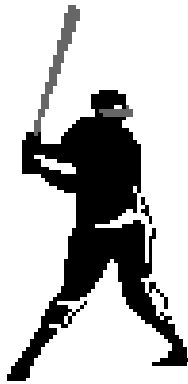


The

2017



Little League Handbook



SHOREVIEW
AREA YOUTH
BASEBALL

Shoreview Area Youth
Baseball



A Word from our President

Dear Parents,

2017 is our 57th year of Shoreview Area Youth Baseball. Over half a century of baseball development and opportunities for the youth of our communities – along with the fun, achievement, and a chance to enjoy a treat after the game. THIS IS BASEBALL – and this is what SAYB strives to provide our players and families each and every season.

As the baseball season is about to start, it's important to focus on a few significant reasons why SAYB has been a successful program. I would personally like to extend my gratitude to all of the past, present and future volunteers who make Shoreview Area Youth Baseball a possibility. To all of the coaches who gladly share their commitment, wisdom and expertise to a team full of eager players. To the umpires and groundskeepers who help provide a safe and maintained environment. And a special thank you to our terrific SAYB Board of Directors, who spend hours and hours of their time to make this league possible!

I also want to recognize the importance of you - the parents and relatives of our players. Thank you in advance for supporting our program and most importantly supporting our players. Please remember our goal as baseball parents is to encourage all of the players and let the coaches do what they have volunteered to do – coach. Please also remember the youth umpires are doing their best and bound to make a mistake along the way. Treat our umpires with the same respect you would treat your son or daughter if they were umpiring.

As mentioned above, the SAYB Board of Directors is comprised of a group of committed individuals dedicated to ensure today's and tomorrow's players have every opportunity to play and succeed. Before and during each season, these individual spend a great deal of time completing tasks you may never have thought about. In order to maintain the level of service we have all come to expect, I am asking you to please give thoughtful consideration to joining our board. We meet the second Monday of every month from September to March. Locations and times are always available on the SAYB website (www.sayb.org).

Thank you again for your support and I hope you and your family have a great season of baseball. Remember the words of Yogi Berra: "Little League baseball is a very good thing because it keeps the parents off the streets!"

Brian Flanagan

Shoreview Area Youth Baseball, President



SHOREVIEW

AREA YOUTH BASEBALL

Executive Committee	Position
Brian Flanagan	President, Fields
Mike Anderson	Big League VP, BL NL Director & Photo Coordinator
Gavin Burnham	Little League VP & BL AL Director
Tom Skwarek	Secretary & Equipment
Don Krieger	Treasurer
Mark Simser	At Large
Board Members	Position
Mark Simser	Little League NL Director
Trent Jude	Little League AL Director
Mark Folska	Little League JM Director
Steve Hoemann	Little League-IL Director
Dennis Daas	Equipment Manager
Chris Dohman	Web Master
Merlin Misialek	Registration
Mitch Daas	LL Umpire Coordinator
Jim Warnest	LL Umpire Assistant
Erik Drange	Twins Night Coordinator & Sponsorship
Rusty Kocon	10 Yr Old Try Out Coordinator
John Stephan	Safety Coordinator
Tony Price	Trophies
Kel Nelson	Apparel Coordinator
Troy Sperbeck	Pitch, Hit Run
Brian Peloquin	Player Development



Little League Night with the Twins

Monday June 12, 2017 7:05



Board of Directors Meetings—Everyone Welcome!

When: 2nd Mondays, Sept-April, 7 p.m. (no meetings May-Aug)

Where: Shoreview Community Center
4580 Victoria Street North

Who: Anyone interested in volunteering or in helping set the direction of SAYB. Come to a meeting and/or call the President or any Board Member for more information.

SAYB Little League Mission Statement

The purpose of Little Lakes Little League is to implant firmly in the children of the community the ideals of teamwork, good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage and respect for authority, so that they may be well adjusted, stronger and happier children and will grow to be good, decent, healthy and trustworthy adult citizens.

SAYB web site: SAYB.ORG



What You Should Know About SAYB "Little League" Program

Who Can Join SAYB "Little League"

- Boys and girls ages 7 through 12. First-time registrants must present a copy of their birth certificate or other proof of birth date at registration.
- Children residing in school districts 621/623/624 are welcome to participate in the SAYB program.

