediately. Medical treatment will not be administered without parental consent.

The W.Y.B.A. Insurance program is designed to afford protection to all participants at the most economical cost to the local league. It can be used to supplement other insurance carried under a family policy or provided by the parent's employer. If there is no other coverage, W.Y.B.A. insurance, which is provided by the league, takes over and provides benefits for all covered injury treatment costs up to the maximum stated benefits. This plan makes it possible for the W.Y.B.A. to offer unmatched, low-cost protection with assurance to parents that adequate coverage is in force at all times during the season. This insurance plan applies to all 4-20 year olds.

If your child sustains a covered injury while taking part in practice or play in the W.Y.B.A, here is how the insurance works:

1. File claim initially under insurance provided by the family: Blue Cross/Blue Shield, or any other insurance protection available.
2. Should your family insurance plan not fully cover the injury treatment, the W.Y.B.A. insurance policy becomes primary and will provide benefits for all covered injury treatment costs up to the maximum benefit of the policy.
3. If your child is not covered by any family insurance, the W.Y.B.A. insurance becomes primary and will provide benefits for all covered injury treatment costs up to the maximum benefit of the policy.
4. Treatment of dental injuries can extend beyond the normal 52 weeks if dental work must be delayed until the child is older. Benefits will be paid at the time treatment is given, even though it may be some years later.

We hope this brief summary has been helpful in better understanding this important aspect of the organization of the W.Y.B.A. insurance program.

***Remember, safety is everyone's job. Prevention is the key to reducing accidents to a minimum. Report all hazardous conditions to a Safety Officer or Board member immediately. Don't play on a field that is not safe or with unsafe playing equipment. Be sure your players are fully equipped at all times, especially catchers and batters. Check your team's equipment often.***

When treating an injury, remember **PRICES**:

**P**rotection

**R**est

**I**ce

**C**ompression

**E**levation

**S**upport

## **EQUIPMENT & UNIFORMS**

Each child must have his/her own fielder's glove suitable in size. If your child is to play catcher, the catcher's mitt and all protective gear will be furnished by the league.

LITTLE LEAGUE RULES REQUIRE ALL MALE PLAYERS WEAR AN ATHLETIC SUPPORTER. MALE CATCHERS MUST WEAR A METAL, FIBER OR PLASTIC CUP.

Approved Little League shoes with rubber or molded-on cleats are recommended. For safety, no child will be allowed to wear leather soled shoes or boots or metal spikes to games or practices.

### **LEAGUE UNIFORMS**

The league will furnish a uniform shirt and hat. Some managers recommend players have long sleeved baseball undershirts to be worn under the uniform shirt in cool weather.

### **ATTENTION MANAGER'S & PARENTS**

An important note on equipment: All playing and protective equipment will be furnished by the local league and is the only equipment authorized for use during games and practices. (Players provide their own glove). Any equipment purchased by parents for use in games or practices must be "Little League Approved", and/or approved by the local league.

### **PARENTS**

If you are going to purchase any equipment, and have any questions as to the legality or suitability of the equipment, check with your team manager, level representative or league president.

### **ABOUT BATS**

Many players have their own bat for use in games and practices. All bats used must meet Little League specifications and standards. It shall not be more than 33 inches in length, not more than 2 ¼ inches in diameter, and if wood, not less than that 1 1/16 inches in diameter (1 inch for bats less than 30 inches) at its smallest part. Babe Ruth Jr. and Sr. – Please see Babe Ruth Rule Book or ask your Manager.



# LIGHTNING FACTS AND SAFETY PROCEDURES

## Consider the following facts:

- The average lightning stroke is 6-8 miles long.
- The average thunderstorm is 6-10 miles wide and travels at a rate of 25 miles per hour
- Once the leading edge of a thunderstorm approaches to within 20 miles, you are at immediate risk due to the possibility of lightning strikes coming from the storm's overhanging anvil cloud.
- One the average, thunder can only be heard over a distance of 3-4 miles depending on humidity, terrain and other factors. This means that by the time you hear the thunder, you are already in the risk area for lightning strikes.

## "Flash-Bang" Method

One way of determining how close a recent lightning strike is to you is called the "flash-bang" method. With the "flash-bang" method, a person counts the number of seconds between the sight of a lightning strike and the sound of thunder that follows it. Halt-play and evacuation should be called for when the count between the lightning flash and the sound of its thunder is 14 seconds or less.

## Lightning Detector

The W.Y.B.A. uses a lightning detector device that detects bursts of electromagnetic radiation – in the forms of very low frequency radio signals – generated by lightning flashes up to 40 miles away. The Westmont Park District also uses one of these devices for its Park Patrol service. **When the detector's alarm sounds, a patrol employee or W.Y.B.A. officer will order an immediate halt-play and evacuation of the fields.**

## Rule of Thumb

The ultimate truth about lightning is that it is unpredictable and cannot be prevented. Therefore, a manager, coach, or umpire who feels threatened by an approaching storm should stop play and get the kids to safety – regardless of whether or not the lightning detector goes off or if the "flash-bang" proximity measure applies.

