



# Middleton Baseball & Softball Commission

PO Box 620823  
Middleton, WI 53562-0823

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## **MBSC SUMMER HIGH SCHOOL/LEGION BASEBALL PROGRAM**

### **Program Description**

The Middleton Baseball and Softball Commission (MBSC) Summer High School Baseball Program is a competitive program for players of ages 15-18 that is primarily for players who played on a Middleton High School (MHS) team during the previous spring season. This program will have at least one Senior level tournament team and one Junior level tournament team each year, but may have additional teams if player numbers warrant. The program will offer American Legion baseball travel teams if player numbers and commitment are sufficient. Senior level teams are usually comprised of mostly juniors and sophomores from the previous high school season (ages 16-18). Junior level teams are usually comprised of mostly freshmen from the previous high school season (ages 15-16). Team composition and the total number of teams may vary depending on registration numbers, player performance during the spring MHS season and commitment level of players. Some graduated MHS seniors may be invited to participate on a Senior level tournament team by the league director if more players are needed to fill out the team roster. Senior and Junior level teams will schedule weekday games against other high school age teams in the Madison metro area and other Legion teams in southern Wisconsin. Teams may also play games in selected weekend tournaments. The number and type of weekend tournaments entered will be decided by the league director with input from MBSC baseball coaches. If registered as American Legion teams, the Senior and Junior tournament teams will also participate in the Wisconsin American Legion baseball regional qualifying tournaments at the end of the regular season. The decision to have teams participate as American Legion teams will be made by the league director with input from MBSC baseball coaches. **This is a competitive program and requires a major commitment by players in order to participate. It is recommended that players have a major commitment to the MBSC Summer High School/Legion baseball team over other summer baseball options.** Players are expected to be at every scheduled weekday or tournament game unless they have communicated to the coaches in a timely and clear manner that they will not be present at a game.

### **Team Composition and Formation**

Players must have residence in the Middleton-Cross Plains Area School District (MCPASD) in order to participate in this program. The MBSC will effort to find a roster spot on a team for all returning MHS players who register for the summer high school/Legion program. Players who did not participate on an MHS spring baseball team may be asked to join an MBSC summer team if the league director and MBSC coaches determine that there is a need for that player on a roster. The league director may invite graduated seniors to participate on a Senior tournament team if there is a positional need for more players on the roster. Teams typically have 14-15 players on a roster, but this may vary depending on registration numbers.

The number of MBSC summer high school teams may vary from year to year, depending on registration numbers and player commitment. Players who played on the varsity team at MHS during the spring season (regardless of school class) and all other juniors who played on a high school team at MHS during the spring season will be automatically eligible to participate on a Senior level team. Sophomores who played on a high school team at MHS during the spring season will be eligible to participate on a Senior level or a Junior level team, with team placement dependent on their performance during the spring MHS season. Freshmen who played on a freshman team at MHS during the spring season will be eligible to play on the Junior level team. Any freshmen who played on the varsity team at MHS during the spring season will be asked to join a Senior level team. Other freshmen may be asked to join a Senior level team if there are roster spots or positional needs to fill on a Senior team. This decision will be made by the league director with input from MBSC baseball coaches. Students that did not play spring baseball at MHS but have a serious desire to play on a MHS baseball team in the future may be invited to play on an MBSC summer team if there is a need to fill out rosters. At the discretion of the league director, evaluations may be used to determine roster spots in those situations where there are more players than roster spots available.



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Registration fees for the MBSC Summer High School/Legion program will be set by the league director based on budget projections for the upcoming season. Estimated expenditures for each team will be provided by the league director at registration. Final determination of teams and rosters will be done by the league director, after MHS baseball teams have been formed for the spring season. The league director will seek input from MBSC baseball coaches about team formation as needed. If a player registers for the summer high school baseball program and does not make a high school team in the spring, their registration fees will be reimbursed if a roster spot is not available on a summer team. The MBSC will attempt to hire non-parent coaches for all of the summer high school baseball teams. Parents who wish to help coach a team may be added to coaching staffs if needed as decided by the league director.

## **Possible Teams:**

### **Senior Tournament Team (or Senior Legion U-19 Team)**

- Comprised of predominately Junior class players from the spring MHS season who commit to playing a more challenging and competitive schedule. Participation on the Senior tournament team will require a very high level of player commitment.
- Eligible graduated MHS seniors may be asked to participate on this team, only if the league director decides that roster size and team positional composition indicates a need to add any graduated seniors.
- This team would play 1-2 weekday games per week, along with 4-5 weekend tournaments (including the American Legion regional tournament).
- This team will be registered as an American Legion baseball team and will participate in the postseason Wisconsin Senior Legion U-19 tournament if player numbers and commitment level are sufficient. The winner of the regional Legion tournament would qualify for the Wisconsin state U-19 Legion tournament.
- Additional competitive tournament fees paid per player above the base player fee will be determined by the league director based on the expected costs of participating in additional weekend tournaments and the American Legion tournament.
- Returning varsity MHS players will have first priority for participating on the Senior tournament team. Additional roster spots will be filled based on positional needs along with evaluation of talent level during the spring high school season.
- Playing time—Equal playing time will be emphasized for weekday league games, with an emphasis on getting more reps for returning MHS players and those layers who are not playing as much at weekend tournaments. For weekend tournaments and American Legion postseason tournament games, equal playing time is not guaranteed, and will be dependent on game situations and performance. Coaches will effort to get a reasonable amount of playing time for every player on the roster for each tournament.

