

FAQ for the Boys In-House Program

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

A: Boys meeting the Hudson Booster grade and residency requirements can participate in our program. Players must not be a member of another baseball or softball 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 who has developmental or physical limitations?

A: Yes. The Hudson Boosters sponsor a Challenger program specifically for these players.

Q: What are the Booster Boys 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: The Challenger League has no residency requirements. 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.

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.

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.

There will be plenty of opportunities to help run our programs, or even to help out at Booster Days in July.

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

A: The Hudson Booster In-House programs are divided by the current grade of the player at registration. See the "Grade/Program" chart on the "Boys In-House" tab.

Q: Can girls participate in the Boys program?

A: No. According to Hudson Booster guidelines, boys must participate in boy's programs and girls must participate in girl's programs.

Q: What is included in the registration fee?

A: The Hudson Boosters provide each player from Tee-ball through the Senior League with a jersey and hat. The Major League players receive a complete uniform: hat, 2-button jersey, pant, belt, and socks.

Our T-ball and Machine 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, practice baseballs, and game baseballs. Also included are field grooming and field maintenance costs, umpire costs, batting cages, pitching machines, 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. Major League players also receive a complete uniform: Hat, jersey, belt, pant, and socks.

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 April 15th.

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 grades for those leagues?

A: Leagues are determined by the grade at registration. T-ball (Pre-K (5 yr. olds) & K), Boys Machine Pitch 1 (1st graders), Boys Machine Pitch 2 (2nd graders), Junior League (3rd & 4th graders), Senior League (5th & 6th graders), and Major League (7th & 8th graders). The Challenger league does not have age restrictions.

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

A: No. The Hudson Booster Boys program does not allow players to “play up” a league.

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

A: For the T-Ball and Machine Pitch leagues, players are assigned to a team by the League Chair. 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), grade, 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 Machine 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. There is an additional cost for these teams.

Q: What is the length of the season?

A: All In-House teams will begin practice in early May. For T-Ball and the Machine 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 leagues other than the Major League will play a 12-game schedule. The Major League has a 16-game schedule.

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 Fields and the Cinder Lot located at the intersection of 5th and Oak streets, Machine Pitch games are played at the Booster fields in North Hudson off of Krattley Lane. The Junior League plays at the Booster fields off of Krattley Lane. The Senior League plays at the fields located at the Town of Hudson Town Hall, and the Major League plays their home games at the Hudson Town Hall field, with away games at New Richmond, Somerset, Central St. Croix (Hammond), Prescott, and River Falls.

Q: Are practice days assigned to teams?

A: All teams are assigned pre-season practices before the 1st game. T-Ball and Machine 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.