## Where to Go

No place is absolutely safe from the lightning threat, but some places are safer than others. Large enclosed shelters (substantially constructed buildings) are the safest. For the majority of participants, the best area for them to seek shelter is in a fully enclosed metal vehicle with the windows rolled up. If you are stranded in an open area and cannot get shelter in a car, put your feet together, crouch down and put your hands over your ears (to try and prevent eardrum damage).

## Where Not to Go

Avoid high places and open fields, isolated trees, unprotected gazebos, rain or picnic shelters, dugouts, flagpoles, light poles, bleachers (metal or wood), metal fences and water.

## First Aid to a Lightning Victim:

Typically, the lightning victim exhibits similar symptoms as that of someone suffering from a heart attack. In addition to calling 911, the rescuer should consider the following:

- The first rule of emergency care is "make no more casualties". If the victim is in a high risk area (open field, isolated tree, etc.) the rescuer should determine if movement from that area is necessary – lightning can and does strike the same place twice.
- If the rescuer is at risk, and movement of the victim is a viable option, it should be done. If the victim is not breathing, start mouth to mouth resuscitation.
- If it is decided to move the victim, give a few quick breaths prior to moving them.
- Determine if the victim has a pulse. If no pulse is detected, start cardiac compressions as well.

***When in doubt, the following rule of thumb should be applied:***

**WHEN YOU HEAR IT – CLEAR IT  
WHEN YOU SEE IT – FLEE IT**

# WESTMONT YOUTH BASEBALL ASSOCIATION REFUND POLICY

The W.Y.B.A. will issue refunds as follows:

1. Full refunds will be made if requested by the following dates:
  - a. T-Ball & Instructional – Received before the start of regular season games
  - b. Minor & Majors – Received before the Major League draft is held
  - c. Babe Ruth Jr.'s & Sr.'s – Received before the respective drafts are held
  
2. A 25% refund will be made if requested after the dates previously stated, but before the half-way point of each league's season.
  
3. No refunds will be made if requested after the half-way point of any league's season.

*Refunds will be properly requested by filling out the form at the bottom of this page and returning to Attn: Registration at the Westmont Community Center, 75 E. Richmond Street, Westmont.*

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## REFUND REQUEST

Name of Player \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_

Level of Play \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Paid \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date of Refund Request \_\_\_\_\_

## **OTHER IMPORTANT STUFF**

### **PUBLICITY RELEASES**

Players are occasionally photographed while participating in W.Y.B.A. activities for publicity in our own publications and/or local newspapers. Any objections to the use of an individual child's name or picture should be directed to the W.Y.B.A. board *in writing* at the beginning of the season.

### **IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

Emergencies	911
Westmont Police Department	630.968.2151
Westmont Fire Department	630.968.2141
Westmont Park District	630.963.5252
Poison Control Center	800.942.5969

### **BIRTH CERTIFICATES**

To obtain a birth certificate for a child born in either Cook County or DuPage County, the following information is needed:

- Name of Child
- Date of Birth
- City of Birth
- Hospital of Birth
- Father's Name
- Mother's First Name and Maiden Name

Cook County Clerk's Office  
Attn: Vital Records  
118 N. Clark Street  
Chicago, IL 60602  
312.603.5656

DuPage County Health Dept.  
Attn: Vital Records  
111 N. County Farm Road  
Wheaton, IL 60187  
630.682.7035

### **PICTURE DAY**

It is mandatory that each manager presents his team at the requested time for pictures. Children will receive a packet with information about the pictures and costs prior to picture day.

## **BECOME A VOLUNTEER FOR W.Y.B.A.**

Think about how much you receive when you give. Please consider being a volunteer for the W.Y.B.A. We have many opportunities available even if you don't want to be a manager or coach. We need help with our concessions operation, invitation and district tournaments and much more.

For more information on W.Y.B.A. volunteer opportunities,  
please contact us at 630.963.5252 for details.



# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Registration	Saturday, January 20 Saturday, January 27 Thursday, February 1	8:30 – Noon 8:30 – Noon 6:30 – 8:30	Westmont Community Center
Tryouts	TBD TBD	TBD TBD	TBD TBD
Babe Ruth Jr. Tryouts	TBD	TBD	TBD
Little League Opening Day	Sunday May 6th	11:30	Veteran's Memorial Park
Babe Ruth Jr. Opening Day	TBD	8:30 a.m.	Veteran's Memorial Park
Picture Day	Sunday May 6th	All Day	Veteran's Memorial Park
Babe Ruth Sr. Opening Day	Late May - TBD	Noon	Veteran's Memorial Park
Memorial Day Parade	Monday 28	10:30	Cass Avenue

## WESTMONT YOUTH BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

75 East Richmond Street

Westmont, IL 60559

630.963.5252

[www.westmontyouthbaseball.org](http://www.westmontyouthbaseball.org)