

FBA Tryout Guidelines 2025 - **9U & 10U AGE GROUP**

- **Dates:** March 15th & 16th
- **Time:** March 15th: 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM / March 16th: 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM
- **Location:** March 15th at Dundas Dome, 2198 Cannon Rd, Northfield / March 16th at CA Gear 15641 Canada Circle, Rosemount

**Specific dates and times will be announced closer to the tryout dates.*

Each potential travel baseball player, along with their age group, will be assigned two times (one for fielding and one for hitting) to perform the skills at tryouts.

The fielding (infield and outfield) portion of the tryouts will take place at Dundas Dome and the hitting portion will be at CA Gear. Kids will tryout with their age group.

It is mandatory for all players to attend the tryout process. Please read the *missing tryout* section of this document for complete information and necessary actions. For additional information on tryout eligibility and tryout participation please consult the *FBA Travel Parent and Player Handbook*. The handbook, along with all other tryout information, can be found on the Farmington Baseball Association website under the Travel, Tryout Info tab located at <http://www.farmingtonbaseballassociation.com/page/show/3845037-tryout-information>

Other than board members, provisional coaches, or designated evaluators, **parents are not allowed** in the tryout area.

APPAREL REQUIREMENTS

- Players are not allowed to wear any shirts or pants that designate they played on any travel baseball team or club team in prior seasons.
- Players are not allowed to wear any shirts or pants with their name on them.
- Players must wear FBA Assigned Tryout t-shirt for tryouts.
- All players will wear the FBA travel baseball hat. Player hats will be distributed prior to tryouts; ***specific dates and times of when your players FBA hat can be picked up will be announced later.***
- All equipment used by a participant during tryouts must be approved for play for their designated age level; see *FBA Travel Parent and Player Handbook* for more information.

There will be independent evaluators at each station that are NOT associated with FBA. Potential *Head* coaches will be permitted to watch their age group during tryouts and take notes to assist in player selection for unlocked players. They will not be permitted to evaluate or be near evaluators during tryouts of their age group.

Tryout Overview

There are three main components of the tryouts are: Hitting, Infield and Outfield

Evaluation weight will be as follows:

- Hitting = 50%
- Infield = 25%
- Outfield = 25%

Evaluation score range will be on a numbered system from 1 - 10.

Below is a breakdown of each area that will be evaluated.

Hitting Evaluation (50% of the ranking, split between each of the three drills)

The hitting breakdown is as follows:

- Warm up** - 10 Swings. Soft toss into a net.
- Underhand Soft Toss** (15-18 Feet away directly in front of batter) – 10 swings. **Evaluated.**
- Overhand Short Toss** (20-25 Feet away directly in front of batter) – 10 swings. **Evaluated TWICE.**
- Coach Pitch** (Age-Appropriate speed 40-60 feet away) – 10 swings. **Evaluated.**

Hitting evaluation criteria will be as follows:

- Mechanics:** Stance- does the batter look comfortable. Load- gets hand in a launching position from top of shoulder to bottom of armpit. Stride- short stride or no stride, hitter stays closed with front foot. Weight Transfer - shifts weight from back leg to front leg.
- Contact:** Solid Line drive contact. Player is not hitting directly into ground or popping up.
- Power:** Does player have power to consistently hit ball out of infield. Does player have power to hit deep in outfield?
Overall: What was your overall impression of this player?

Fielding Evaluation (50% of ranking: 25% for infield, 25% for outfield)

Each player will proceed through infield drills twice during tryouts. The drill breakdown is listed below. The player will play a simulated shortstop and third base position and throw to first base (if a left-handed player chooses, he may have the option to throw from second and first to third).

The infield breakdown is as follows:

- a. **Machine fed ground balls** - 6 groundballs (two from center, two from right and two from left). **Evaluated.**
- b. **Machine and Coach ground balls** – 6 groundballs (1 from center, 1 from right, 1 from left and three from third base with the final ball a slow roller that the player must charge).

