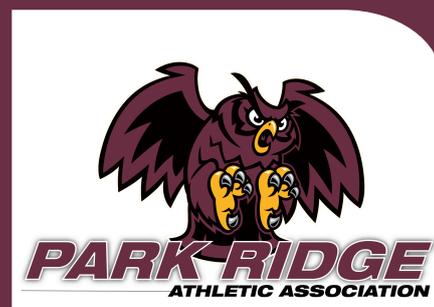


Travel Team Selection Policy

Updated October 2025



Introduction:

PRAA will create a travel sports program that allows children the opportunity to advance their skills and compete as a team in a safe and more challenging environment. Every season during registration, families will be asked if their child would be interested in travel. This invite does not guarantee a spot on a travel team, but will aid with determining travel interest at a specific grade level. Team selection is described below.

Requirements to Play:

A. Children must be active participants in the regular season recreation program to be eligible to participate on travel teams. Exceptions may be granted via the individual sports commissioner with the commissioner having the right to push decisions to the Board of Trustees. In certain instances, roster exceptions may be determined by the specific Travel League which would supersede these guidelines.

B. In the event there are not enough children to make a full team, out-of-town children can be considered to participate, if this aligns with the rules of the Travel League. The team must maintain a majority of Park Ridge children. If there are not enough players to fill out a Park Ridge based-team, the Sports Commissioners, Committee, and Board of Trustees will make best efforts to work with designated Leagues to provide “free-agents” for other teams. Travel Teams are evaluated every year.

Team Size:

Sport	Minimum*	Suggested Maximum*#
Basketball	7	10
Softball	10	12
Baseball	10	12

***May be determined by specific Travel League Rules**

Suggested maximums may be raised at the discretion of the Travel Coach, as long as it is within League guidelines

Number of Travel Teams:

A. If there is adequate interest in travel participation at a specific grade level/age group, a head coach and travel team will be selected.

B. Second Team Creation: When the number of children interested in playing travel is twice as many as the minimum allowed to play, a second team can be created. This is also predicated on the availability of an interested, certified coach. The second team must maintain a Park Ridge majority with outside children being allowed to participate if necessary to fill the team.

C. Flighting Teams: If multiple teams at the same level exist, the commissioner will work with the coaches to decide how the teams will be selected (i.e. skill vs. balance) and how the teams will be flighted within their respective Leagues.

Team Selection:

Travel teams are selected by merit and skill. In collaboration with the coach, the commissioner can determine the objective method for player selection. This will be communicated at the time of registration. This process is outlined below.

Option 1: Player Rankings → Player Selection process based on rankings

Option 2: Tryouts → Player Tryouts conducted by Head Coach

Option 3: Tryout → Player Tryouts conducted by Independent Evaluators

Travel Coaches:

Travel coaches from the previous year will be offered first right of refusal, predicated on Board and Commissioner Approval. If that coach declines, or if the team is new, all recreation head coaches of the current season will be given the first opportunity to coach. If multiple coaches come forward, coaches will be given the option to co-coach or create an annual rotation with the caveat that their child is selected to the travel team the following year. In the event no recreation coaches come forward an email will be sent to all the parents of the grade requesting volunteers.

Tournament Play:

When PRAA sponsored teams are entered into tournaments, they must adhere to tournament roster and playtime rules. Additions can be made to the team roster, on a case-by-case basis if permitted by the host tournament.

Playing Time:

During the competitive travel seasons, playing time is not guaranteed, and is based on player merit and will be determined by the head coach. League rules regarding playing time will supersede this guideline (ex. If a League requires one at-bat for rostered player)

Practice Players/Alternates:

Players that were not selected for the travel team may be offered an opportunity to be on a practice squad or serve as an alternate. As such, those players may have the opportunity to practice with the team during that season and serve as first call-ups should extra players be needed for a specific game or tournament. Playing time is not guaranteed and rostering is predicated on League/Tournament rules.