### **Senior League Team (or Junior Legion U-17 Team)**

- Comprised of predominately Junior and Sophomore class players from the previous MHS season who choose to play a weekday only schedule or do not make a Legion team roster.
- A senior league team will be formed only if there are enough registered players available to fill out a roster.
- This team would play a weekday game schedule of 2-3 games per week.
- Players registered for the Senior league team would pay only the base player fee.
- Playing time—equal playing time will be emphasized for weekday games.
- This team could play as a Legion U-17 tournament team if player numbers and composition allowed for the formation of an additional tournament team. This decision will be made by the league director with input from MBSC coaches. A Legion U-17 tournament team would be similar to the Senior Legion U-19 team in terms of game schedule, player fees, playing time expectations, etc. This team would be registered as an American Legion baseball team and would participate in the postseason Wisconsin Junior Legion U-17 regional tournament at the end of the season.



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## **Junior Tournament Team (or Junior Legion U-16)**

- Comprised of predominately Freshmen class players from the spring MHS season. Some Sophomore class players from the spring MHS season may also be asked to participate on this team if needed for roster and positional needs.
- This team would play a regular weekday game schedule of 2-3 games per week. All players will pay the base player fee.
- Players who want additional baseball opportunities that is more competitive than the weekday only format can choose to play in an additional 3-4 weekend tournaments and the postseason Wisconsin Junior Legion U-16 regional tournament.
- Players who choose to play the more competitive tournament and American Legion format will pay the base fee and an additional competitive tournament fee which will be determined by the league director based on expected costs of playing in the additional tournaments and the American Legion tournament.
- If roster numbers are too high with this team for the weekday game schedule, players may be rotated to skip availability for some of the weekday games. This will help coaches manage player numbers more efficiently and will also allow families to have some time away from baseball during the summer season.
- This team will be registered as an American Legion baseball team and will participate in the postseason Wisconsin Junior Legion U-16 regional tournament if player numbers and commitment level are sufficient. The winner of the regional Legion tournament would qualify for the Wisconsin state U-16 Legion tournament.
- Playing time. Equal playing time will be emphasized for weekday league games, with an emphasis on getting more reps for those layers who are not playing as much at weekend tournaments. For weekend tournaments and American Legion postseason tournament games, equal playing time is not guaranteed, and will be dependent on game situations and performance. Coaches will effort to get a reasonable amount of playing time for every player on the roster for each tournament.

## **Season**

The season will begin in early to mid-June, immediately after the end of the MHS high school baseball season. Players may not play on an MBSC summer high school baseball team until their spring high school season has finished. The number of games played during the season will vary depending on the team. The Junior team and the Senior league team will typically play 10-12 weekday games over a five week period. The Senior tournament team will typically play 8-10 weekday games over a five week period.. Junior and Senior travel teams playing a more competitive schedule will also play in 4-5 weekend tournaments during the season, including the postseason Legion regional tournament. The base registration fee for the Summer High School program will be based on playing a weekday game schedule. Additional competitive fees will be charged to Senior and Junior tournament team members who choose to play a more competitive tournament schedule. The additional fee amounts will be determined by the league director based on estimated tournament costs.

## **American Legion Baseball**

The MBSC summer high school baseball Senior and Junior tournament teams will plan to participate in the Wisconsin American Legion baseball regional qualifying tournament at the end of the season. These teams will be registered as American Legion baseball teams with the Wisconsin Legion program. Wisconsin State Legion tournaments are held at the U-16, U-17 and U-19 (Senior) Division levels. The winner of the Legion regional tournament is eligible to play in the Wisconsin State Legion Baseball tournament that is held in late July or early August. In order to register as an American Legion team and participate in this tournament, the team must meet the requirements set forth by Wisconsin American Legion Baseball. The decision to participate in the state Legion baseball tournament will be made each year by the league director with input from MBSC baseball coaches.



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## **Additional Notes**

The MBSC will attempt to hire non-parent coaches for all of the summer high school baseball teams. Parents who wish to help coach a team will be added to coaching staffs as needed per the league director.

Player Liability Notice-- In the event of damage to a hotel room or other lodging accommodation where the team will stay overnight, parents/guardians of those who stayed in that room or living space are financially liable for any and all damages accrued during overnight stays. The parents or guardians of all players registered for overnight tournaments will need to sign a liability waiver agreeing to this language.

**REVISED 9/2/22 BD**