

2020 Sauk Prairie Baseball Coach Pitch Registration Information



Sauk Prairie Summer Baseball provides opportunities for players age 6-18 to play summer baseball in three different programs defined by player age: Coach Pitch (ages 6-8), Cal Ripken (ages 9-12) and Babe Ruth (ages 13-18). The level a player should register for is determined by their age as of May 1, 2020. Sauk Prairie Summer Baseball has made a commitment for players to play age appropriate (as opposed to grade). There may be situations where a player or players may be asked to "play up" to ensure teams are filled out or because of safety concerns and those will be handled on an individual basis.

Overview: The coach pitch program is intermediate level that focuses on the fundamentals of baseball, developed to improve skills and is designed to build a solid foundation for becoming a successful ballplayer. The program will have an In-House League for 6-8 year olds that will be comprised of practices and games on set days each week with all events being held on fields in the Sauk Prairie School District.

There will also be an opportunity for players at the 7U and 8U levels to be evaluated for placement on a tournament team that will be created if there are enough players that demonstrate a high skill level and understanding of the game of baseball that could be successful in a more competitive environment with weekend tournaments. There could be 1 team at U7 and U8 or 1 team at the U8 level comprised of U7 and U8 players. It is still undetermined if these tournament teams would be an option for players, in addition to being on in house league teams, or if the players on these teams would only play weekend tournaments (there is no league in the area for U7 or U8 so finding games outside of tournament play proved to be very challenging in 2019). Once the evaluations are completed and it's determined what age teams are going to be offered, communication with families of eligible players would happen to determine exactly what type of experience they are looking for (i.e., do they just want weekend tournaments and if so how many, do they want to be on in house teams for league and play a few weekend tournaments, etc.).

There will be 3 divisions for the in house league and the possibility of 2 tournament teams depending upon the results of evaluations:

- Coach Pitch A will be for players that are 5 or 6 years old as of May 1, 2020 and currently in Kindergarten
 - Coach Pitch AA will be for players that are 6 or 7 years old as of May 1, 2020 and currently in 1st grade
 - Coach Pitch AAA will be for players that 7 or 8 years old as of May 1, 2020 and currently in 2nd grade
 - Tournament 7U will be for players that are 7 years old as of May 1, 2020 and currently in 1st grade ****
 - Tournament 8U will be for players that are 8 years old as of May 1, 2020 and currently in 2nd grade ****
- ****Players who want to be considered for the tournament teams will be required to participate in an evaluation on March 14, 2020 ****

Season Dates and Nights of Play:

- Coach Pitch A will have games and practices on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings
- Coach Pitch AA will have games and practices on Monday and Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings
- Coach Pitch AAA will have games and practices on Monday and Wednesday evenings and Saturday mornings
- Tournament 7U games and practices will be determined upon finalization of the tournament schedule
- Tournament 8U games and practices will be determined upon finalization of the tournament schedule

Season Start and End Dates:

The in-house season will start on June 10th and the final night of play will be July 23rd.

The competitive teams will begin practice in late April or May and will likely have games in May as well. The ending date will depend on the dates of tournaments selected.

District Facility Updates for 2020:

As you probably have heard the school district has put together a facility plan that will go to referendum in April 2020. This plan includes many items like building additions/upgrades, new indoor pool to replace the current one that has reached the end of its useful life and outdoor sport facility changes required to accommodate the expansion of the high school.

As an organization we are super excited about these facility improvements as our youth will benefit greatly for years to come. With the excitement, also will come challenges as while the facilities are being built some of the fields we routinely use will be unavailable possibly for two seasons. While this will be inconvenient in the short term, the long term value will be immeasurable.

However, game schedules may be impacted some due to field space challenges and as noted above there may be some Saturday games or some games may need to be played on fields set up on the grass instead of on regular fields. We realize this is not ideal but game schedules will be communicated as soon as they are set. The short term inconvenience will be well worth it when teams are playing on the new fields.

Cost:

The 2020 Registration fees will be \$70 for affiliated families and \$85 for non-affiliated for all players. No increase from 2019. There will be an additional fee for players on the competitive team to cover tournament and other costs which will be communicated once those teams confirm their schedules for the summer.

