



Hopkins-Minnetonka Babe Ruth

Even though snow is on the ground, baseball is just around the corner. Welcome to the 2010 Hopkins Minnetonka Babe Ruth season! We particularly welcome those new families coming into our program from the Big Willow, Hopkins, Glen Lake, Golden Valley and other youth baseball leagues in Hopkins School District 270.

Registration information for the upcoming season for Prep (age 13), Majors (age 14-15), Tournament, and Travel Teams (ages 13, 14, 15) can be found at www.hopkinsbaseball.com. Also available is registration information on the various HMBR Winter/Spring development sessions. **Please note the important dates and deadlines for clinics, registration, and tryout/evaluations.**

We hope that you will take the time to go over the brochure for the winter development camp. We have again teamed with Neil Lerner, his coaches, and the Player's Only training facility to provide an outstanding opportunity to improve skills in every aspect of your player's game. It is understood that these clinics are scheduled in the middle of your many other winter activities, but we sincerely hope you can participate. Last year's clinic received overwhelmingly positive feedback.

You are also invited to attend our first meeting of the general membership for 2010. This meeting schedule has not been finalized, but the meeting details will be communicated to you as soon as the logistics have been set. This meeting will include a brief discussion of our financial position and the outlook for the coming season and we will answer questions about the league from new and returning parents.

Please remember, our league is run by committed volunteers who put in long hours. Their efforts are supported by generous sponsors. Working together, they achieve great things. We really need YOUR help. Please strongly consider helping us in one of the following areas:

1. **Coaching.** This league cannot survive without the coaches. Historically, we have been lucky enough to find great coaches. However, it has too often occurred at the last minute. Please consider this important position, particularly if you are the parent of an incoming 13 year old.
2. **Travel / Tournament Coordinator.** This position coordinates the selection and entry into the various tournaments our Travel and Tournament Teams play in during the season. This position also coordinates the selection process of the Travel Team head coaches.
3. **Player Evaluations.** In addition to our coaches and evaluators, we need a number of parents to help coordinate the events during the tryouts.
4. **General Help.** We have activities throughout the year where additional help is needed... Some examples are winter clinics, spring field clean up, mowing our infields, and opening weekend activities.

Please indicate on the on-line registration form if you can help in any of these areas.

Please complete your registration on-line at www.hopkinsbaseball.com. This year, all on-line registrations will be processed via debit/credit card (VISA and MasterCard ONLY -- American Express and Discover are not supported). If you need to make other payment arrangements, please contact Anne McGraw at registration@hopkinsbaseball.com. Expectations and guidelines for players, parents, and coaches are posted on the HMBR website ("Handbook" section) at www.hopkinsbaseball.com.

If you have any additional questions regarding the upcoming season, please contact me at baberuthpresident@hopkinsbaseball.com. The board of directors and I feel very strongly that we are here to serve YOU and your family. As a result, do not hesitate to contact any board member or me.

On behalf of the Hopkins-Minnetonka Babe Ruth Board of Directors, I would like to thank you for your continued support and participation. We look forward to a great season!

Regards,

Ned Ostenso, President 2009/10
Hopkins-Minnetonka Babe Ruth

2010 Hopkins-Minnetonka Babe Ruth Travel / Tournament / League Information

Hopkins-Minnetonka Babe Ruth Board offers several opportunities in its current league format. Our goal is to increase player participation in an enjoyable and competitive environment, as well as to enhance the development and skill sets of each player. The “Level of Commitment” for the teams below can be found in the [Handbook](#) section of the website.

Babe Ruth House League:

The Babe Ruth House League consists of teams within HMBR that play each other, with the addition of possible inter-league play among closely located communities. Players who are placed on these teams are eligible to submit their names for consideration for the tournament team at their age level. *Select the age appropriate House League registration option when registering online if the player only wants to play House League.*

Tournament / Travel Teams:

13, 14, and 15 year old players have the option to submit their names for consideration for travel and tournament teams. The guidelines are as follows:

Tournament AA / A Team(s):

