FALL BASEBALL FAQ

Q: When does registration for Fall baseball open?

A: Registration for Fall baseball generally opens in early to mid October.

Q: When does registration for Fall baseball close?

A: Parents who wish to ensure that their children will be able to participate should register before drafts occur, preferably early in the registration period. Drafts usually take place in mid-November, roughly in the period between November 10 and 17. Our ability to accept reservations after drafts occur depends entirely on the availability of roster spots.

Q: When does the Fall baseball season start and end?

A: The Fall baseball drafts typically take place in mid-November, roughly in the period between November 10 and 17, with practices *possibly* starting soon after that. There are no games on Thanksgiving weekend. The first games will be held on the following Saturday (i.e., 9 days after Thanksgiving).

The season typically ends in mid-January.

Q: How do I register?

A: To register, visit our website (www.carrolltonboosters.org). A link to the registration site appears under "Helpful Links" on the left side of the home page. Another link to the registration site appears near the top right corner of the home page.

Q: What is the cost to participate?

A: The registration fee is $135 for the first child, and $110 for each additional child.

Scholarships are available to families with a financial need. Please contact the Registrar for more information.

Q: What forms of payment are accepted?

A: You may pay online by credit card or you may choose the option to send a check, but note that your registration is not considered complete until fees are paid. Players who are not fully registered will not be drafted onto teams.

Q: What if circumstances change after I register, and my child no longer will be able to participate. Can I get a refund?

A: Registration fees are fully refundable up until the registrant has been placed on a team. Afterwards, refunds will only be issued in cases of illness or injury, or with the approval of Carrollton's Board of Directors.

Q: I registered my child. When can I expect to hear from a coach?

A: Coaches should contact the players on their teams within a day or two of the draft, which typically will take place in mid-November, roughly in the period between November 10 and 17. This means that if you register your child early in the registration period, you may not hear from a coach for several weeks. If you have not heard from a coach by the week of Thanksgiving, please contact the league coordinator for your child's age group, or the Commissioner of Baseball.

Q: How will my child's coach get in touch with me?

A: The primary means of communication Carrollton Boosters uses to get in touch with participants is email. Coaches who plan to use another means to contact parents or guardians, such as group texts or an app, are asked to announce this to the team in advance and make sure all parents/guardians are set up to use that means of communication.

You will be asked to provide an email address when you register your child to play. We encourage you to provide an email address that you regularly use and monitor to ensure that you will see messages sent by your child's coach.

Q: When do games take place?

A: During a typical Fall season, most games are scheduled for Saturday mornings or early afternoon. Teams in most leagues have at least one Friday night game during the regular season.

This year (2022), Christmas Eve is a Saturday. That Saturday will not be available for games. We will make up that Saturday by scheduling an additional Friday night game and/or weeknight game during other weeks of the season.

Playoff games may be scheduled on weeknights, depending on scheduling needs. Also, games that cannot be played as originally scheduled due to weather may be rescheduled for any weeknight.

Q: When do practices take place?

A: Because it takes place during a particularly busy time of year, Fall baseball is intended to be a relatively low stress, predictable activity. Therefore, teams are limited to practicing one night per week. Coaches are encouraged to select a designated practice night (for example, Wednesday nights), and to practice on that same night each week if possible.

Q: What are the age groups for Fall baseball?

A: The age groups for Fall baseball are:

4 year old	tee ball	**co-ed**
Field F Beginner	coach pitch	
Field F Intermediate	coach pitch	
7/8 year old	coach pitch	
9/10 year old	kid pitch	
11-13 year old	kid pitch	

Q: What is the general format for each age group for the Fall season?

A: The 4 year old league is a non-competitive, co-ed tee ball league.

The Field F Beginner league is designed for 5-year old players. It is a coach pitch format where each player gets several attempts to hit a ball pitched by his coach. If the player is unable to put the ball in play after several attempts, he then gets to hit off of a tee. The Field F Beginner league is noncompetitive, meaning that score and standings are not kept. Although Field F Beginner will be the default league for 5 year olds, parents who believe

their 5 year old is ready for a more advanced league may request that he play in the Field F Intermediate League.