Instructional League

Ages 7 & 8



Instructional League is the first step for SAYB Little Leaguers. This two-year program is designed to teach the fundamentals of baseball, basic rules, and major skills while sharing the joy of the game.

Jr. Minor League

Ages 9 & 10

Jr. Minor League is a step up in competitive play from the instructional league, including the opportunity to participate in post-season playoffs and for 10-yr olds to try out for tournament teams. Teams play 2-3 games per week.

American & National Leagues

Ages 11 & 12

Boys and girls who want to play in either league are encouraged to try out for placement. Children are scored on hitting and fielding. Generally, those in the top 1/3 are eligible for the National League draft, with more spots being given to 12-yr olds.

Everyone will be placed on a team--either one of the National League or American League teams.



What You Should Know...

Scholarships



If you or you know someone who may be unable to participate in Little League because of limited funds, Scholarships are available.

Parent Representative & Grievance Procedure

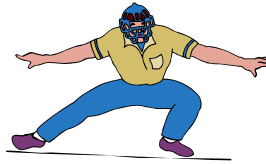
Each coach will hold a parents' meeting at which time the parents (not coaches) should select a Parent Representative. We encourage any parents with a concern to directly talk to the coach first. If further action is needed or, then the grievance should be brought to the Parent Rep. The Parent Rep will hear concerns from team parents about player self-esteem and team communication issues. They will then discuss them with the coach ASAP so that appropriate changes may be made. Issues related to game strategy are outside of this process since it is a coach's role to make these types of decisions.

SAYB ONLINE: www.SAYB.org

Visit the web site for registration information, ball field locations, and more. For more information on the national organization of which SAYB is a part, visit Little League Online: www.littleleague.org. Around 3 million kids in over 100 countries are Little Leaguers!

Umpires

Treat umpires with respect and Harassment of the umpires by coaches, not be tolerated. Coaches are treatment of the umpires and may ask leave.



understanding. players or spectators will responsible for respectful out-of-line spectators to

Ball Fields



The responsibility for keeping our parks and ball fields clean rests with each and every spectator, player, and coach. Help kids make clean-up a part of the post-game routine, and together pick up equipment, and litter--even if it's not your own. Thanks!

Little League baseball is a good thing because it keeps the parents off the street and the kids out of the house... --Yogi Berra

2017 SAYB Little League Wide Rules

1. A team must have eight (8) players no later than ten minutes after the official game start time. See section on forfeits and make-ups if a team cannot field eight (8) players by that time.
2. Home team manager will be responsible for determining before the game begins, if the game will be played. Once the game begins, the umpire is responsible for postponing the game due to inclement weather, darkness, or for any other unsafe condition as determined by the umpire.
3. A regulation game consists of six (6) innings unless shortened because the umpire has called the game due to weather or darkness. A game will be considered complete if the home team is leading and three and one half innings or more have been played or the home team is trailing and four or more innings have been played.
4. No new inning shall be started after 8:15 until June 1, 2017. Starting June 1, 2017 date no inning shall begin after 8:30 p.m.
5. The home team shall provide a new baseball; visitors shall provide a good back-up baseball. National and American League, visitors shall provide a new back-up ball.
6. Any player ejected from a game must remain in the dugout area until the game is over.
7. Bat throwing (accidental), the player will be given a warning. The second incident will result in the player being called out and the player will not bat for the rest of the game. The player will be allowed to play on defense.
8. Players are required to wear their entire uniform, **including hat**, while playing a game. Jackets may be worn by players except the pitcher if the weather is inclement.
9. Unless coaching 1st or 3rd base while their team is batting, coaches must remain in the dugout except when time is called or warming up a pitcher.
10. Player base coaches are required to wear batting helmets.
11. A game may only be played on an established baseball field. If the coaches decide to move the game to the outfield, the umpire is not required to officiate the game.
12. Batting lineups are to be “round robin” batting lineups. All players will bat when their turn comes up in the batting order whether or not they played a defensive position during the previous half inning. If a player starts the game in the batting lineup but is not available to bat when his/her turn comes up in the batting order, skipping this player in the batting order will not be counted as an out. If a player comes to a game in the middle of the game, their name will be placed last on the batting lineup.
13. A catcher may only catch three (3) innings in a game or no more than 9 outs. For catching, an inning is three consecutive outs. One out is 1/3 of an inning, etc.
14. Runners may not leave their base until a pitched ball crosses home plate.
15. Players must **SLIDE OR AVOID CONTACT** when approaching home plate, 3rd base or 2nd base on all close plays. Rule interpretation in accordance with National LL Rule book.
16. Head first slides are not allowed unless going back to a base after advancing past it. If this occurs, the runner will be called out.
17. No player is allowed to swing a bat anyplace, including while on deck waiting to bat, other than the batter’s box. This includes the North Oaks field at South Point.
18. Games tied after 6 innings will end in a tie.
19. Coaches of each team will meet after the 4th inning to make sure all playing requirements have been met (by league designation). If requirements have not been met, then the plan for the 5th and 6th inning to meet the requirements.

