



City of Broadview Heights Parks and Recreation Department

9543 Broadview Rd. 440-838-4522 www.BHRec.org
Samuel J. Alai, Mayor Paula Horner, Director



Broadview Heights Travel Baseball / Softball Tryouts Procedure



- There will be an initial tryout the last weekend in July for all teams and age groups.
- Older teams may decide to have limited tryouts or invitation only tryouts.
- All players MUST tryout, including existing team members.
- Players unable to tryout due to other obligations, vacations etc. must contact the recreation department to make arrangements to attend a pre-tryout workout. No formal tryouts will be held following the initial tryout weekend. To make arrangements contact Gary Diehl at GDiehl@broadview-heights.org and your information will be forwarded to the appropriate coach.
- All players will be evaluated at the initial tryout by coaches who are NOT involved with the team for that age group. Coaches of the team for that age group may be in attendance to talk to parents and answer questions.
- Evaluators will have no vested interest in the outcome of the tryouts for which they are evaluating.
- At the end of the initial tryout, all players will have an objective score by each evaluator. Scores for each evaluator will be summarized and averaged. There will be an area for comments and observations by the evaluators including observations about a players attitude, hustle, coachability, etc.
- A summary of the scores and notes will be presented to the coach of the team for that age group following the tryouts. The scores will also be kept by the recreation department and will be used to address any parent concerns or issues following the tryouts.



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Tryouts

- Before the tryout, players will be assigned a number that they will be referred to by during the tryout.
- All players will be evaluated on a standardized form / format
- Players will be evaluated on:
 - Hitting
 - Infield play
 - Outfield play
 - Running
 - Those interested in pitching or catching will be given an opportunity for that
- Additionally players will be evaluated on attitude, hustle and other subjective factors.
- Players should bring their gloves, a hat, water bottle and bat and helmet if they have one. Helmets and bats will be provided if needed.

Parent Involvement at Tryouts

- It is preferable that parents do not participate on the field before or during tryouts including "warming up" their child.
- It may be extremely difficult for some, but shouting encouragement or coaching your child during tryouts is discouraged.

Player Selection

Player selection will be the responsibility of the head coach for the team.

However, the coaches will be expected to consult with the recreation department prior to final selection of teams.

While coaches and teams are offered a degree of autonomy in the travel baseball and softball program, they understand that this is still a city program and as a city we are responsible for ensuring this is a fair and open process.

Player selection will be based on a combination of factors:

- (1) objective tryout score.
- (2) subjective comments and observations from the evaluators.
- (3) coaches individual knowledge of the player.

No player is entitled to be on the team because they were on the team previously and no parent with a child trying out should feel that the teams are "already set" prior to the tryouts.



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Player Notification

Following the initial tryout, Players will be notified the following week with one of three results:

1. They will be offered a spot on the team (very few will fall into this category)
2. They will be asked to attend a second tryout.
3. They will be informed that at this time coaches do not feel they are ready for travel.

If your child is not offered a spot on a team, please tell them not to be discouraged or to give up trying. Especially in the younger age groups, children develop at different rates and this year just may not be the year for them.

Second or Additional Tryouts

Following the initial tryouts, coaches may choose to schedule a second tryout for certain players. This tryout will be run by the coaches of that particular team and use a format of their choosing.

Players will be notified individually of the date and time of the second or additional tryouts. We would encourage you to ask any questions you may have during this time. Any of the coaches or anyone from the recreation department will be more than happy to answer any questions you may have. You may want to discuss coaching philosophy, playing time considerations, training process, costs, competition level, etc.

Now is the time to decide if Broadview Heights and this particular coaching staff is a good fit for your child.

Commitment

Following the final tryouts, coaches will evaluate the players that are being considered. 11-12 players will be made offers to join the team. Once you are made an offer to play travel baseball or softball in Broadview we will expect a yes or a no answer within 48 hours whether or not you would like to join the team. After 48 hours, if there is no answer, that spot will be offered to an alternate player.

Why do you need an answer so quickly?

We have found that when a player is offered a position but can't commit, it is because they really want to be playing elsewhere, maybe on another friends team, maybe on an "elite" team. The reasons vary and are fine. However, our philosophy is to build a team of kids/families that have a passion for baseball, are excited to represent the city they live in and are looking to develop their skills while keeping "having fun" as the main priority.

Next Steps

Once you have been offered and accepted a spot on a travel team, you will be asked to register with the city within one week to secure your spot on the team. This would include paying an initial registration deposit which will be applied to your full registration fees. Full registration fees will be between \$190 and \$250 depending upon your age group and league.

Some coaches choose to have some practices in the fall, others play in fall leagues. The fees and registration cover those costs as well as insurance and liability coverage. If there is an issue with the fees, contact the recreation center. No child will be prevented from playing because of financial issues.