

FAQ for the Baseball In-House Program

Q: Who can participate in the Hudson Booster Baseball In-House Program?

A: Players meeting the Hudson Booster age and residency requirements can participate in our program. Players must not be a member of another baseball program whose participation would conflict with the Hudson Booster program. School teams are exempt from the conflict rule.

Q: Is there an opportunity for my son or daughter who has developmental or physical limitations?

A: Yes. The Hudson Boosters sponsor a Challenger program specifically for these players. There is no charge for participating in the Challenger program.

Q: What is the Booster Baseball In-House program's residency requirements?

A: Children who go to school within the Hudson School District or Children who live in the Hudson School District or Children who have a parent or guardian residing in the Hudson School District meet the residency requirements.

Q: Are there any exceptions to the residency requirements?

A: All In-House programs allow players from other communities who do not have a comparable baseball program to petition the Baseball Committee for approval. Traveling teams, based on association rules, cannot allow players from other communities to participate. The Challenger League has no residency requirements.

Q: Are there any work expectations for parents of players?

A: Yes. The Booster club has set the DIBS requirements at **6 hours per player, with a family maximum of 12 hours**. Families not fulfilling their DIBS hours by December 31st will be charged \$250 for 6 hours not completed and an additional \$250 for 12 hours not completed. There are no DIBS requirements for players in Tee Ball and Machine Pitch. There will be plenty of opportunities to help run our programs, or even to help out at Booster Days in July. Coaches, assistant coaches, and team managers will still have their Dibs/volunteer hours WAIVED. This is a great chance for you to volunteer, teaching sportsmanship and game skills to the youth of Hudson.

Q: What are each In-House program's age requirements?

A: The Hudson Booster In-House programs are determined by the age of the player. See the "Age/League" chart on the "Baseball In-House" tab.

Q: Can girls participate in the Baseball program?

A: Yes

Q: What is included in the registration fee?

A: The Hudson Boosters provide each In-House player from Tee-ball through the Major League with a jersey and hat.

Our T-ball and Coach Pitch leagues share equipment for their practices and games; however, each coach gets a bag of practice balls and game balls. The Junior League, Senior League and Major League teams are supplied with a set of catcher's equipment, bats, batting helmets, and both practice and game baseballs. Also included are field grooming and field maintenance costs, umpire costs, batting cages, and shared practice equipment like batting tees, pitching machines, and swing masters. There are no administrative costs in our programs, the Hudson Booster programs are run entirely by volunteers.

Q: How does the Hudson Booster fee compare with other associations?

A: The Hudson Booster program fee is comparable with other associations in the area. We keep the fee structure low because the program is subsidized by the funds collected at concession stands and at the Hudson Booster Days Celebration. For this reason, we encourage you to attend the celebration.

Q: Why is the Major League fee higher than the other In-House leagues?

A: The Major League is a hybrid of In-House and competitive play. The Major League belongs to the Western Wisconsin Baseball League, and their schedule includes games against teams from Hudson, River Falls, Somerset, New Richmond, Central St. Croix (Hammond), and Prescott. The Major League also pays more for umpires than the other programs.

Q: What is the latest I can register my son for the In-House program?

A: We will attempt to put all players who register onto a team. However, there is no guarantee of being placed on a team if registration is received after May 9th for T-Ball through Junior League and April 25th for the Senior and Major Leagues.

Q: What is the refund policy if my child withdraws from the program?

A: If a player withdraws from the In-House Program before April 15th, the refund is 100%, if the withdraw occurs April 15th thru May 1st the refund is 50%, refund requests made after May 1st will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Q: What are the Boys In-House leagues and ages for those leagues?

A: Please refer to the Age/League chart on the Hudson Booster Baseball In-House page

Q: Can a player sign up for a league older than his current age?

A: No. The Hudson Booster Boys program does not allow players to “play up” a league. Exception: 6 yr-olds who have played at least 1 year of T-ball will be allowed to register for the Coach Pitch 1 program.

Q: What process is used to place players on a team?

A: For the T-Ball and Coach Pitch leagues, players are assigned to a team by the League Chair based on age. For the Junior, Senior, and Major Leagues, the League Chair will assign players to teams. They will use coach’s evaluations from the previous year (if available), age, and knowledge of the players to balance the teams to the best of their ability.

Q: Can I request that the Boosters place my son with other players or with a particular coach?

A: For T-Ball and the Coach Pitch leagues, parent’s requests may be considered when assigning players to a team, but there is no guarantee. Team balance is the goal for the Junior, Senior, and Major Leagues player placement. Requests for playing with another player or a particular coach are handled on a case by case basis. Unfortunately, there have been parent request abuses in the past, which have led to complaints about team balance and dissatisfaction with our programs. For drafting purposes, each team is assigned a single Head coach and a single Assistant coach.

Q: How are coaches selected?

A: Parents who volunteer to coach are assigned to a team. All assigned coaches must go through a background check.

Q: Are there any opportunities to play in a more competitive environment in the Recreational leagues?

A: The Hudson Boosters sponsor tournament teams in both the Junior League and Senior League. In the Junior League there is a 9-Select team and in the Major League there are 13 and 14 Select teams if interest warrants them. There is an additional cost for these teams.

Q: What is the length of the season?

A: In-House programs will begin practice in early or mid-May. For T-Ball and the Coach Pitch leagues, the season ends in early July. For the Junior, Senior, and Major Leagues, the season ends in late July, after their End-of-Year Tournament. All In-House leagues other than the Senior and Major Leagues will play a 12-game schedule. The Senior and Major Leagues will be determined by the association in which they play.

Q: What nights will my son play?

A: The answer to that question is a variable based on the number of teams in a league and the number of fields available to that league. Days that an individual will be scheduled to play will most likely vary from week to week.

Q: Where will my son play?

A: T-ball games are played at the Town of Hudson T-Ball field. Coach Pitch and Junior leagues play at the Booster fields off of Krattley Lane. The Senior and Major Leagues are a hybrid between the In-House and Traveling programs. Games are played against other Hudson teams, and teams from nearby communities.

Q: Are practice days assigned to teams?

A: All teams are assigned pre-season practices before the 1st game. T-Ball and Coach Pitch teams have practices before each game. The Junior and Senior league teams have scheduled practices during the season. The Major League does not have scheduled practices during the season, but fields are available throughout the week so a coach can schedule a practice when they aren't playing.