

**Frequently Asked Questions**

1. **What is the goal of the New Jersey Amateur Baseball League (NJABL)?** The league is dedicated to providing the very best amateur baseball experience possible in NJ, with offerings in wood and metal. We have structured the league around our teams, re-investing profits back to the players in the form of mobile technology, officiating, playoffs, team equipment, All Star Weekend and trophies. We know that you play baseball for the love of it, so we think you should get what you pay for out of it. This league is for everyone, and we aim to ensure that you receive the most professional baseball package on the market.
2. **What are the age requirements?** All players 18+ are eligible to play, with no restrictions on players who have participated in professional baseball.
3. **Is this a Sunday League?** While the entire regular season will initially be scheduled for Sundays, there is a chance that teams will be asked to play games on Saturdays for make-ups of regular season rainouts (potentially weeknights if both teams agree). In addition, once playoffs start the format will require Saturday/Sunday games in order to complete the season on time. So while the majority of the games will be played on Sunday, there could possibly be games played on non-Sundays.
4. **How is league broken down?** The NJABL offers both metal and wood leagues. In our inaugural season, it is tough to gauge how many teams we will have, however we plan to offer different levels of play, and base the leagues on team location to reduce travel time.
5. **What is the difference between the NJABL and other local leagues in North & Central NJ?** We operate our league like a non-profit, re-investing for the good of the players within our system. If you compare our offerings to other leagues you will find we are offering more incentives and for less money. This league is built by players for players, so many details have been discussed and budgeted for. Some major differences you will find include
* **Minor League Stadium All-Star Game with Manager Appreciation Game :** We believe the all-stars deserve an immaculate field to play the ASG in. In addition, we believe that managers should be rewarded for their hard work throughout a season. Most of the players don’t understand how much work goes into keeping a team together, ensuring at least 9 guys are at every game and the countless calls/texts that occur. We would like to reward them with their own game.
* **Spring Season 18 Game Regular Season:** When you look at other leagues that promise 20 game seasons, how many teams actually complete 20 games? How many regular season games are as a result of forfeits? Since about 40% of teams play the full 20 game schedule, we decided it wasn’t worth paying for it or planning games that don’t get played. This will allow us to start the Spring Playoffs earlier, and thus give you more time with your families in August.
* **Collegiate Style Double Elimination Playoffs:** You play all regular season to make the playoffs, and we don’t believe that one and done should be the case for half the teams that make it. We are instituting a double elimination tournament, which means each playoff team is guaranteed 2 games.
* **Game Photos:** Throughout the season, the league will either hire or the league staff will show up to games and take high quality action photos for each team free with their league fee.
* **Mobile Technology:** We are the only league offering a mobile app to each team for real time gameday scoring. You can toss the paper scorebooks to the side, and with our app you can now update your teams stats in “real time” from the field. Ever curious what your competition across the state is dong during their game? Now you can check in and see as the action happens. In addition, you will have roster access for your opponents, and the ability to upload photos/videos from the field! All seamlessly integrated with our league site.
* **Free Agent/1st Year Player Draft:** Likely will be initiated more in our second season, we are introducing a player draft to teams interested in adding players to their roster. We will have a “scout day” for potential new players and managers will be allowed to draft players based on how their team finished the previous season. More will be communicated on this later.
1. **What are double elimination playoffs?** Double Elimination means two losses to be eliminated. Each team is seeded, and start in the winners bracket. Once the first round of games are played, the winners remain in the winner’s bracket to play one another, while the losing teams start the Loser’s Bracket where it’s sudden death. The last team standing in both brackets advance to the best of 3 finals on a premium neutral field.
2. **How does the mobile application work?** With your league fee, you gain access to our mobile app which is a free download. We will assign the manager access to use the app for their team. When a game starts, you enter each play like you would in a normal scorebook… only the app uploads in real time to our league site tracking the scores/stats for the game.
3. **If the season has started, can I still join a team to play?** Yes you can. Depending on how far into the season we are, you may not be eligible for playoffs due to minimum player requirements… however we are always accepting new players
4. **Where does the league play its games?** Games will be played throughout the state of NJ at local parks and municipalities. Teams are allowed to obtain their own fields for the season. This is a NJ league, we will not allow play outside of the state (however NY teams will be permitted to play, however they must commute to NJ for games)