



# Wasco Baseball Travel Program Guidelines



Updated & Approved: 9/18/2025

## **AGE & TEAM GUIDELINES**

1. Wasco Baseball may sponsor up to one full-time travel team at 8u and two full-time travel teams at ages 9-12. 8u-12u teams are coached by board elected coaches. Exceptions to the number of teams and age levels may exist year to year. The Director of Travel will recommend the number of teams at the different age groups and the Executive Committee will make the final determination. Teams will be sponsored only if (1) there is a qualified Manager elected by the Board and (2) there are enough qualified players at tryouts to select the teams. One team at each age level will be designated as having first selections. The first selection will apply to players in completing the team, selecting fields, practice timeslots, and the lower numbered Cooperstown certificate (for 12u).

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For 13u and 14u, teams are provided through Top Pick and are fully managed by Top Pick, including coach and roster selection. Teams will be coached by a Top Pick appointed coach or a professional coach as determined by Top Pick. If a professional coach is used, a family member will be assigned as a General Manager. A General Manager is not considered a coach and is responsible for communication, administration, and other responsibilities off the field so the coaches can focus on team and player development.

2. All players are highly encouraged to play their grade age (8u-2nd grade, 9u-3rd grade, 10u-4th grade, 11u-5th grade, 12u-6th grade). Any player wanting to play on an older level team (ex. 4th grader trying out for 11u), must be offered a spot on that age level's top team in order to play at the higher level team. No play ups are allowed to play on a 2nd or 3rd team. Teams/Coaches are encouraged to have no more than 2 players that are playing down in grade.
3. Team names will be the following:
  - Xu Wasco Red (first team)
  - Xu Wasco Navy (second team)
  - Xu Wasco White (third team)

When creating the team on GameChanger, or signing up for leagues/tournaments, use the formal Wasco Travel logo and list your name with the proper Team Name as listed above.

4. All Wasco 8u-12u full-time travel teams are required to participate in the Wasco Travel Baseball Winter development programs as established by the League. Additional Fall and Winter team and individual training can occur as long as it complements the league's Winter development programs. Any additional team training outside of the Winter development program needs to be approved by the Director of Travel.

## **TRAVEL MANAGERS**

5. Candidates that want to be considered for a Travel Manager position need to submit a coaching resume to the Director of Travel by the Sunday prior to the June Board Meeting.

6. Current full-time Travel Managers (“Incumbent”) interested in being a Manager for the next season at the next age level will need to submit their intent to return, and a coaching resume to the Director of Travel by the Sunday prior to the June Board Meeting. Candidates returning are not guaranteed a coaching position, nor are they guaranteed the same level team. The Board will decide if the 9u-12u “Incumbent” Travel Managers will be awarded a Manager position for the next season at the next age level.
7. New Candidates will need to attend the June Board Meeting to present their resume and answer questions from the Board. Incumbent Managers do not need to attend the board meeting if running unopposed; and approved by the EC and the Director of Travel. Regardless of attendance, Incumbent coaches should present their accomplishments, an overview of their program and future programs for their team to be evaluated by the Board. Manager candidates who are unable to attend the Board meeting must provide a one-page, typed letter, in addition to the resume, expressing their interest and qualifications to be a Travel Manager. The Board will choose the Managers at the June Board Meeting.

### **DIRECTOR OF TRAVEL**

8. The Director of Travel shall be the liaison between the travel Manager, travel players and the league. The Manager should work with the Director of Travel as questions or issues come up throughout the season. The Director of Travel will also work with the league’s President and/or Executive Committee on any disciplinary action related to the team due to any code of conduct violations during the season.
9. The Director of Travel will provide a monthly update to the Board on the state of the travel program and all team results and evaluations.

### **TRYOUTS**

10. Before the tryouts, an elected Manager/coach must sign the Code of Conduct and agree to the Travel Guidelines. In the event an elected coach resigns for any reason, he or she must return to Wasco Baseball all money and items collected during their coaching tenure. The Manager/coach is also not entitled to a refund for money collected to the league prior to their resignation.
11. Player Tryouts for the Travel teams will be grouped by age and held in July. Dates and times will be determined each year by the Director of Travel.

At the beginning of each tryout session, coaches will provide parents with a brief overview that includes:

- An introduction of the coach and team
- A description of the team’s program and seasonal plans
- What the coach is looking for in players
- Communication plan (families will receive follow-up communication within 5 days of the tryout)

This ensures that every parent receives consistent information about the team’s goals, expectations, and next steps.

12. All players are required to register for the tryout prior to participation, by completing the tryout registration and signing the waiver. Teams will be selected by the Manager. The Manager is not required to select assistant coaches prior to the tryouts. If he or she does, he or she must notify the Director of Travel.

