

Welcome to the 2024
Bear Babe Ruth Spring Season



Agenda

- Introductions
- STATS Sports Complex
- Why Play BBR?
- Equipment/What's Needed? USA Bats
- What's New and Coming Back?
- Fundraising
- Help Needed/Managers/Umpires
- Typical Practice/Game Schedules
- Code of Conduct
- BBR Website/Facebook (a wealth of information!)
- Important Dates
- Questions



2024 Board of Directors

- **Evan Grabowski** - President
- **Chris Purcell** – Vice-President
- **Amy Crew / Kineta King** – Treasurer
- **Kristen Grabowski** – Secretary
- **Brian Gable** – Board Member
- **Sean Brown** – Board Member
- **Craig Harms** – Board Member
- **Maria Brown** – Board Member
- **Marc DiFrancesco** – Board Member
- **Matt Hudson** – Board Member
- **Carissa Fiore** – Board Member
- **Jimmy Barnes** – Board Member
- **Jason Clark** – Board Member
- **Jessyca Clark** – Board Member



Financial Update

- **Kineta King / Amy Crew – BBR
Treasurer**

2023 - Cost to run the league is roughly \$54,000. Before the sales was \$81,737. We rely on sponsorship and fundraising to help us reach that amount along with registrations.

2024 – WE NEED YOU!!!!

We need parents to help us reach these goals so that we continue being the best game in town.



