

Oz Park Baseball Association Scholarship Program Overview

1. About the Oz Park Baseball Association ("OPBA").

OPBA is an all-volunteer, not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) organization and youth baseball and softball program for 4-14 year-old boys and girls.

OPBA holds its practices and games at various locations in Lincoln Park and elsewhere on the North side of Chicago. Its Spring/Summer season runs from approximately April through mid-July. In addition, OPBA now offers a Fall season program. Details are available on the OPBA website at Oz Park Baseball Association Website.

Since its first season in 2010, OPBA has grown to become a major, recreational program with approximately 1300 players each year. OPBA teams have won numerous inter-league and tournament championships. But OPBA prides itself on providing a positive and fun environment for all players and their families. OPBA endorses and strives to teach participants about the Positive Coaching Alliance's "ROOTS" principals, i.e., respect for Rules, Opponents, Officials, Teammates, and Self.

2. What is the OPBA Scholarship Program?

Beginning in 2017, OPBA will offer a scholarship program to allow a select group of kids to participate in OPBA's programs without paying registration fees or at reduced fees.

The scholarship program is intended to enable Chicago-area youth to participate in the league without regard to financial difficulties. Ideal candidates will be enthusiastic players who: (a) want to play baseball or softball in a competitive league that focuses not only on developing athletic skills, but also on sportsmanship, teamwork, personal growth, and fun; and (b) are prepared to be committed to their teams but who otherwise would not be able to participate, due to financial constraints.

3. Who is eligible for an OPBA scholarship?

Any child aged 4 to 14 who would like to participate in OPBA baseball or softball, but who otherwise would not be able to do so, due to financial hardship.

4. How can I apply for an OPBA scholarship?

<u>Scholarship applications</u> are available on the <u>OPBA Website</u> or upon request by email at opba.scholarships@yahoo.com. Applicants must answer and submit the short questionnaire and agree to all OPBA rules and regulations, including the OPBA Code of Conduct. Each application will be reviewed by the OPBA Board of Directors and/or its Scholarship Committee, which may request additional information before making a final decision in regard to the application.