



The mission of the All-Star program at Buckhead Baseball is to field teams of players that serve as the best representatives of our league through the teams' competitiveness, sportsmanship, and teamwork.





2024 Executive Board

Pete Abernathy – President

Pat Stevens – Past President/Advisory

Matt Harris – Vice President/Incoming President

Bill Gingery – All-Star Commissioner

Paxton Griffin – LDC Chair

2024 League Development Committee (LDC)

Paxton Griffin – Chairman

Nathan Allen

Joe Brennan

Stuart Pendley

2024 All-Star Committee

Billy Gingrey (Outgoing)– All-Star Commissioner

Will Brooks (Outgoing)

Bret White (Outgoing)

Jonathan Schuerholz (Incoming Commissioner)

Peter Jones (Incoming)

Nathan Allen (Incoming)

If you have any questions about our All-Star Summer Program, please contact our All-Star Committee at allstars@buckheadbaseball.com.

Program Administrator/Registrar – Jennifer Rogers



Summer Season Overview & Travel

- **22 teams, ~250 players**
- **Targeting four (possibly five) teams per age group from 10U to 12U (Braves, Bucks, Bombers, Bulldogs and Bandits)**
- **8U & 9U have 4 teams (Braves, Bucks, Bombers, and Bulldogs)**
- **7U has only 2 teams (Braves and Bucks)**

- **OOT Travel should be limited to 10U and up only!**

- **Roster Size - 11-12 depending on team and coach preference**
- **Rosters listed on website after selection**

Team Selection Process

- Nominations by managers only in advance of selection date
 - A player can be nominated by the manager of another team as well
 - The manager's job is to nominate the most deserving players on their team
 - Nominations are Cross Checked with forthcoming Parent Survey
- Coaches closely monitor play throughout the season, particularly towards end of season.
 - Game reviews and player highlights are shared throughout the spring, where Managers highlight “watch list” kids via post game updates to Commissioner and Coaches
- Selection is done by successive rounds of closed ballot voting by all team managers of a given age group.
 - Once a team reaches its roster limit of players, those players not yet selected are eligible for the next team and the closed ballot voting starts again.
- It is a democratic process where no single person is hand picking a team and no player is on a roster unless they meet the minimum number of required votes.
 - Selection is overseen by League Commissioner, All Star Committee and Board members

League:	Proposed/Tentative 2024 Draft Dates:
Rookie	Thursday 5/9/2024 at 6PM
A	Friday 5/10/2024 Single A at TBD
AA	Tuesday 5/7/2024 at 6:30
AAA	Thursday 5/2/2024 at 7:30 PM
Majors	Sunday 4/28/2024 at 5:00PM

Playing Time

- **The summer season does not have rules similar to those of the spring season**
 - There are no minimum play requirements nor rules regarding infield vs outfield play
- **Depending on the composition of skill on a team, playing time in the field or in the batting order can vary**
 - Players that are accustomed to playing infield will play outfield. Primary pitchers or catchers on a spring team might not be in either rotation.
- **Parents must know where your player will thrive and place him/her in the situation that is best**
 - Every year parents opt for their child to play on the Bucks instead of the Braves or Bombers instead of the Bucks, etc.
- We know making one team over another can be a delicate situation. We need parents to set expectations accordingly. Making any All-Star team is an accomplishment.
- **Note that there will be a “All-Star Participation Survey” email that will have:**
 - (1) an expression of interest in playing during the summer,**
 - (2) indication and commitment of availability and duration of availability and**
 - (3) an acknowledgement that if your son/daughter is going to be selected as the 9th, 10th or 11th player of a team, would they rather play down a team.**
 - *We want to emphasize the importance of #3 above. Please appreciate that as the players progress in any sport, the equity of play varies and is also an important aspect for children to maximize their role on any given team, regardless of playing time. Our kids are playing sports to learn life lessons of teamwork and competition. Summer baseball provides an opportunity for this and an opportunity for all kids to elevate their skill level, regardless of how much they are playing SS or hit clean up..*

The survey will be due Tuesday, April 23rd 2024 at 10:00PM.

Tournament Path

- The league works very hard each year to help direct the tournament path that might be best suited for each team to maximize competitive play, but please understand that the same tournament can vary from year to year depending on the number and quality of the teams that choose to enter.
- **AA- 12U** - Expect to play tournaments each weekend from Memorial Day up to July 4th weekend. Most teams will end 6/30/2024 this year with 5 or less weekends of tournaments.
- **Rookie and A** and will not play Memorial Day weekend. Instead, they will play b/t 2-4 weekends in the month of June, 2024
- “Dizzy Dean” State Tournaments &/or “Braves Country Battles” for all age groups begin in June and will last roughly a week if you go the distance. Do not be surprised if it gets extended a day or two in the event of inclement weather
 - A non Dizzy Dean path will culminate the weekend of July 4th with the possibility of an out-of-town trip
- The All-Star Committee works actively with parents and coaches leading up to the season to craft an appropriate path

- Coaches are selected by All-Star committee with input from League Commissioners and previous year parent feedback (if available)
- 7U, 8U and 9U - all teams are coached by parents
- 10U, 11U and 12U - **the league attempts to secure non-dad** coaches for each Braves and Bucks team with the Bombers, Bulldogs, Bandits in each group typically coached by parents.
- It is highly encouraged for parents to “pass the hat” in a meaningful way for non-dad coaches as a season ending thank you! This is big time commitment for these volunteers and your generosity is appreciated.