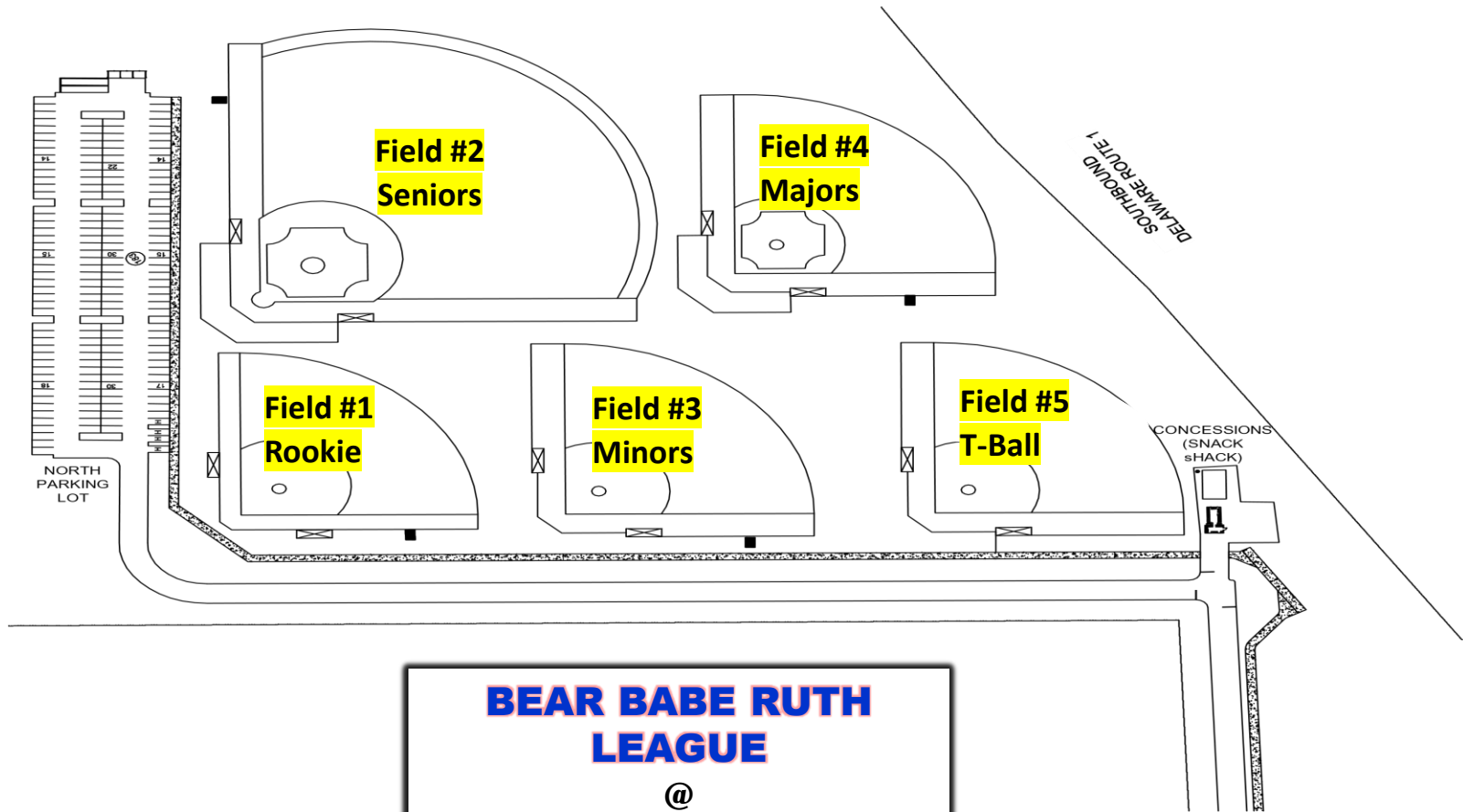
STATS Sports Complex Info

- **Field Use:**

- Bear teams have field priority Mon-Sat during Spring Season, All-Stars, and Fall Ball
- No practices or games at STATS during weekends (Fri-Sun).
- www.statstournaments.com



STATS Sports Complex Map



**BEAR BABE RUTH
LEAGUE**

@

STATS Sports Complex



STATS Sports Complex Rules

- **NO PETS** of any size on the property
- **NO SMOKING** of any kind (including electronic cigarettes) anywhere on the property, including the parking lots
- **NO ALCOHOL** anywhere on the property, including the parking lots
- **NO** scooters, bikes, roller-blades or skateboards on the property
- **NO** motorized all-terrain vehicles on the property

PLEASE:

- Help keep the complex clean and properly dispose of all garbage!
- Check around you before you leave to make sure you have everything you brought with you.
- **DO NOT LEAVE VALUABLES IN YOUR VEHICLE AND/OR VISIBLE!**



How to get Help at the Complex

- Board members – Many are managers or coaches or players parents or guardians who are routinely at the complex. Identified by BBR “board member” apparel
- Injuries, problems, questions, should all be reported to the BBR Board
- In the event of major injury or emergency **dial 911** first then notify the BBR Board.
- WWW.BEARBABERUTH.COM



Why Play Bear Babe Ruth?

- **Lowest prices** – We have the lowest registration fees in the area not to mention our 50% discount on one child's registration for managing a team.
- **We teach the game and develop player's baseball knowledge** – We continue practices even after games begin.
- **Minimal rainouts** - Our fields have some of the best drainage around. Postponements are made up ASAP.
- **We play against other leagues during the season** – Minors divisions and older, may see some opponents outside of BBR. Based on availability, we can see how we stack up against other local competition.
- **Majors Division** - ages 10-12 get to play on a 50/70 field making the transition to the 'big field' at age 13 easier.
- **All-Star program** - 9U and up - shorter road to the US championship than other leagues and the championship is held somewhere different every year. 2023's 12U championship was held in Branson, MO!



Equipment/What's Needed?

WHAT WE SUPPLY:

- Uniform shirts
- BBR Hat

WHAT YOU MAY NEED:

- **USA Certified bat**, glove, helmet – younger divisions have some to borrow
- Cleats
- Baseball pants – preferably gray
- Socks or stirrups
- Belt
- Athletic supporter
- Catcher's gear – some to borrow
- **For Senior/Super divisions please visit Bat Rules (baberuthleague.org) for bat regulations**



What's New and Back for 2024

- Opening Day Ceremony – Saturday, April 13 – 10am Parade, 12pm Games Start
- Constantly Updated Website -*Sports Engine* App/Platform
- Squad Locker Fan Gear Link - [SquadLocker](#)
- Picture Day – Tuesday, April 23 (Wilbur Elementary)
- Minors/Majors World Series (since 2020) – gets better every year!
- Star Wars Night (May 4th), First Responders Week (3rd week of May)
- New Field Equipment – tees, nets, chalk liners, bases, “L” Screens
- DICK’S Sporting Goods – Shopping event March 8th, 9th & 10th



Fundraising Cards

Discount Cards:

- \$50 Fundraising/Admin Fee included in registration (T-Ball - Seniors): 5 discount cards/family that contain discounts to various local businesses can be sold for \$10 each
- Sell the cards, keep the money



(Example of Card)



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

- **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!** (T-Ball, Rookie, Minors, Majors, Seniors, Super Seniors)
- **Team Parent/Designated Helpers (DH's)** – Help with pre/post game and practice field prep or breakdown. Contact a board member or YOUR TEAM MANAGER if interested.
- **Help spread the word about BBR** – conversations with friends/family,
- **Share posts and events on Social Media** - Facebook, Instagram, etc.
- **Umpires Needed!** – Know any responsible, baseball minded people ages 18+? Minors games (8-10yr old's) Contact Chris Purcell.
- **Like to become a board member?** Express interest in August/September, board elections are in October. The new board takes effect in November.