20. If no adult umpire (18 years of age) is at the game, an adult Game Coordinator will be assigned to the game. The Game Coordinator will be the same person as the home team scorekeeper. The Game Coordinator can't be a coach of either team. The Game Coordinator duties are:
- Be at the game at all time
 - Be included in pre-game meeting
 - Have authority to disqualify any player, coach or parent for unsportsmanlike conduct or language or rules violation
 - Have final decision as to weather & playing field conditions, with consultation of both coaches
 - Coordinate any rules questions. If any rules questions (this does not include any umpire judgment calls), will coordinate get a hold of one of the following for rules questions, in this order: League Director, Gavin Burnham, Brian Flanagan, Jim Warnest (for umpire rules, contact Jim first)
21. Players may not wear any type of jewelry on the body. Medical alert bracelets are permissible
22. Illegal bat use penalties:
- Coach of defense may decline penalty (player is out) and accept play. Election must be made immediately at the end of the play
 - First violation, offensive team will lose 1 eligible base coach for the duration of the game
 - Second violation, coach of the team ejected from game
23. Third strike not caught by catcher, batter may advance to first base if not occupied. If 2 outs, first base can be occupied and batter may advance. (This rule is for NL and AL only)
24. Intentional walks-defensive team may elect to intentionally walk a batter by announcing to the umpire, no pitches are thrown and runner advanced to 1st base. 4 pitches will be added to the pitch count.
25. One foot in batters box-after entering the batter box, the batter must remain in the box with at least one foot throughout the bat unless: a) swing, check swing; b) forced out by wild pitch; c) attempts drag bunt; d) catcher does not catch ball; e) a play has been attempted; f) time called; g) pitcher leaves mound or catcher leaves box; h) three ball count pitch count that is a strike and batter thinks it is a ball
26. Other league specific rules may apply

For Player pitching leagues

27. For 11 and 12 year olds, no more than 85 pitches are allowed per game. Once 85 pitches are reached, the pitcher is allowed to complete the current batter's at bat, but then must be replaced.
28. For 9 and 10 year olds, the maximum number of pitches is 75, and then no more than 3 innings may be pitched. If a player is 8 years old and in the Junior Minors, the maximum number of pitches is 50, and then no more than 3 innings.
29. Pitchers are required to have days rest as follows:
- If a player pitches 66 or more pitches in a day, 4 calendar days of rest must be observed
 - If a player pitches 51-65 pitches in a day, 3 calendar days of rest must be observed
 - If a player pitches 36-50 pitches in a day, 2 calendar days of rest must be observed
 - If a player pitches 21-35 pitches in a day, 1 calendar day of rest must be observed
 - If a player pitches 1-20 pitches in a day, no calendar day of rest is required
- Note: for above pitch count, the pitcher is allowed to complete the current batter and not be moved to the next "days of rest" level. Example: Starts batter X with 18 pitches, completes

batter X with 24 pitches, no day of rest is required and this is entered as 20 pitches in SAYB pitch count.

30. A pitcher may not pitch in both games of a double header.
31. A player once removed, as a pitcher, may not pitch again in the same game.
32. A player who delivers 41 or more pitches in a game cannot play the position of catcher for the remainder of that day.
33. Curve balls are allowed at NL and AL levels only.