The outfield breakdown consists of two different drills:

- a. **Machine fly balls** – Consists of five fly balls to a location and player moves to field and returns throw. The drill will finish with a ground ball.
- b. **Reaction Drill** – consist of five fly balls thrown and the outfielder chases, fields and returns throw.

Infield evaluation criteria will be as follows:

- a. **Mechanics** - Does the player have feet in correct position, knees bent and ready for play. Does player attack the ball? Does player move well left to right using proper footwork. Getting butt down shoulders above knees, head down. Using free hand to secure ball (Alligator). Body control while fielding.
- b. **Accuracy** - Are player's throws on target, do they follow through with throw?
- c. **Arm Strength** - Does player throw hard? Are their throws hard enough for age group?
- d. **Overall** - What was your overall impression of this player?

Outfield evaluation criteria will be as follows:

- a. **Mechanics** - Does the player have feet in correct position, knees bent and ready for play. Does player attack the ball? Does player move well left to right using proper footwork. Getting butt down shoulders above knees, head down. Using free hand to secure ball (Alligator). Body control while fielding.
- b. **Accuracy** - Are player's throws on target, do they follow through with throw?
- c. **Arm Strength** - Does player throw hard? Are their throws hard enough for age group?
- d. **Overall** - What was your overall impression of this player?

Missing Tryouts

A written request must be submitted to farmingtonbaseball55024@gmail.com by February 28th for your player to be considered for a make-up tryout date set for March 7th @ Dundas Dome. The request will be reviewed by the Tryout Committee and a response will be sent within 24 hours of receiving the written request. It is highly encouraged that all players tryout with their age group at the assigned times on March 15 & 16. For players needing a make-up tryout, they will not qualify to be in a locked position (top 6 scores) however based on their tryout score + pre-tryout score they can qualify to be in the AAA or AA pick pool. If a player can't make one of the nights due to an illness, injury, state or national season ending tournament or other event they must notify the FBA Travel

Director as soon as the conflict is identified (as written in the Parent and Player Handbook). In such cases where both nights are missed, in order to be eligible for travel baseball they must submit a written statement/request to the FBA board for team selection. This is all explained in the Parent and Player Handbook.

As written in the Parent and Player handbook

A player must participate in all scheduled tryout sessions (as posted on the FBA website) unless an excused absence is granted by the Travel Director and/or Assistant Travel Director. All requests must be presented in writing. Extenuating and unusual circumstances will be reviewed on a case-by case basis but are not guaranteed of an excused absence. FBA will do everything possible to accommodate school functions, but the player is still ultimately responsible for attending the tryout session. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each tryout session. A player who is absent from tryouts without being excused may be disqualified.

Injury or Illness Absence from Tryouts

A player who has registered for tryouts and cannot participate due to an injury or illness may be excused, prior to the start of the tryout session, **upon delivery of a doctor's note describing the player's limitations** to the Travel Director and/or Assistant Travel Director. A player who misses more than 50% of the scheduled tryout sessions due to illness or injury, and provides a doctor's excuse, will be reviewed and evaluated by the Travel Director, Assistant Travel Director and members of the Tryout Committee. They will review these unique situations, and a decision will be rendered based on a variety of factors and input relating to previous experience or precedence, past or present coach input, or many other potential factors relating to past participation in the program. These situations should be avoided whenever possible, and ultimately will be assessed by the FBA board. Any excused player unable to tryout and has not previously participated in the Farmington Travel Baseball Program will be placed at the lowest level only if there is an opening available.

Evaluation summaries (not actual results) will be made available to players and parents verbally upon request made to the Tryout Director after all teams have been selected.

Players must bring the following items to tryouts:

WHAT TO WEAR - Both Days!

FBA issued hat (black with F logo)

FBA issued tryout shirt

The dome can be cold! Players can wear a long sleeve under their t-shirt. PLEASE NO HOODIES/HOODS!!!

Baseball pants recommended

Turf or tennis shoes -- NO CLEATS

WHAT TO BRING

Saturday @ Dundas: Players only need to bring their glove

Sunday @ CA Gear: Players only need their bat & helmet

BOTH Days: PLEASE NO BASEBALL BAGS! Leave the bags at home.