

# **2025**

## **87 BASEBALL SANDLOT GAMES**

### **DATES:**

***TUESDAY NIGHTS? (TBD)***

### **LOCATION:**

***TBD***

### **TIMES**

***WARM-UP: 5:30PM***

***PRACTICE BY POSITION: 5:45-6:05PM***

***GAME: 6:15-7:30PM***

### **COST:**

***\$10 PER NIGHT***

**WHAT IS IT:** FOCUS WILL BE ON DEVELOPMENT OF PLAYERS IN A RELAXED COMPETITIVE ENVIRONMENT. PLAYERS WILL BE SPLIT BY POSITION AND PUT THROUGH "CAMP-STYLE" INSTRUCTION BASED ON POSITION SPLITS THAT EVENING. (FOR EXAMPLE, ALL OUTFIELDERS FROM BOTH TEAMS WILL GO WITH OF COACH FOR 20 MIN OF WORK WHILE ALL INFELDERS GO WITH IF COACH FOR INSTRUCTION.) TEAMS WILL THEN SPLIT AND PLAY A 1 HOUR 15 MIN GAME. COACHES WILL UMPIRE GAME. COACHES WILL STOP GAMES TO HAVE COACHING MOMENTS FOR THE WHOLE GROUP. COACHES WILL INSTRUCT DURING THE GAMES (LIKELY BOTH TEAMS!). SCORE WILL BE KEPT. SOMEONE WILL WIN, BUT THE SCORE WILL NOT DEFINE THE DEVELOPMENT.

### **WHAT TO BRING:**

PURPLE OR WHITE SHIRT, BASEBALL PANTS, GLOVE, CAP, BAT (IF YOU HAVE ONE), WATER BOTTLE, CLEATS, HELMET (IF YOU HAVE ONE)

### **REGISTRATION:**

A LINK WILL BE POSTED ON 87BASEBALL.COM ON SUNDAY NIGHT PRECEDING TUESDAY NIGHT GAMES. THE FIRST 18 POSITION PLAYS AND FIRST 2 CATCHERS WILL BE ACCEPTED. THE REGISTRATION IS VALID ONLY FOR 1 GAME. A NEW REGISTRATION LINK WILL BE POSTED EACH SUNDAY.

### **PAYMENT:**

COST IS \$10 PER PLAYER. YOU CAN PAY VIA VENMO OR CASH. NO PAYMENT NECESSARY UNTIL YOU RECEIVE A CONFIRMATION EMAIL THAT YOUR PLAYER WILL BE IN TUESDAY'S GAME.

**WHY WE EXIST:** WE'RE TRYING TO FILL A LARGE GAP IN YOUTH BASEBALL, PARTICULARLY IN MARBLE FALLS, BETWEEN SELECT/TRAVEL BALL, WHICH CAN BE EXPENSIVE AND INCONVENIENT TO OUR LOCATION, AND LOCAL REC BALL (WHICH WE FULLY SUPPORT) THAT RELIES ON VOLUNTEERS (WHO ARE AWESOME) THAT HAVE FULL TIME JOBS AWAY FROM THEIR YOUTH BALL COACHING DUTIES. WE'RE STRIVING TO OFFER AN EXCEPTIONALLY AFFORDABLE MODEL FOCUSED ON DEVELOPING 10-12-YEAR-OLD KIDS ON THE FIELD IN WHICH WINNING IS THE GOAL, BUT NOT THE SOLE FOCUS. WE BELIEVE AT THIS AGE KIDS DEFINITELY NEED TO LEARN HOW TO COMPETE TO WIN, BUT NOT AT THE COST OF DEVELOPING THEM AS ON FIELD PLAYERS AND HIGH BASEBALL IQ GUYS (OR GIRLS).