Practice Time & Scheduling

- **If your child is selected for an All-Star team, he/she will practice almost every day except for days that the team is playing in a tournament.**
 - Every year we hear complaints that there was a surprise that parents needed to immediately get a player to practice and that parents do not know the following week's practice schedule. Expect practice or a game every day and sometimes on short notice with varying start times and locations.
 - With up to 4 teams (5 in some age groups) and tournament schedules for pool play not released until days before, schedules will frequently change.
 - *Knowing that it is coming does not change the force of the impact but provides you the ability to brace for it.*
- **The practice schedule may take a bit of time to publish as each team and coach have their own individual requests that are difficult to juggle.**
 - Please do not be irritated with the league if the practice schedule is not out.
- *Again, expect that your players in AA-12U have a baseball commitment 5 or 6 days/week from Memorial Day weekend to June 30th.*
- *Rookie and A will not play Memorial Day weekend. Instead, they will play b/t 2-4 weekends in the month of June, 2024.*

Duration of Commitment

- **When your child is selected for a summer team it is a wonderful recognition for them**
 - The expectation is that baseball is the primary time commitment above all else. It is understandable for families that may not want to make this commitment, but it is EXTREMELY important for your interest and commitment as a family to be communicated in advance of the selection process.
- **Players are expected to be present for every practice and every game of every tournament**
 - This is a big commitment and families do it every year, in full.
- *A player that is unable to make practices and games due to other commitments or travel is not only impacting the team on which he or she was selected but has also taken a spot from a child more willing to commit to that team.*
- **At the other end of the spectrum, this is not a year-round travel program**
 - The season ends prior to July 4th.
 - For the younger teams, this typically coincides with the Dizzy Dean State Tournament.
 - For some of the older teams, the season often culminates in an out-of-town trip.
- *The league does not support extensions of the summer seasons beyond the July 4th weekend (w/ the exception of teams that chose to play the Dizzy Dean National tournament if they finish as a state Champion or Runner-Up).*
 - At the end of every summer season, we get phone calls about extending the season. The season must conclude for the health of the players as well as for other reasons such as not creating the obligation for some to play because they feel like they have to.

- **Summer Play 5-6 week of intense play.**
 - **5 + days a week**
 - **4 days of 2-hour practice**
 - **3 days of games per week with potential all day schedules.**
 - **20+ hours a week of field time.**
- **Arm Health**
 - **We are implementing an 85 pitch limit in any one day for Buckhead teams**
 - **Watch Additional Reps – Wall Ball, Bull Pens, Camps, etc.**
 - **Be parents. If your kid is hurting say something!**
- **Hydration**
 - **Tournaments can last 3 or more games a day**
 - **95 degrees**
 - **Please stay hydrated and make sure to take care of your players**
 - **Sitting at the country club pool all day sucking down cokes and swimming followed by a 2-hour practice is dangerous. Be smart.**

Expenses

- **Cost is the largest hot button issue because youth sports are expensive**
 - In fact, it is typically a surprise just how expensive they are.
 - For those of us whose children play baseball, we are fortunate as Georgia has some of the best baseball in the country within an hour drive of Atlanta.
 - Kids that play high level lacrosse, soccer, golf and other sports must get on a plane or drive far on a week-to-week basis increasing cost 2, 3, 4x the cost of our summer season.
- **In response to parent feedback, the league has taken partial control of the expense situation through the registration fee that covers the basic uniform package that we recommend (as well as miscellaneous expenses associated with field maintenance)**
 - For younger age groups, you should expect an incremental \$700-\$1100 of direct expense for the five or six weeks without travel.
 - Covers uniforms, tournament entry fees and miscellaneous things like dugout Gatorade, meals between games, gate fees, and family get-togethers.
 - For older age groups that travel, you should expect the season to cost \$2500-\$5500 comprised of direct expense for the uniforms, tournament fees, hotel accommodations (if traveling out of town), and non-dad coaches expenses (travel and coaching expenses), although this can be reduced by sharing rooms.
- ***These are great experiences, but they are not cheap. If that influences your decision, please fully deliberate prior to putting your child up for consideration. These concerns should be included on the survey.***



Example of expenses should teams travel.

All Star Cost Est. Including Orange Beach / Charleston		
Typically for Braves or Bucks AAA, 11U, 12U Braves Teams that travel		
Team Costs (divide by each family):	Total	Per Family
Kick Off /Season End Party / Pool Parties	\$1,200	\$109.09
Uniforms	\$1,400	\$127.27
Tournaments fees (assuming 5, maybe 6 tournaments)	\$2,600	\$236.36
Coaches: Travel Expenses for Orange Beach/ Charleston, PCB Condo (1 Condo)*	\$4,000	\$363.64
Misc. Expenses (Trading PIN, T-Shirts, Etc.)	\$900	\$81.82
Month Long - Team Lunches/Dinners	\$4,000	\$363.64
Total/Per family	\$14,100	\$1,281.82
Individual Family Costs:		
Buckhead Baseball Registration (2024 TBD)	\$350	
Condo (6 nights / 2BR), Fuel, Meals	\$3,800	
Team expenses noted above	\$1,281.82	
POSSIBLE ALL IN FEE PER FAMILY THAT TRAVELS	~\$5,550	

***Suggested coaches fees for OOT trips are ~\$300+ to cover travel and per diem expenses.**

(note: any shared lunches and dinners with the coaches are also paid for by the team)



Example of “Buck, Bombers, Bulldogs, Bandits” Expenses

All Star Cost Est. Including (No Travel)		
Team Costs (divide by each family):	Total	Per Family
Rookie, A, AA, AAA, Majors teams not traveling		
Kick Off /Season End Party / Pool Parties	\$1,200	\$109.09
Uniforms	\$1,400	\$127.27
Tournaments fees (assuming 4, maybe 5 tournaments)	\$2,400	\$200
Month Long - Team Lunches/Dinners	\$4,000	\$363.64
Tota per team /Per family	~\$9000	~\$800



Buckhead
Baseball

FINAL THOUGHT

**We are here to serve the players
first and foremost**