EXCEPTION: First year Managers are not allowed to name assistant coaches prior to try-outs. At least one board member will be present to assist and monitor tryouts and team selection for first year Managers.

13. All players will be contacted within **5 days** of the last open tryout time. The designated first team will work with the next team to release players. A complete list of selections will be submitted to the Director of Travel. The first team will be able to select any player who registered to tryout which includes players from other Wasco Travel teams (this does not apply to Wasco All-Star teams). If a player is selected by the Manager and the player declines to accept the offer because the player wants to play for a different Wasco team, the parents must provide an explanation via e-mail to the Director of Travel. The Director of Travel will share the parent's request with the Executive Committee. The EC will determine if the player is eligible to play for the team they are requesting. Players returning to Wasco Travel from the year prior have the option to remain on the team they played for the previous year. This player will not need to supply a reason other than wanting to return to the same team. Direct or indirect attempts to influence players to not play for another Wasco team are not allowed and will be deemed as a Code of Conduct violation.
14. All travel coaches are required to have their players register with the league no later than 7 days after being formally selected to the team. Once registered, a player's spot is secured on the team. If a player's full registration fee is not paid by the start of winter training, the issue will be presented to the Executive Committee and the player's roster spot is at risk. The registration fee will be determined each year by the board and is Non Refundable unless a team is not formed. The league may rebate a portion of the total registration fees at the end of the year. The Director of Travel will recommend any rebate amount and the EC will approve the final amount of the rebate along with a notification to the Board by the October board meeting. The league will withhold \$1,000 from each 12u team so the league can send the initial \$1,000 payment to Cooperstown to secure a certificate.
15. Each travel team is required to submit their roster to the Director of Travel by August 31<sup>st</sup>.

## UNIFORMS

16. Uniform choices will be provided by the Director of Travel. All travel teams' primary colors for hats, tops, and socks/stirrups will be navy blue & scarlet red.
  - HATS: The hats will contain the brushed script "W." Additional artwork, numbers or wording on the back or side of the hats needs to coincide with the color scheme.
  - JERSEYS: Jerseys will have the "Wasco" name or script "W" visibly as the primary name on the jersey.
  - PANTS: Pants will match the uniform top (e.g. white or gray base color). Teams may allow players to use traditional length, long or unhemmed.
  - Every player will be required to purchase or own the Wasco Travel issued practice jersey, belt,, and a Wasco Baseball batting helmet.

**Additional on-field items not offered by the Wasco Travel issued vendor, must be sanctioned by the Director of Travel. Artwork must remain in the parameters previously mentioned.**

- Approval by the Director of Travel must be obtained PRIOR to making any uniform or accessory orders.

## **SCHEDULE, TOURNAMENTS & HOSTING**

17. Managers will have the ability to make their own schedule but are encouraged to work with the Director of Travel to make the best decisions for their team. The Manager must publish their schedule on the League's website and submit it to the Director of Travel prior to the start of the season. Managers are encouraged to play in a league. If a team elects to play in a league, it is expected that the team fulfills their commitment to the league by participating in all scheduled games. If the league hosts an end of the season tournament, teams are encouraged to participate.
18. The league will aid and help schedule umpires for home games. Each Manager should work with the Director of Scheduling/Umpires or their appointed umpire for home games.
19. Wasco Baseball encourages teams to host a tournament to promote the league. A tournament can be held at any time, as long as it does not interfere with the in-house season. All travel teams are expected to participate in any Wasco sponsored activities or tournaments unless the EC and Director of Travel agree to allow the team to be excused.
20. If a Travel Team hosts a game with two or more non Wasco teams (tournament, scrimmages, round-robin, etc), Wasco baseball will impose a \$20 per game charge for any game played between non Wasco teams, at our location. This charge helps cover the costs of chalk, groomer gas and any additional expenses the league should incur. This charge may be modified by the EC based on circumstances (e.g. tournament will be supplying their own chalk, gas, and additional resources for trash removal).

## **FUNDRAISING**

21. Travel teams will not be allowed to solicit any league sponsor from the previous or current year. The Director of Travel will distribute a list of previous year sponsors to the Travel teams. Any solicitation of prior year sponsors may be considered a violation of the league's Code of Conduct. Once a sponsor has been obtained, the name of the sponsoring business or individual must be submitted to the Director of Travel and the Director of Fundraising.
22. The Director of Travel will provide a list of pre-approved fundraisers that do not require additional approval. If a Manager wants to run a fundraising program not on the list, the EC must approve. This approval will be done by the team Manager submitting a fundraising request form to the Director of Travel, who will review and if deemed acceptable, will forward to the EC for approval. Once the fundraising request has been approved, a description of the event will be posted for all to view. This list will remain posted and teams are welcome to participate by completing a request form and submitting it to the Director of Travel.