WE PLAN ON STARTING WITH A 20-30 MIN DRILL SESSION BROKEN OUT BY THE POSITIONS WE'RE FOCUSING ON THAT DAY. WE WILL TRY TO FIND THE BEST ROTATION WORKING WITH KIDS ON OUTFIELD, INFIELD, PITCHING, BASERUNNING AND HITTING PRIOR TO THE EVENINGS GAME. AFTER THE INSTRUCTION PORTION WE WILL PLAY A 1:15 KID PITCHED GAME. DURING THE GAMES THE COACHES WILL UMPIRE AND COACH. WE WILL TREAT THESE GAMES AS A LEARNING OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL 20 KIDS AT ONCE, AND WHEN WE SEE A COACHING MOMENT WE WILL STOP TO COACH AS MANY KIDS AS POSSIBLE. WE MAY GIVE A KID A 4<sup>TH</sup> STRIKE OR SEND A BASERUNNER BACK TO HIS BASE AFTER BEING THROWN OUT STEALING IF WE FEEL IT IS THE BEST TOOL FOR TEACHING IN THE MOMENT.

THE EXPECTATION FOR PARENTS WILL BE TO CHEER FOR THEIR KID AND THE OTHER KIDS AND SIMPLY ENJOY THEM HAVING FUN PLAYING THE GAME. THE ENVIRONMENT OUTSIDE THE FENCE WILL BE ONE OF POSITIVITY FOR YOUR KIDS TO LEARN TO ENJOY THE GAME. IF SOMEONE NEEDS TO CORRECT OR COACH A KID IT WILL BE THE COACHES ON THE FIELD, SO PARENTS CAN SIT BACK AND ENJOY THE EVENING OF BASEBALL. IF THE UNFORTUNATE EVENT ARISES WHERE A PARENT IS BRINGING AN UNHEALTHY AMOUNT OF NEGATIVITY THEY WILL HAVE THEIR \$10 RETURNED TO THEM AND BE UNABLE TO SIGN THEIR CHILD UP FOR FUTURE EVENTS.

PLEASE UNDERSTAND THE FIRST 2 WEEKS WE WILL BE TESTING OUT A GAME MODEL THAT IS ONLY A THEORY, SO THERE WILL LIKELY BE SOME ADJUSTMENTS AS WE GO. THERE'S NO WAY THIS MODEL WILL BE WITHOUT FLAWS, WE JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY ARE UNTIL WE SEE THEM. PLEASE UNDERSTAND EVERYTHING WE DO IN THIS ENDEAVOR WILL BE FOCUSED ON DEVELOPING KIDS IN A POSITIVE MANNER, SO IF A MISTAKE IS MADE PLEASE VIEW IT THROUGH THAT LENS.

BASEBALL

## BASIC GUIDELINES

- PLAYERS NEED TO BE RISING 5<sup>TH</sup> THRU 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS.
- THE FIRST 18 POSITION PLAYERS AND 2 CATCHERS TO SUBMIT REGISTRATION FORMS WILL BE SELECTED FOR THE GAME THAT TUESDAY
- PREFERENCE WILL BE GIVEN TO KIDS LIVING IN THE MFISD ATTENDANCE ZONE (MEANING IF WE DON'T HAVE 20 MFISD KIDS REGISTER WE'LL ACCEPT KIDS FROM OTHER ATTENDANCE ZONES).
- \$10 (VENMO OR CASH) UPON EMAIL LETTING YOU KNOW YOU WERE SELECTED
- KIDS WILL CHANGE POSITIONS EVERY INNING IF THERE ARE KIDS WANTING TO PLAY THE SAME POSITION
- PITCH COUNTS WILL BE CLOSELY MONITORED BASED ON INDIVIDUAL KIDS
- SCORE WILL BE KEPT AND SOMEONE WILL WIN, BUT THE SCORE WILL RARELY DICTATE HOW WE COACH
- COACHES WILL ALSO UMPIRE. THEY WILL NEVER BE WRONG.
- PARENTS WHO COMPLAIN LOUDLY OR ACT IN A WAY THAT WOULD EMBARRASS THEIR CHILD WILL BE PROMPTLY REFUNDED THEIR \$10 AND THEIR CHILD WILL NO LONGER BE ELIGIBLE TO REGISTER FOR FUTURE DATES

# BASEBALL