

MAA BASEBALL AND
SOFTBALL
TOURNAMENT AND TRAVEL
TEAM BY-LAWS

1 - PURPOSE

The M.A.A will select teams comprised of those intramural players that exhibit the skill necessary to compete with teams from other towns on a level that should represent the best of Mineola. The purpose of the M.A.A. sponsoring teams to compete in either travel or tournaments is to further enhance the image and reputation of the M.A.A. and the Village of Mineola.

The By-Laws of the M.A.A. state that "All shall bear in mind that the attainment of exceptional athletic skill or the winning of games is secondary, and the molding of future citizens is of prime importance." While maintaining the prime objective, these secondary objectives, are given more consideration in supporting travel and tournament teams.

2 - DEFINITIONS

Intramural team- A team whose entire schedule is played against other M.A.A. teams in the same league and division unless the MAA does not have enough players at that level to organize a complete division or league.

Travel team- A baseball or softball team that is comprised of players that will compete and represent Mineola and the MAA in another league and play an entire season. All players will have to be MAA members. Travel teams may participate in tournaments without being considered a tournament team.

Duration- The duration of any travel team is considered as long as the coach maintains his position.

Tournament team- A baseball or softball team that is comprised of players that will compete and represent Mineola and the MAA in tournaments only. All players will have to be MAA members. Tournament teams are reformed annually.

Duration- The duration of any tournament team is considered as one playing tournament season.

District 29 Tournament Team - a team comprised of players from the intramural league and from the zip code of 11501. This team must abide by all Little League rules. This should be what coaches feel is the best players of the program.

3 - ELIGIBILITY

A) Players

- a. Any registered player in the appropriate M.A.A. program providing that they are in good standing with the MAA
- b. All teams and players must abide by the league rules they are participating in.
- c. No player is eligible if they have not participated in at least two-thirds of their own intramural games, including post season play, (excluding injury or illness), or quits their team before the last regular game of the season.

B) Coaches

- a. Any adult providing that they are in good standing with the MAA.
- b. All managers and/or coaches affiliated with M.A.A. Travel or Tournament team must have the approval of the MAA Baseball Board and Executive Board of the M.A.A.
- c. All Travel and Tournament coaches must pass a background check.
- d. All Travel and Tournament coaches should have MAA approved CPR training and AED certification for those venues that have an available device. If 2 coaches want to coach the same age division the coach with the certification will be given priority.

4 - FORMING TRAVEL OR TOURNAMENT TEAMS

A) Approvals:

- a. Prior to the formation of any travel or tournament team, the requesting coach should contact the Baseball President of their interest in starting a team. If the president determines that this request should proceed they must seek and obtain approval for the team from the Baseball Executive Board. The Baseball Executive Board must weigh the impact of this team on the individual sport as well as the M.A.A. as a whole. The League President should provide the Board with all of the costs involved and the effect, if any, on the intramural program. If it is determined that a negative effect may occur to the intramural program, the Baseball Board

shall not approve the team. If the Baseball Board approves of the formation of such team, then the Baseball President will need approval from the MAA Executive Board.

- b. Once approved, all travel team and tournament team coaches report to and are responsible to report to the Travel Commissioner, if there is not an established Travel Commissioner then coaches report to the Baseball President.

B) TEAM SELECTIONS / TRYOUTS:

- a. Tryouts are mandatory for the formation of any travel or tournament team, except when every eligible player in that age group will be selected on the team.
- b. The Baseball President will be notified as well as the league or division this team is seeking players from that a Travel or Tournament team is forming.
- c. All eligible players must be notified in writing of the date, time and place of the tryouts at least one week in advance. Player's attendance at tryouts is encouraged.
- d. Under no circumstances can a player or group of players be excluded from being notified of a tryout if they are eligible.
- e. Under no circumstances can a player or group of players be poached from existing teams. If the player is planning on being on 2 different teams the team he was first on will be his primary team.
- e. If an eligible player is unable to attend tryouts due to circumstances beyond their control, that player may be selected on the team based upon their skill evaluations during previous seasons. Both the League President and the Executive Board must approve this decision after being advised that the player did not attend the tryout. The player should contact the League President, division commissioner and coach in advance of the tryouts that they will not be able to attend.
- f. All tryouts are to be conducted in such a manner that the skill level of all of the participants can reasonably be judged. Each player should be given an equal opportunity to demonstrate their skills in their desired position.
- g. The Baseball President, Coordinator, division commissioner and assistant coaches are encouraged to participate in the evaluation and selection process. The manager of the team must attend tryout and will have the final decision on the selection process.
- h. Travel and Tournament team candidates chosen will be notified in writing within one week of the selection of the team, the Baseball President and Travel Commissioner will be copied on this correspondence. All children who are to be cut will be notified via phone or in person within 48 hours of the team being selected.
- i. A complete roster of selected players must be approved by the Baseball Board

and the MAA Executive Board at their next scheduled meeting following the selection.

j. Existing travel teams do not need to have annual tryouts once team is formed. However if the travel team needs to fill one roster spot a tryout for that roster spot must be held. All tryout rules apply. All prior members of the team are to be included in tryouts and all participants are to be advised prior to the start of the tryout as to the number of positions that are available. The coach should clearly state to all tryout participants the number of spots available to be filled. The coach has the right to only fill the vacant position or replace existing players, but that must be clearly stated at the time of tryouts.

k. Existing Travel players can be re-assigned to another existing travel team without having tryouts as long as both coaches/managers agree with the change, Player/parents agree and the baseball board agrees.

l. A player can play on more than 1 travel team as long as the coaches and players parents agree. The player should state which team is their primary team and coaches should agree. If the player is planning on being on 2 different teams the team he was first on will be his primary team. If trying out at the same time for more than 1 team they should state up front which will be primary team. If not declared to coach in advance then the default primary will be the actual age division the player is in.

5 - PLAYING TIME

Travel and Tournament teams are subject to player substitution and playing time rules as dictated by the authority operating the tournament or league. Regular M.A.A. intramural rules do not apply. There is no minimum playing time rule unless dictated by the tournament or league.

6 - MISCELLANEOUS

Change in the roster of tournament or travel teams occasionally may become necessary if the team is entered in more than one tournament over the course of a season. If, due to vacations or injuries, temporary changes to a tournament team roster may become necessary, a travel or tournament team may temporarily appoint an eligible player to complete that tournament or league. An additional tryout prior to a roster change is not required, but the team manager is required to notify the Baseball President and Travel Commissioner.

7 - TEAM OPERATIONS

A) Managers are responsible for their team's financial organization.

B) Managers must report all financial income and expenses three times per year, March before the season, August mid-season and November end of season to the Travel Commissioner.

C) All sponsors must be approved by the Baseball board and the MAA Executive Board.

D) Travel teams are not permitted to solicit established sponsors with the MAA.

E) Travel teams are permitted to raise money, equipment, etc for their individual team, but all fundraisers must be approved by the Travel Commissioner and the baseball executive board

F) The MAA can lend money for team operations but all must be reimbursed. Baseball President must be notified of transaction, both the lending and reimbursement. These loans must be paid back to the MAA within 6 months of origination.

G) Travel Teams are not allowed to fundraise for Cooperstown until 10 years old.

H) A player will remain an active member of a team until which time a tryout has occurred and the player has been notified that they have not made the team.

I) All coaches are responsible for communicating to all members of their team on all events until such time a new tryout occurs and a child is notified they have not made the team