

Dublin Travel Baseball – Frequently Asked Questions Answered

1. Dublin Travel Baseball consists of the GreenSox, WhiteSox, and BlackSox programs for kids aged 7U-18U.
2. Your child's birthday on 4/30/24 determines what age they should play during the 2024 season.
3. Your child may consider trying out for an older age group if it is to play with their classmates. Players are discouraged from trying out for older age groups for other reasons.
4. Everyone must register at <http://dya.com> in order to tryout. There are no exceptions.
5. Generally speaking, players should be Dublin residents or reside within the boundaries of the Dublin City School District, however, players may live outside those boundaries and make a team if there are no qualified Dublin players. This rule does not apply at the high school level.
6. The tryout fee is non-refundable and covers the cost of evaluators, practice sessions, and field use.
7. Tryouts are a one-day tryout.
8. There are no make-up sessions. Tryouts are closed to all spectators.
9. Players are evaluated by up to four evaluators. One of the evaluators may be a returning GreenSox coach. The others are independent evaluators who have a high level of baseball knowledge and skill.
10. Players are scored 0-5 in the following categories: speed, throwing, fielding, hitting, and pitching/catching if age appropriate.
11. Players are ranked from highest to lowest based upon their score. If there is a returning GreenSox coach, he is required to select players ranked 1-8 at the conclusion of evaluations. He then has the option to select up to 4 of the next 10 players. After the GreenSox team is formed, the next 1-8 players are automatically on the WhiteSox. The WhiteSox coach then can select up to 4 discretionary picks. If there are enough eligible players for a BlackSox team, the same process holds true.
12. Not all participants trying out will make a team. Some players based upon their score may not be eligible for travel baseball. In this case, they will be encouraged to play DYA recreation baseball for the next season. In other cases, there may not be enough players to satisfy more than one team. In either case, there are no refunds offered.

13. Coaches are selected by an interview committee. The committee considers baseball experience, coaching experience, coaching philosophy, ability to relate to players, survey results from returning coaches, evaluations conducted throughout the season, etc. If a GreenSox coach is selected to return, he may participate in the tryout, however, the coaching decision may be reversed if their child does not make the team. There is no pre-positioning for coaches' children. Each player must earn their spot.

14. Tryout results are posted electronically. You will be notified of your coach only. You will not be notified of the other players until the team is finalized.

15. Once tryouts are over, official GreenSox invitations will be distributed via email by 8am the morning following tryouts. Parents will have until 12pm that day to accept their invitation with a payment of \$250 to DYA to be paid online ONLY. This is a commitment fee which reserves your players roster spot. Official WhiteSox invitations will be distributed by 2pm the day following tryouts and parents will have until 6pm that evening to accept their invitation with a payment of \$250 to DYA to be paid online ONLY. If necessary, official BlackSox invitations will be distributed by 8pm the evening following tryouts and parents will have until 12am to accept their invitation with a payment of \$250 to DYA to be paid online ONLY. Under no circumstance is the commitment fee refundable once payment is made. \$240 will be applied to your account to offset your players fair share fees. The other \$10 is an administrative processing fee.

16. We ask that no postings on social media occur until your welcome packet has been received. This will allow us to solidify all teams and not jeopardize the integrity of the process.

17. Once the team is formed, there will be an all-parent meeting to cover the next steps. The meeting is held in August. This is an important meeting. Fees, schedule, winter practices, expectations will be covered. Everyone is expected to be there.

18. If a coach has not played at the college level, he will be assisted by such an individual during the off-season. At the end of the off-season, a decision will be made between the travel director, assistant travel director and coach whether such assistance continues during the season.

19. Teams have required uniforms. There are no options for alternative uniforms. It is important that all Dublin Travel Baseball teams maintain the established brand. Uniforms cost approximately \$40-\$45 for pants, \$50 for jerseys, \$25 for hats, \$5-10 for belts, and some teams ask players to purchase additional uniform items. Some teams have multiple jerseys as well (i.e., a home and away jersey). Other costs include umpire fees, City of Dublin fees, DYA fees, tournament fees - all together, non-uniform fees will range from \$350-\$800, depending on age. The 12U team fees will be significantly higher as they participate in a mandatory trip to Cooperstown, New York. 7U fees will not exceed \$400 for a team of 12 plus uniform costs. Fees are collected in installments throughout the year.

20. Fundraising to offset costs is a team decision. It is not mandatory. Teams should only collect fees to cover their estimated expenses. They should not collect anything additional. There are no refunds whatsoever. If a team does have extra money, it will carry over with the team the following year - NOT THE PLAYER. If the player goes to another team or does not return, the money stays with the current team. There are no exceptions.

21. Teams will play a lot of baseball during the season. Teams are expected to schedule sufficient games (to protect against weather cancellations) to ensure that they get in the following: 7U & 8U: 20 games minimum; 9U & 10U: 25 games minimum; 11U & 12U: 30 games minimum; 13U: 35 games minimum. Many teams will go beyond this number during the season. This will be discussed at the initial team meeting. 7U-12U are required to participate in Central Ohio Youth Baseball League (COYBL). 13U is strongly encouraged to participate in COYBL.

22. Middle school and high school baseball players are not permitted to work with their travel team from mid-February until they are released by their school coach. There are some additional restrictions that your high school coach will cover with you.

23. Every team is expected to participate in tournaments in addition to their regularly scheduled games. There are many tournaments that are around the I-270 loop. All teams (8U+) are expected to participate in at least one out-of-town tournament per season. 7U is not expected to have an out-of-town tournament, but may do so if that is the consensus of the team.

24. All GreenSox and WhiteSox teams are required to participate in the Wayne Williams Memorial Baseball Tournament. There are no exceptions. This is the largest fundraiser run by our organization and subsidizes your players fees. Parents not volunteering during the tournament are expected to pay an additional \$300 to the program.

25. Practices begin in early January and run through Spring Break. They are generally held in local Dublin City Schools.

26. The season officially starts April 1 and runs through mid-July. Many teams select to finish the season by the end of June.

27. While we strongly encourage players to participate in multiple sports, we do not encourage you to do so during travel baseball season from April 1 through July 15. Baseball is a team sport and when one player cannot attend practices and games because of a conflict with another sport, the entire team suffers.

28. Players in middle school and high school are strongly encouraged to play spring sports including baseball. There is no requirement to play baseball, although the extra practice is always beneficial. If you do not play baseball, play another sport. School baseball players should talk to athletic directors and school coaches about rules associated with being on a travel baseball team. The athletic director has the final say on everything.

29. Parents and players will be asked to sign a contract at the beginning of the season stating that they understand all expectations and will abide by them.

30. Playing time will be fair, but it will not necessarily be equal. Players are guaranteed 50% playing time in regular season games. Players are guaranteed 30% playing time in tournaments. This does not mean in each game but during the course of the season. Lack of attendance at practices or games can drop playing time below these numbers.

31. Parents are asked to complete a survey at the end of the season. Your feedback helps improve our program.

For further questions, email dyatravelbaseball@gmail.com