



2024

**FISHERS EXPRESS
TRAVEL BASEBALL
INFORMATION**



As a family-owned company, Meijer aims to enrich the lives of families in the communities we serve and help ensure they are great places to live, work and play. Meijer is honored to partner with Mudsock Youth Athletics in its mission of bringing sports to local kids and support them in learning valuable life skills, building friendships, getting active and, most importantly, having fun!

YOUTH BASEBALL TRAVEL PROGRAM (FISHERS EXPRESS)

The travel baseball program is designed to provide a higher level of training and competition to those players that have a desire to develop their skills beyond what the recreational level allows. This program is an integral part of the Mudsock Youth Baseball league, but it requires a more significant parental and player commitment.

VISION

To provide the most effective community-based travel baseball program for the City of Fishers and the students in the Hamilton Southeastern school district. To help all players develop the fundamental skills and aptitude to play competitive baseball at the high school level and beyond.

MISSION

To offer a more instructive and competitive baseball atmosphere than the recreational league allows for all baseball players (1st – 8th grades) in the Fishers/HSE school districts. Teach basic baseball fundamentals along with reinforcing life skills and values such as honesty, work ethic, leadership, teamwork & good sportsmanship. Provide a fun and rewarding experience to help inspire and develop a player's passion for the game. Help prepare all players to be physically, mentally and competitively ready to play for their respective high school's varsity baseball program. To continue to improve our program we have added a Travel Board that will consist of a commissioner for each age division.

TRAVEL PROGRAM TEAMS

The travel program will be comprised of Fishers Express 7U– 14U teams.

FISHERS EXPRESS 7U-14U

Starting at 7U we will have a full-time Fishers Express team with the possibility of having additional Express teams based on participation level. There is no split of teams based on the high school they attend, as all teams will be "combined" except for the 13U and 14U divisions. All of these travel teams will compete against the most competitive teams in the local and regional area. It is also very possible that these teams may choose to compete at a national level. These teams start early in the year (Jan/Feb) and practice times could be 3-5 days per week. These teams typically play in 6-8 tournaments per season, which ends late July. Each team will be responsible for hosting and coordinating a home travel tournament.



Franciscan Health is a proud partner of Mudsock Youth Athletics. Open in Carmel, our Franciscan Express Care is ready to see you for all your urgent care needs. We treat minor illness and injuries in-person or virtually. No appointment needed. Walk-ins welcome! For more information or to launch a virtual urgent care visit, go to [FranciscanExpressCare.org](https://www.franciscanexpresscare.org) and Get in. Get out. Get better!

TEAM SELECTION

Evaluations will be set up by the travel commissioners for each particular age group. The evaluators will have an appropriate level of baseball knowledge and experience. They will follow the same consistent approach as outlined by the travel program for evaluating each grade level. All players will be assessed on basic baseball skills: fielding, throwing, hitting, and running. Players will also be evaluated on their aptitude for the various skilled positions such as outfield, infield, pitching and catching. Teams will be selected based upon the results of this evaluation process along with how the talents of each player best contribute to the overall chemistry of the team. Coach evaluations of players from the previous season will also be considered as a part of the selection process. Team selections will be posted on our League website www.baseball.myathletics.com. The number of teams in the travel program will be determined per the league's discretion based upon the overall interest and player skill at each grade level.

COACH SELECTION

Head coaching candidates for the full-time and travel teams need to submit an application to the travel commissioner by the designated due date and prior to the player evaluation and team selection process. Members of the executive baseball board along with the travel commissioner will interview and select all head coaches. Candidates with the best combination of coaching and/or playing experience, good judgment and commitment to the travel program along with strong organization, motivation and communication skills will be given highest consideration. The head coach is responsible for selecting (1 to 2) assistant coaches to help with the team. All coaches must submit a background check form.

Coaches for the 1st team at each age group will be named/announced prior to the evaluation date. All other coaches will be named after the completion of tryouts. Parents will fill out an evaluation form on the coaches at the end of the season. These ratings/comments will be used to help decide whether a coach will be given the opportunity to coach the following season.

CODES OF CONDUCT

For any game or practice during the travel baseball season, it is up to the adults to be positive role models for all of our children. All of us need to be good ambassadors for our community when traveling or hosting games. Inappropriate behavior not only has a detrimental effect on our children, but it also brings disgrace to our community and our travel baseball program.

PARENT EXPECTATIONS

Parents can talk to coaches about their own child's situation at any time with regards to what they can improve on, how they are doing and what they can do to get better. Coaches will not discuss individual playing time or situations about another player on the team. Allow the coaches to "coach". Cheer and encourage all players on the team to do their best at practices and games. Coaches, players, and parents will all be upset from time to time, especially after a tough loss. Do not address the situation for at least 24 hours as that will allow everyone time to evaluate what occurred.

PLAYER EXPECTATIONS

Always give your best effort. Ability, attitude and attendance help determine playing time. Hustle. Never argue with an umpire's decision. Listen to your coaches. Be respectful to your teammates. Be a team player. Be prepared (both mentally and with equipment) for all practices and games. Look and act like a baseball player with shirt tucked-in, hat on properly, etc. for all practices/games. Learn as much as you can and have fun.

TRAVEL RULES

The travel teams are part of the overall Mudsock Youth Athletics program and must adhere to all policies set forth by Mudsock, Youth Athletics and the Fishers HSE Youth Baseball Board. Violations will be handled by the Baseball Player Agent, Travel Commissioner and League President. Also, each coach, assistant coach and any individual helping with the players on a team, must have completed a background check form.

For more information about the Mudsock Youth Baseball Travel Program, go to www.baseball.myathletics.com and click on Baseball Menu and select Travel Baseball. Please contact the Travel Director Travis Goebel Travis@crgplay.com if you have any additional questions about this program.



Forté Sports Medicine and Orthopedics is honored to partner with Mudsock Youth Athletics as the official orthopedic and sports medicine provider. Forté's highly skilled, fellowship trained orthopedic surgeons and staff provide comprehensive, specialized sports medicine and orthopedic care to patients of all ages. Forté's certified athletic trainers offer on-site injury prevention consultation and injury screenings for Mudsock Youth Athletics leagues. For sudden injuries, Forté Fast Orthopedic Care, located in the Carmel and Noblesville clinics, offers same-day access to a specialist and treatment plan to get you or your family feeling better, faster. Learn more about [Forté Fast Orthopedic Care for Mudsock Youth Athletics and families](#).