Typical Practice/Game Schedules

T-Ball:

Practices – 1 or 2 weekday practice/week prior to start of games

Practices Begin – Week of *March 18th*

Games – 2 / 3 games per week

Games Begin – *week of April 8th*

Rookie:

Practices – 2 times per week

Practices Begin - Week of March 18

Games - 2 / 3 games per week

Games Begin – Week of April 8th

Minors:

Practices – 2 weekday practices per week prior to start of games

Practices Begin – at manager's discretion anytime after February 26th

Games – 2 / 3 games per week

Games Begin - week of April 8th

*Inter-league games dependent on other leagues ability to field teams



Typical Practice/Game Schedules (cont.)

Majors:

Practices – 2 practices per week prior to start of games

Practices Begin - at manager's discretion anytime after February 26th

Games – 2 / 3 weekday games per week

Games Begin - *week of April 8th*

Seniors:

Practices – at manager's discretion beginning early May

Practices Begin – early May

Games – typically Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays through end of June

Games Begin – mid-May

Super Seniors:

Practices – frequency/days at manager's discretion

Practices Begin – end of May

Games – 3x per week (including weekends – 12 to 15 game season)

Games Begin – early to mid June - season ends in July – games are all Inter-league against other Babe Ruth Organizations



Code of Conduct

THESE ARE KIDS. THIS IS A GAME. COACHES ARE VOLUNTEERS. UMPIRES ARE HUMAN. MAJOR LEAGUE CONTRACTS ARE NOT HANDED OUT AFTER GAMES.

The Code requires respectful treatment of all; specifically BBR strives to create an environment where there is:

- An emphasis on the positive for all players
- Patience and support
- A learning environment where mistakes made are turned into opportunities to teach
- Respectful treatment of all BBR equipment
- We ask that parents, family members and friends remain outside dugouts and fenced playing fields **AT ALL TIMES** during the games and practices
- Support for the manager and coaches:
 - Notify them when your child will miss practice or a game
 - Speak privately with them regarding concerns
 - Remember 30 minutes **PRIOR** and **AFTER** a game is time reserved for pre and post game preparations and is **NOT** a good time for discussion



Code of Conduct continued...

New bylaw as of 2023:

- **T-Ball/Rookie Divisions** - players must have an adult remain in attendance during all practices/games for their entirety
- **Minors/Majors/Seniors Divisions** - If a parent/guardian must leave practice or a game, they must notify a coach prior to leaving. This request will be permitted at coach's discretion.

Consequence: 2 behavior incidents will result in an adult needing to be present for the season's remaining practices/games - if 3 incidents then the player will be removed from the league without refund.

What happens if the Code is not followed?

Non-compliance of any of the Code of Conduct principals could result in:

- Ejection from a game
- Forfeiting the right to continue to participate in the league, and/or
- Disqualification from any post season tournaments for players

Problem Escalation Procedure:

1. First, try the Manager
2. Next, contact will be the Division Coordinator
3. Last, go to the Board of Directors



Website www.bearbaberuth.com

Our Prime Method of Communication!

- Contains contact information for all Board Members and Division Coordinators and Code of Conduct
- Keep your contact information up to date
- Volunteer Opportunities (Designated Helpers [DH's], umpires, Jr umpires)
- Regular Season and All-Star Info/Rules
- Key Dates/Handouts
- Information on upcoming events
- Complex information
- Copy of Parent/Guardian Meeting Presentation



Facebook

- LIKE us on FACEBOOK @ www.facebook.com/bearbaberuth
- Search “Bear Babe Ruth”
- Please “**Like**” and “**Share**” posts to help grow the league
- Important dates, information, some competition results, season and event photos
- Sponsor links
- Currently at 861 Members...help us get to 1,000!!



“X” (Formerly Twitter)

- **FOLLOW** us on “X” [@BearBabeRuth](https://twitter.com/BearBabeRuth)
 - Search “Bear Babe Ruth”
 - Please “**Like**” and “**Share**” posts to help grow the league
- Important dates, information, some competition results, season and event photos



THANK YOU ...
and have a great season!!

Questions?



A Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth Baseball and Softball League
Chartered 2000