All age groups will have one or two AA / A tournament teams, depending on demand and skill sets. These players will play on a House League team as well as approximately 3 weekend tournaments. The additional cost for participating on a tournament team will be \$190.00, which is in addition to the league participation fee of \$230.00. The additional fee as well as a uniform deposit of \$100.00 will be collected at the time your son is selected for the team. *Select the age appropriate Tournament Team registration option when registering online if the player wants to play House League AND tryout for Tournament Team.*

Travel Team (Highest Competition Level):

All age groups will have **one** AAA travel team, which plays its regular season games in the Metro Baseball League. Opposing teams will be from the South/Southwest Metro Area. The season will begin in early May and end in mid to late July. AAA teams will play approximately 4 weekend tournaments in addition to their regular season games. The additional cost for participating on the travel team will be \$315.00, which is in addition to the league participation fee of \$230.00. The additional fee as well as a uniform deposit of \$100.00 will be collected at the time your son is selected for the team. *Select the age appropriate Travel Team registration option when registering online if the player wants to try out for Travel Team play. Registering for Travel also makes the player eligible for House League AND tryouts for Tournament Team.*

Player Tryouts/Rankings:

The board will work diligently to form a fair, unbiased, and organized tryout procedure for all players. This is a key element in our preseason activities and we take it very seriously. You can review our selection process on the website – www.hopkinsbaseball.com.

This year we will have our fielding, and optional pitching tryouts/evaluations on Saturday, March 6th and the hitting tryouts will be Sunday, March 7th. Final time slots will be announced. All players will be evaluated and ranked on fielding, throwing and speed, as well as hitting and pitching. **Players must indicate on the on-line registration form if they would like their names submitted for travel and/or tournament consideration. Please indicate the highest level of age-appropriate play you would like to be considered for when completing the on-line registration.** Specific information (times and locations) will be available on the website under the “Tryouts” link and will be communicated once registration is complete.

Once again, we intend to have the player evaluations be conducted by evaluators with extensive baseball knowledge and experience.

HMBR - 2010 SEASON IMPORTANT DATES, DEADLINES & FEE SCHEDULE

General Membership Meeting	TBD
Registration Deadline (late fee applied after this date)	February 15
Winter Training Clinics	Various: January - March
Tryouts/Player Evaluations (details to follow)	Fielding - March 6 Hitting - March 7
House Team Selections/Player Draft [tentative]	March 21
Coaches Meeting & Clinic	March 18
Practices Begin (weather permitting)	April 5
Warm-up Weekend [tentative]	April 24-25
Opening Day [tentative]	April 26
Season Dates [tentative]	April 26 – July 18
Fundraiser dates (Players will each be required to participate)	Dates TBA

PROGRAM FEES AND DEPOSITS ³

Division and Ages	Base Fee*	Additional Fee	Total Cost	Deposit
13 Year Old House League	\$230.00		\$230.00	
14/15 Yr Old House League	\$230.00		\$230.00	
13 Year Old Tournament Team	\$230.00	\$190.00 ¹	\$420.00	\$100.00 ²
13 Year Old Travel Team	\$230.00	\$315.00 ¹	\$545.00	\$100.00 ²
14 Year Old Tournament Team	\$230.00	\$190.00 ¹	\$420.00	\$100.00 ²
14 Year Old Travel Team	\$230.00	\$315.00 ¹	\$545.00	\$100.00 ²
15 Year Old Tournament Team	\$230.00	\$190.00 ¹	\$420.00	\$100.00 ²
15 Year Old Travel Team	\$230.00	\$315.00 ¹	\$545.00	\$100.00 ²

* Registrations received after Monday, February 15th will be assessed an additional processing fee of \$15.00.

¹ Additional fee for travel/tournament teams will be collected once your child has been selected for the team.

² Deposits for travel/tournament teams will be collected once your child has been selected for the team. Deposit is for uniform/equipment and will not be cashed unless all equipment is not returned at the end of the season.

³ HMBR Refund Policy is as follows:

- Requests for a refund prior to the start of tryouts/evaluations will be processed at 100%, less a \$25 administration fee
- Requests for a refund after the start of tryouts/evaluations, but before team selection, will be processed at 50%
- Requests for a refund after teams have been selected will only be considered in the event of a verified medical condition which would exclude the player from participating for the entire season.
- All refund requests should be forwarded to Anne McGraw, Registration Coordinator, at registration@hopkinsbaseball.com