The Field F Intermediate league is intended to help 6-year old players prepare for the competitive leagues (7/8 year old and beyond). The Field F Intermediate league is a coach pitch format and uses a modified version of our 7/8 year old league rules that is closer to traditional baseball rules. Although Field F Intermediate will be the default league for 6 year olds, parents may request that their 6 year olds play in the Field F Beginner league.

The 7/8 year old league also uses a coach pitch format, but is a competitive league where score is kept.

The 9/10 and 11-13 year old*** leagues are both competitive, kid pitch leagues.

***Boys who are "baseball age" 13 (i.e., kids who will be 13 years old as of April 30, 2023) are eligible to play in the 11-13 league, but are not eligible to pitch.

Q: How do I determine what age group my child will play in?

A: For Fall baseball, players are placed in the age group to which they would be assigned for the following Summer season. Effectively, this means that your child will be assigned an age group based his or her age as of April 30, 2023.

Date of birth between:	Age group:
5/1/2018 and 4/30/2019	4 year old
5/1/2017 and 4/30/2018	5 year old (Field F Beginner)
5/1/2016 and 4/30/2017	6 year old (Field F Intermediate)
5/1/2014 and 4/30/2016	7/8 year old
5/1/2012 and 4/30/2014	9/10 year old
5/1/2009 and 4/30/2012	11-13 year old

Q: My child would like to play on the same team as his friend/cousin/classmate/neighbor. Can they be placed on a team together?

A: All teams at Carrollton Boosters are selected through a draft process. Therefore, *with the exception of siblings*, we cannot guarantee that your child will be placed on a team with any other registrant.

Q: I have two children who will play in the same age group this year, but they would like to compete against one another. Do they have to be placed together on the same team?

A: No, siblings do not have to be placed on the same team, but we will assume that they are to be placed on the same team unless the parent specifically requests otherwise. The best way to make a request that your children not be placed together is by entering a comment during the registration process.

Q: My child is interested in playing, but I am hesitant to register him because he has little or no baseball experience. Should I go ahead and register him?

A: We are a recreational league. We welcome and encourage any interested player to participate, regardless of experience level.

Q: My child is new to baseball and I don't think he's ready to play with other kids his age. Can he play with younger kids?

A: Unfortunately, we cannot approve requests to "play down" outside of exceptional cases where there is a documented medical or developmental issue.

Q: My son plays on a non-Carrollton travel baseball team. Is he still eligible to play Fall baseball?

A: Players participating on non-Carrollton baseball programs or teams may play in Carrollton recreational leagues, provided that they do not miss any Carrollton recreational league games due to a scheduling conflict with their non-Carrollton Baseball program or team.

Q: I can't find information on grading for Fall baseball. Is there grading, and when does it take place?

A: Unlike Summer baseball, there is no grading or evaluations for Fall baseball.

Q: Where do the games and practices take place?

A: All games take place at the Riverview Fields, which are located on "the Fly" behind the Audubon Zoo. Most practices take place at the Riverview Fields, although some teams may practice nearby at Avenger Field.

Q: What equipment does my child need to participate in Fall baseball?

A: Carrollton Boosters will provide a uniform shirt and hat to each participant. Catcher's gear is also provided for use in leagues that have a catcher position.

Every participant will need his or her own baseball glove. Baseball pants and cleats are encouraged, especially for the 7/8 year old league and above, but not necessarily required. Players are also encouraged to bring their own batting helmets, but extra batting helmets are also available at the fields. Many players prefer to have their own bats, but players who do not own a bat generally are able to use a teammate's bat. Any other equipment, such as batting gloves, are purely at the player's discretion.

Q: What are the rules and restrictions on bats?

A: Any USSSA or USABat approved bat may be used. The USSSA or USABat stamp must appear on the bat itself. There are no restrictions on barrel size.

Q: Where can I find the rules for my child's league?

A: The rules for each age group are available on our website. From the homepage, click on "Our Sports," then "Baseball" and scroll down the baseball page to find links to the rules for each league/age group.

Note that some rules are modified during the Fall season, particularly as pertain to pitching limits in the kid pitch leagues.