Parents, Put Fun First

Checklist for parents in youth sports -- on and off the field:

1. I maintain a "Fun is No. 1" attitude.
2. I treat officials, coaches, my kids, their teammates and their opponents with **respect** and avoid ridicule or sarcasm.
3. I **praise** my kids, their teammates and opponents just for participating, regardless of their athletic skills.
4. I remember to look for **positives** with my kids, their teammates and their opponents.
5. I remain **calm** when my kids or their teammates make a mistake and help them learn from their mistakes.
6. I remind my kids and their teammates not to get down on themselves when things don't go well.
7. I try not to take myself too seriously when it comes to my involvement in youth sports, reminding myself that **there is life beyond youth sports**.
8. I remind myself and my kids to **laugh** and keep a sense of humor.
9. I emphasize teamwork in team sports with my kids, teaching them to think "**we**" **instead of "me"**.
10. I teach my kids by giving them a good example of **good sportsmanship**: winning without gloating and losing without complaining.

SAYB has a goal of all players returning the next season.
How can we all accomplish that goal?



A goal is to have the majority of our players return next season, every time that does not occur, it means we failed. Below is a published study recapping why children stop playing sports and what we can learn from that study. This excerpt may help provide some useful insight that can assist us all in attaining our goal of players returning year after year.

Why Children Quit

Young people say they quit baseball for the prioritized reasons given here.

1. Change in interest to other activities
2. Lack of playing time
3. Failure and fear of failure
4. Disapproval by significant others, often coaches and parents but sometimes teammates
5. Psychological stress, usually from too much emphasis on winning
6. Too-intense training
7. Fear of injury

Note that "Lack of playing time" causes more kids to quit baseball than "Fear of failure". Coaches and Parents should also recognize that "too much emphasis on winning" also ranks high among reasons for quitting.

Enhancing Self-Worth

The challenge of helping every athlete feel worthy is a difficult one. Adults must find a way to help every athlete experience success in an environment where actual league champions are few. Success generally occurs less frequently as failure does. As an example; in baseball, top players are successful 3.5 out of 10 at bats or another way to look at it, the very best players fail 6.5 out of 10 times.

The basic problem is that young athletes learn from coaches, teammates, and parents to gauge their self-worth largely by whether they win or lose, whether they are successful or not. A devastating result is that athletes ultimately feel they can only maintain their self-worth by winning or succeeding 100 % of the time. Some adults in an effort to develop responsibility may teach young athletes to believe they are entirely responsible for winning or losing a game. Although it is an admirable goal to teach individual accountability, this is incorrect to do so in this manner. Winning or losing are determined by many factors, not only the play of any one athlete, but also the play of teammates, opponents, an officials' call, and luck. Consequently, the most important thing you can do to help your child is to use a different yardstick for success.

Success for an athlete must be seen in terms of exceeding personal goals rather than surpassing the performance of others.

Winning can be important, but it becomes secondary to an athlete's striving to achieve personal goals. In baseball, personal goals might include such things as making good contact with the ball when batting, fielding balls correctly, throwing accurately to the base.

By learning to focus on personal goals, goals related to behaviors he or she has control over, the child is much more likely to be successful, regardless of the outcome of a game. The important thing for you here is to help your athlete set realistic goals, for doing so ensures a reasonable degree of success. Given all the competitive pressures and peer influence young athletes face, it is parents and coaches who must help a child set realistic goals.

De-emphasize winning reemphasize the attainment of personal goals. This principle is the key to enhancing your young athlete's feelings of self-worth.

2017 Season Calendar

April	24-29	National League, American League, Junior Minor Begin Games
May	1	Instructional League Begin Games
	5	SAYB Day at MVHS
	6	Photo Day, Chippewa Middle School
		Pitch, Hit, Run 9:00 am Chippewa
June	3-4	American League Classic
	10	10 Yr Old Tournament Team Tryouts
	12	LL Twins Night-Target Field
	30	JM/IL Post Season Forms Due
	6/19-29	National League Playoffs-NL, AL, JM
	6/26-28	Instructional League Season End
July		
	7/8-19	12 yr old District Tournament (Centennial)
	7/8-19	11 yr old District Tournament (Shoreview)
	7/8-19	10 yr old District Tournament (Centennial)
	7/10-27	Extended Season-8, 9, 10 Year Olds
	7/15-22	American League District Tournament (Centennial)
	7/21-30	10 yr old Tournament-Metro Classic
	7/21-30	11 yr old Tournament-Metro Classic
	7/21-30	12 yr old Tournament-Metro Classic
	7/26-30	10, 11, 12 yr old State Tournament (if team qualifies)
Aug	TBD	Equipment Return
Sept	11	Board Meeting-Community Center 7:00pm

Note: Some dates may change.