

HVABSA Recreational Baseball All-Star Policy

Version 1.0 – Draft

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Purpose

The purpose of the HVABSA Recreational Baseball All-Star program is to provide a competitive post-season opportunity for qualified recreational players who have demonstrated readiness during All-Star tryouts. The All-Star program is separate from the recreational season and is not intended to be developmental in nature. Consistency across all age groups is prioritized over individual circumstances.

Eligible Age Groups

HVABSA Recreational Baseball All-Star teams may only be formed in the following age divisions: 6U, 7U, 8U, 9U, 10U, 12U, and 14U. No other age groups will be considered.

Player Eligibility – Age Group Rules

Only players currently registered with HVABSA for the Spring recreational season are eligible for All-Stars. Players may only try out for the same age group they played in during the Spring recreational season. Under no circumstances may players play down in age group once they have aged out at the beginning of the Spring season.

Playing Up

As a general rule, players do not play up for Recreational All-Stars. Playing up is not permitted for convenience, including situations involving siblings. Players are expected to try out and compete only within their Spring recreational age group.

Premier / Select Participation

Players who have participated in any Premier or Storm (select) games or tournaments during a calendar year are not eligible for Recreational All-Stars. Once a player participates in Premier or Select baseball, they are not eligible to return to recreational baseball until January 1 of the next calendar year. This rule is strictly enforced to prevent eligibility violations, forfeits, and financial loss to families.

All-Star Tryouts

All-Star tryouts are open only to eligible HVABSA recreational players. Players are evaluated solely on what is demonstrated during tryouts. Tryout performance is not a reflection of a player's entire season or long-term potential.

Team Formation & Roster Size

All-Star teams should generally carry 12 players and include adequate pitching and catching depth to support player safety and competitive balance.

Assistant Coaches – Selection & Authority

All assistant coaches serve at the discretion of the All-Star Head Coach. With the agreement of the age-level commissioner and the HVABSA Executive Board, the Head Coach has the authority to remove an assistant coach if they believe the assistant's presence is detrimental to the All-Star season experience, including personality conflicts. All-Star Head Coaches may select assistant coaches who

were actively registered as coaches during the Spring recreational season and who completed all required registrations and background checks at the start of that Spring season. Assistant coaches may be selected from the Head Coach's own team or from other teams within the same age group.

Equipment, Resources & Team Expenses

HVABSA will provide Recreational All-Star teams with an adequate supply of game baseballs and standard league resources that fall within normal expectations for recreational baseball. Coaches are encouraged to use the same equipment they used during the regular season, as HVABSA will not purchase unnecessary new equipment for All-Star teams. All-Star teams are responsible for paying tournament gate fees. Most All-Star tournaments charge gate fees ranging from \$400–\$450 per team. The Highland Village Tournament is the exception, with HVABSA covering 50% of the registration fee. All-Star Head Coaches may offset costs through sponsorships or family contributions, typically \$100–\$150 per family. HVABSA covers uniforms, baseballs, and standard equipment for both the recreational and All-Star seasons.

Backup Players

If an All-Star team is short on players during the All-Star season, backup players may only come from the next younger recreational age division and may not be Premier or Select players.

Insufficient Roster Situations

If there are not enough eligible players to reasonably form an All-Star team in a given age group, HVABSA believes the program is best served by not fielding a team for that age group that season.

Development vs. All-Stars

Spring and Fall recreational baseball are developmental programs. The All-Star program is competitive and intended for players who are above average for their division and prepared to perform specific positions in live game situations.

Philosophy

HVABSA All-Stars exist to represent the league well, compete with surrounding leagues, and provide qualified players an opportunity to take the next step in their development. Competitive readiness is required.