## **GUEST PLAYERS**

23. In the event a team needs to add a player during the season, the Manager needs to inform the Director of Travel with the reason why, along with the name of the player that the Manager wants to add. The Director of Travel will review with the Executive Committee to determine if adding the player is approved. If possible, the player added should have attended the tryouts for that team. Review of adding players will be closely monitored by the EC and any recruitment for the purpose of expanding the roster of a 'full' team during the current season (once the season starts) will result in a violation of the Code of Conduct and immediate action will be taken.

The following rules and fees apply for adding full-time player if, during the season, a team needs to add an additional player:

- The Director of Travel and EC must approve all roster additions during the season.
- If a player is currently an in-house registered Wasco player in the Wasco Registration system for the current year, the in-house fee will be deducted from prorated travel fee based on travel team expenses for the rest of the season.
- If a Player is not currently registered with Wasco, a prorated travel fee based on the travel team expenses for the rest of the season will be paid.

The following rules and fees apply for adding “guest” players during the season, if a team needs to add an additional player:

- The Director of Travel and EC must approve all “guest” players during the season.
- A team can select a “guest” player to play for their team for a game or tournament from Wasco in-house league at any time, if the travel schedule does not conflict with in-house game schedule.
- If a Wasco player is not available, then the “guest” player participation must be approved by the EC and the player will be required to pay a one-time \$50 registration fee under the team registration in the Wasco registration system. If a non-Wasco player is used and pays the fee, that player will need to be approved by the Director of Travel and EC throughout the year for any additional “guest” participation.

### **COOPERSTOWN (12u)**

24. The first 2 designated 12u teams will receive the league’s grandfathered birth to Cooperstown. The league may support a third team to go to Cooperstown, though it is not guaranteed.
25. The Cooperstown certificates will remain in the league’s name and will be submitted by the league on behalf of Wasco Baseball. Team Managers will be listed as coaches, but they are not to be listed as the point of contact.

## **WASCO TRAVEL BASEBALL PARENT GUIDELINES**

As a program, we want to create the best possible environment for our players to learn, grow, and enjoy the game. To help us do that, we ask all parents to follow these guidelines:

### **1. Let Coaches Coach**

- Please do not coach from the sidelines during practices or games.
- Extra instructions can confuse not only your child, but also the rest of the team.
- Coaches will handle teaching, correcting, and strategy. Parents should focus on encouragement and support.

### **2. Be Positive & Encouraging**

- Coaches strive to keep a healthy ratio of positive to corrective feedback. Parents can make a huge difference by cheering only the positive moments.
- Shouts of encouragement — hustle, effort, teamwork — go much further than shouting instructions.

### 3. Dugout Boundaries

- Players should not leave the dugout during a game without the coach's permission.
- Parents should stay away from the dugout area during games. When parents hover, players lose focus on the game, coaches, and teammates.

### 4. Respect the Umpires

- Parents must be on their best behavior when it comes to umpires.
- As a program, we cannot have fans arguing or showing displeasure with umpire calls.
- Parents are role models — set the example of sportsmanship by respecting the umpires, the other team, and the game itself.

### 5. Be On Time

- Please do your best to arrive on time so players can warm up properly, especially pitchers.
- If your player will be late, notify the coach via call or text.

### 6. Support Coaches

- Coaches are volunteers who will make mistakes — just like players and umpires.
- Do not publicly criticize coaching decisions in front of your player or other parents.
- If you have concerns or feedback, please wait at least 24 hours after a game and then schedule a time to speak with the coach directly. This ensures the conversation is constructive and productive.

### 7. Focus on Growth, Not Just Wins

- Winning is important, but our primary goal is player development.
- Players will experience wins, losses, and mistakes — all are valuable parts of the learning process.
- Parents play a key role by reinforcing the coaches' message and helping create a positive environment on and off the field, even when you may not agree with every decision.

## PITCHER AND PITCH COUNT RULES

### Wasco Travel Baseball Pitch Count Rules

Age	Daily Max (Pitches in Game)	0 Days Rest	1 Days Rest	2 Days Rest	3 Days Rest	4 Days Rest
8u	50	1-20	21-35	36-50		
9u-10u	75	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66-75
11u-12u	85	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66-85

#### Additional Rules & Guidelines

- No Pitcher can appear in a game 3 days in a row regardless of Pitch Count
- Pitchers should not pitch in multiple games on the same day unless their initial appearance is to finish an inning, they throw less than 15 pitches & the next game begins immediately.
- Try to avoid having a player catch on days they are pitching or severely limit the amount of use behind the plate on days they pitch
- Keep pitchers well rested by not allowing them to hit their max pitch count per weekend, more than 2 weekends in a row at any point during the season
- Players 8u-12u should only be throwing fastballs and changeups (no breaking balls).

Please contact the Director of Travel at [travel@wascobaseball.com](mailto:travel@wascobaseball.com) if you have any questions.