



HFL-Mendon Youth Baseball Spring House League Age-Eligibility Summary

All players registered in the HFL-M Youth Baseball House League will be placed on a team. There are no cuts for House League teams. The objective of the player evaluation sessions conducted in January/February each year is for coaches to take a look at the players entering a new league so that they can make informed decisions when selecting their teams, ultimately resulting in a competitive House League season. Therefore, we strongly encourage any player entering a new league attend that league's evaluation session. Parents will receive an email announcing the date and time of the evaluation session applicable to the league in which a player is registered and that information will be placed on our website (hfmbaseball.org) in January each year.

The **standard** age groups for each HFL-M Youth Baseball league are provided below (all ages as of April 30th):

- T-ball: 5 and 6 year olds
- Intermediate: 7 and 8 year olds
- Minors: 9 and 10 year olds
- Majors: 11 and 12 year olds

The chart below (Group Nos. 1, 2 and 3) summarizes the typical situations that arise each year for players new to the House League and players who played the previous year. Some players want to “play up” to the next older age group league. The chart below (Group Nos. 4 and 5) contains the criteria developed by the HFL-Mendon Youth Baseball Board of Directors that are used to determine whether a player may play up to the next older age group league.

Player Description Group No.	Player Description—Spring House League Season	Attend Jan/Feb Evaluation?	Purpose of Evaluation Attendance	Examples/Notes
<p>1</p> <p>Player is new to the HFL-M Youth Baseball league or returning after not playing in our league for one or more years</p>	<p>Player decides to play on an age-appropriate team or would like to attempt to play up to the next older age group league during the upcoming House League season</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strongly encouraged if playing on an age-appropriate team Required if attempting to play up 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Player will be picked by a coach in the age-appropriate league draft See Group No. 4 or Group No. 5 description below if the player is attempting to play up 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a player would like to play on an age-appropriate team, no special evaluation criteria apply If a player would like to play on a team in the next older age group league, see Group No. 4 or Group No. 5 below, depending on player’s league age and grade
<p>2</p> <p>Player would like to play in the same league as he/she played in during the previous House League season</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Player meets age-eligibility requirement of the league in which he/she would like to play during upcoming House League season Player played on a team within that league during previous House League season 	<p>No, unless the team that the player played on during the previous House League season is dissolved</p>	<p>Not applicable, unless the team that the player played on during the previous House League season is dissolved</p>	<p>Example: A player who was league age 9 and played on a Minors team last year and will be returning to Minors for the upcoming season</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Player will be on the same team as previous House League season Only exception is if that team is dissolved; this will happen infrequently If player’s prior team is dissolved, then player should attend the evaluation session and will be drafted by another team
<p>3</p> <p>Player must move up to next older age group league based on league age</p>	<p>Player is “aged out” of the league that he/she played in during the previous House League season</p>	<p>Strongly encouraged</p>	<p>Player will be picked by a coach in the league in which the player will play during the upcoming House League season</p>	<p>Example: A player who was league age 10 and played in Minors last year must move up to Majors for the upcoming season because he/she will be league age 11</p>
<p>4</p> <p>Player wants to play up to next older age group league based on grade level and baseball skills</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Player does not meet the age-eligibility requirement of the league in which he/she would like to play during the upcoming House League season Player is one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 year old in 1st grade 8 year old in 3rd grade 10 year old in 5th grade 	<p>Required; player cannot play up without attending an evaluation session</p>	<p>Player will be picked by a coach in the league in which the player would like to play (next older age group league), unless a member of the HFL-M Youth Baseball Board of Directors, who does not have child in the league in which the player would like to play or the next lower league, determines that the player’s safety would be at risk</p>	<p>Example: A player who is league age 10 and in 5th grade may try out for Majors</p> <p>6 year olds in 1st grade, 8 year olds in 3rd grade, and 10 year olds in 5th grade (based on league age) have the option to stay in the league consistent with their league age (see Group No. 2 above) or try out for the next older age group league</p>

Player Description Group No.	Player Description—Spring House League Season	Attend Jan/Feb Evaluation?	Purpose of Evaluation Attendance	Examples/Notes
<p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <p>Player wants to play up to next older age group league based on baseball skills only (not grade level)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Player does not meet HFL-M Youth Baseball league age-eligibility requirement of the league in which he/she would like to play during upcoming House League season • Player is one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6 year old not yet in 1st grade - 8 year old not yet in 3rd grade - 10 year old not yet in 5th grade 	<p>Required; player cannot play up without attending an evaluation session</p>	<p>A member of the HFL-M Youth Baseball Board of Directors, who does not have a child in the league in which the player would like to play or the next lower league, will determine whether the player may play in the next older age group league or must stay in the league consistent with the player’s age using criteria approved by the HFL-M Youth Baseball Board of Directors</p>	<p>Example: A 4th grader who is league age 10 (age eligible for Minors) may try out for Majors</p> <p>If a player is not able to attend the league’s evaluation session, a separate evaluation will be arranged for such player. In that case, the player will be permitted to play up to the next older age group league if a member of the HFL-M Youth Baseball Board of Directors approves the move up using the following criteria:</p> <p>Attempting to play up from T-ball to Intermediate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Player will be allowed 5 to 7 warmup throws • 10 throws at 35 feet using RIF ball <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least 50% of the throws (i.e., at least 5 throws) must be considered “good throws” - A “good throw” can have a reasonable arch and must be within a half step of the target • Player must catch at least 50% of the balls being returned to him/her <p>Attempting to play up from Intermediate to Minors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Player will be allowed 5 to 7 warmup throws • 10 throws at 70 feet using hard ball <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least 50% of the throws (i.e., at least 5 throws) must be considered “good throws” - A “good throw” must have little to no arch and must be within a half step of the target • Player must catch at least 50% of the balls being returned to him/her <p>Attempting to play up from Minors to Majors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Player will be allowed 5 to 7 warmup throws • 10 throws at 80 feet using hard ball <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At least 70% of the throws (i.e., at least 7 throws) must be considered “good throws” - A “good throw” must have little to no arch and must be within a half step of the target • Player must catch at least 70% of the balls being returned to him/her • 10 swings with at least 4 solid contacts