Registration Deadlines:

March 6, 2020 is the deadline for those interested in the Tournament teams.

March 20, 2020 is the deadline for those interested in the in-house league only.

Please note that registration must be completed and fee paid for players to be evaluated for the 7U and/or 8U Tournament Teams.

Late Registrations:

Late registrations for in-house league will ONLY be accepted if there are roster spots available. \$25.00 Late fee will apply after March 20, 2020 for in-house league. Late registrants are not able to play on a tournament team as players must attend the March 14th evaluation in order to be considered for these tournament teams.

Age Requirements:

- Players that are 5 or 6 years old as of May 1, 2020 and currently in Kindergarten will play Coach Pitch A
- Players that are 6 or 7 years old as of May 1, 2020 and currently in 1st grade will play Coach Pitch AA
- Players that 7 or 8 years old as of May 1, 2020 and currently in 2nd grade will play Coach Pitch AAA
- Tournament 7U will be for players that are 7 years old as of May 1, 2020 and currently in 1st grade
- Tournament 8U will be for players that are 8 years old as of May 1, 2020 and currently in 2nd grade

Age as of May 1st will be the date used to determine eligibility for divisions if grade requirement is not met as that is the standard used for Cal Ripken and Babe Ruth baseball to ensure continuity throughout all the years of baseball.

Please note, we do not accept requests for players to be placed together. However, if there are twins at any level they will be placed together unless parents request otherwise. We are also unable to accept requests for players to "play up" in a division they don't meet the age or grade requirement for. The only exception to this would be for the competitive team if a U7 team is not able to be offered. Additionally, we can only accommodate coach together requests for 2 coaches per team and all requests are subject to Board approval. Please note that all team placements are final.

Volunteering: Each family will be required to volunteer a minimum number of hours for each child in the program (baseball and softball) in the areas of concessions, evaluation day, field clean up day, game day assistance, clinics and tournaments. Required number of hours will be set by May 15th. Sign up will be done on the Sauk Prairie Baseball & Softball web page www.saukprairiesummerball.com under the Dibs tab once times become available. For those families receiving scholarships there will be additional volunteer requirements. If a home tournament is hosted for U7 or U8 the families of players participating will be required to complete additional volunteer hours at that tournament.

Equipment Needs:

Participants will need a glove, grey baseball pants, a cup (recommended) and a good attitude. All players will receive a playing shirt and baseball cap. SPSR will be sponsoring an online store with helmets available for purchase if families want to purchase their own helmet and there will also be an online store for Sauk Prairie Baseball Apparel for players and fans.

7U and 8U Tournament Teams:

Description of the teams: The teams will be comprised of 10 to 13 players and will be selected after the evaluations. The selected team(s) could play just weekend tournaments together and play on in-house teams for league, or just play weekend tournaments and a few pick up games on week nights. The schedule for the summer is undetermined at this time as it will depend on the experience that the families of selected players are looking for in terms of number of tournaments, etc.

7U Age Requirements: Players must be 7 years old or younger on May 1, 2020 and must be in at least 1st grade.

8U Age Requirements: Players must be 8 years old or younger on May 1, 2020 and must be in 1st or 2nd grade.

Teams: If there are not enough players for a 7U team, those players will be allowed to be considered for the 8U team. If there is a team at the age level that the player fits into then they are required to tryout and play for that age team. The exception to that rule would be if a player is young for the grade they are in. (An example would be if a player has a birthday on 8/1/12, but that player is in 2nd grade. Technically, the player would be in the 7U age level, but since they are in 2nd grade they would be allowed to tryout for the 8U team if they wanted to). In that situation, that player would also be allowed to tryout for the 7U team if they wanted.

Tryouts: The evaluations will be held on March 14, 2020 at the High School North Gym. Times are yet to be determined. The evaluation will include hitting, throwing, running, fielding and attitude. **Players interested in trying out for these opportunities must check the "tournament team interest" box while completing the online registration.**

Schedule: The practice and game schedule for these teams will be available once the team(s) are selected and a plan for the summer has been determined.