

BELVIDERE YOUTH BASEBALL, INC.
WWW.BELVIDEREYOUTHBASEBALL.COM



CHANGES IN 2020

Part Time Travel Teams: This program is called “Storm Chasers” for baseball and “Twisters Fastpitch” for softball. These teams will be made up of top players from each recreational level (8,9,10,11,12,13,14U). These teams will practice separately and play in up to three competitive tournaments per year. Tournaments will be from May to July. Fee is \$50. Players are selected in the late summer/fall for the following spring/summer season.

Full Time Travel Teams: Belvidere Youth Baseball, Inc. launched the *Storm Chasers Travel Program* in 2017 for baseball. Twisters Fastpitch was established in 2019 for softball. These teams will play approximately eight tournaments in addition to a travel team league during the week. Fees start at \$500 to \$800 per player.

Restroom Upgrades: The Board of Directors is currently seeking donations of money, labor, and materials to renovate the current small restrooms into a facility with multiple stalls for both men and women. The board is seeking plumbing, electrical, carpentry, and other areas of skill and expertise to make this project happen.

July End-Of-Season Tournament: BYB is continuing to add ways for players and families to get the most out of their experience. For the second year, a “rec-only” tournament has been added for July 17-19, 2020. This tournament will host top rec teams from the area and serve as an end-of-season tournament of champions. The only eligible BYB teams will be the first, second, or third place finishers at each level. These are based on playoff finishes, not regular season standings.



TEAM SELECTION & PRACTICE

Draft Information: All players who register for BYB will be placed on a team via the draft. Coaches will contact players shortly after the draft is finished. Draft date is: Sunday, March 22, 2020 – All Levels

Coaches Clinic/Meeting: On draft day, a mandatory coaches clinic, and mandatory coaches meeting will take place. Coaches should plan to attend for approximately 4-5 hours for the draft, clinic, and meeting on this day.

Practices: Teams may begin practices immediately after the draft. Most teams practices 2-3 times per week during the pre-season, and 1-2 times per week during the season. Please be drop off and pick up your player in a timely manner.

Age Limits: For softball, the age cut-off is December 31. For baseball, it is April 30.



EQUIPMENT

Each player must have his/her own glove. Also, each player must have his/her own pair(s) of **grey** baseball/softball pants. BYB will provide jerseys and catcher’s gear. BYB does not provide batting helmets or bats to teams for health and safety reasons. Players will be required to provide their own NOCSAE approved batting helmets.

Metal spikes may be worn **only** in 14U leagues.

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SCHEDULES

All leagues will start games in mid/late April or early May and end in early/mid-July. Tourney Machine is the official scheduling/standings software for BYB.

Coaches will provide players with schedules. You may also reference the BYB website. Each league will also have playoffs in early to mid-July.



GAME LOCATIONS & PARKING

Most games are played at the Ross-Fish Youth Sports Complex, which is just to the north of the Boone County Fairgrounds off of IL Rte. 76. Please park in the west parking lot.

Please **do not** park along the road that runs next to the fields on the north side. Tobacco is **not** permitted on BYB property. Pets are **not** allowed.



PLAYING TIME REQUIREMENTS

BYB enforces playing time minimums to ensure that all players are provided some opportunity to play, providing that they regularly attend practices.

8U/10U: A minimum of three innings (3 defensive & 2 offensive half innings)

12/14U: Nine Outs (1.5 innings if he/she finishes an at-bat, or 12 defensive outs if he/she does not get to finish an at-bat.

For more information, talk to your coach or league commissioner.



ICE CREAM SOCIAL

BYB's annual Ice Cream Social is Sunday, June 7, 2020 at the Belvidere Youth Baseball Complex. This is the organization's major fundraiser. All-Star games will be played, and food will be served from 11 AM to 4 PM.

Each team will be required to provide workers to volunteer for shifts.



RAFFLE TICKETS

Each player purchases 25 raffle tickets **at his/her first practice** (included in fees). These tickets may be sold and the stubs must be turned in at the BYB concession stand. Raffle winners are drawn at the Ice Cream Social on June 4th. You do not have to be present to win.



CONDUCT

All players, coaches, and fans should practice good sportsmanship at all times. Negative comments or taunting will **never** be tolerated. Noisemakers are not permitted at BYB.

Please be respectful towards umpires. They are human and will make mistakes. Umpires at the 8U and 10U levels are 13-15 year olds who are working towards their IHSA certifications. Please grant them every courtesy. Coaches don't coach perfect games, and umpires don't call perfect games.

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Tobacco use, vaping, e-cigarettes, and pets are not allowed.

Please monitor your children who are at BYB with you but not playing in a game. Batting cages and grass space are for teams to warm up, not for pick-up games.

Please place all of your trash in a trash can.



BYB INFORMATION

BYB is an independent, non-profit organization providing baseball and softball programs to over 600 boys and girls in Boone County and the surrounding area. BYB is the oldest continuously-operating youth sports group in Boone County.

BYB is operated by volunteers. If you would like to be a volunteer, we have multiple opportunities for you to help. Please visit our website for more information.

If you have an issue with your team, please address it with your player first. Then, discuss the issue with your coach. If you are unable to reach an agreeable resolution, you should contact your league commissioner. If needed, your commissioner will get the necessary board members involved.

Remember to visit BYB online at www.belvidereyouthbaseball.com.

Questions about the organization can be directed to the BYB Board of Directors at belvidereyouthbaseball@gmail.com