

## FAQ's

### Can my child play up or down from their current age league?

- In most cases, children are required to play in their age appropriate league. Sometimes exceptions are made, particularly in regards to health or safety. If your child has 'exceptional' skills for their age, we offer 'select' travelling teams in most age groups. Any parent wanting to request a child to play up/down must let the current league VP know and bring the request **in person** to the board during one of the bi-monthly meetings.

### What equipment does my child need?

- Your child will need only a glove and batting helmet. Here is a helpful link on choosing an appropriate helmet: <http://www.homerunmonkey.com/article-how-to-choose-a-batting-helmet>
- The league will supply your player with a team jersey and hat. The coaches will have catchers gear, balls, and tees for tee-ball.
- Additional items that are sometimes purchased but not required are: baseball pants, cleats, belts, bats, and misc accessories.

### What kind of shoes do players wear?

- Cal Ripken and younger, cleats are allowed, no metal spikes are allowed
- Prep and Babe Ruth may wear cleats or metal spikes.

### What are legal bat sizes?

- Here is a direct link to the Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken site for bat rules: <http://www.baberuthleague.org/bat-rules.aspx>
- For softball, click here, pages 11-12: <http://web.usssa.com/usssa/usssa-general/2015FPRuleBook.pdf>

### I want to manage a team. What do I need to do?

- First, fill out and turn in and manager application form to the appropriate league VP.
- Submit information online for a background check
- All applications a approved by FYBA board.
- Take the required state of Ohio online concussion course and pass test online for certificate to be turned in to VP.
- Return equipment at the end of the season. (Failure to do so in a timely manner may result ineligibility to coach the following season)

## I want to be a sponsor, what are my options?

- Standard options are sponsoring a team or fence banners. Additional options are outfield fence signs, other signage, scoreboard sponsors, and product sponsors. We are always open to new ideas. Contact Director of Sponsors, John Ervin, for details.

[JohnnyErvin@fairfieldfyba.com](mailto:JohnnyErvin@fairfieldfyba.com)

## I would like to umpire. What do I need to do?

- Please contact our Director of Umpires. Requirements vary by league.

[umpire@fairfieldfyba.com](mailto:umpire@fairfieldfyba.com)

## Does my child need to attend evaluation day?

- If your player remains in the same league as the prior spring season, no. They do not need to attend.
- If your player is moving up to the next age group, or if you did not play in FYBA in the prior season, your player should attend evaluation day. Players who do not attend the evaluation are placed in a 'blind draw' on draft day. Only Farm League players and older are evaluated (9 years old and up)

## Guidelines for playing up/down

- FYBA follows the Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth age guidelines for boys using an age cut off of May 1st and for girls softball leagues using the cutoff date of January 1st as player age.
- The general rule is that all kids will play in their appropriate age league for that season with few if any exceptions.
- If parents feel their child has a reason or need to play up in a league, it can be requested to your league director and the FYBA board will vote for a decision.
- Also if parents feel their child may need to play down for physical or mental reasons, those also may be requested to be heard and voted upon by the board.
- Playing up on the basis of higher ability are usually not approved. We recommend those players try out for our Chiefs and Braves AABC select teams in July for the following season.