

SMBA 12U Cooperstown Baseball

Tryout Information Packet

To: All 12U Players and Parents

Thank you for your interest in playing for our SMBA 12U Cooperstown team. Please realize this is NOT a recreational baseball tryout and the focus on competition increases dramatically. The philosophy of this program is to give our players an opportunity to play baseball at an advanced level while preparing them to play at an elite level.

With the 12U Cooperstown team player tryouts fast approaching, we would like you and your player to carefully read this information before committing to the Cooperstown team 12U Baseball Program. While, the Cooperstown 12U team is a uniquely amazing experience and can be fun for the whole family, it requires a certain level of maturity and commitment from players and parents both.

SMBA 12U Cooperstown team requires your commitment!

Our tournament target date is Wednesday August 2 – August 8

1st alternate date July 27 – August 2

2nd alternate date July 21 – July 27

After final payment in full is made March will time and dates be locked in

Parent involvement and participation is a critical requirement on every SMBA 12U Cooperstown team. With your player's selection to a team, you as a parent are also joining the team. When determining your vacation plans or other activities, you will need to consider the team's tournament schedule. We will participate in local and out of town tournaments as well as multiple scrimmages leading up to the tournament.

SMBA 12U Cooperstown team practice begins and runs simultaneous with the Spring season. In addition, we can have a specialized training program on additional days, consisting of pitching, hitting, fielding etc...

The practices will not be each week. Maybe one a month or a few times in the Spring.

Once a player is selected for the SMBA 12U Cooperstown team, the expectation is this team will be first priority over any other teams or sports once their regular season ends. The expectation is the player is making a commitment and should not miss practices, games or team functions to play for another baseball or other sports organizations. Should a commitment issue arise, the team manager will initiate a conversation with the parent/guardian to address appropriately, including but not limited to dismissal from the team. It is understood that other priorities may come before a team practice or a game with just cause and this should be discussed with the team manager ahead of time.

Individual costs:

Individual player costs prior to Cooperstown are determined by uniforms, equipment, tournament participation, umpire fee's, etc... Individual player costs do not include travel expenses. All travel expenses are the responsibility of the player. Some or all player/travel costs may be offset by funds raised by the team.

Parent/Player Conduct Policy Expectations:

If your child is selected for the team the following are the parent/player expectations but not limited to:

- Parents will refrain from giving the children instructions during practices and games – please allow the coaches to manage the team.
- Parents will refrain from dugout visits during practices and games.
- Parents should set a good example. Children learn best by YOUR example.
- Parents should not publicly question an umpire's judgment. Coaches only should engage the umpires as needed.
- Parents should recognize the value and importance of our coaches. Without them, there would be no baseball program.
- Should you as a parent have a problem/conflict with the Manager or Coaches, do not approach them during or after a game. Call the coach or set a meeting with the coach to discuss the matter.
- Parents shall accept the coaches' decision regarding playing positions and the amount of playing time. Understand that this is a Competitive Team and there are no guarantees for equal playing time or position.
- Players will be prepared for all practices and games with ALL my gear and in the proper uniform. (shirts tucked in at all times, hat facing forward). I will show my gear respect and take care of it. This is my responsibility, NOT my parents.
- Players understand that practices are meant to improve our skill and knowledge of the game. The only way to do this is to be completely focused at all times of practice.
- Players will not at any time bring a negative attitude into the dugout. Regardless of what happened today at school, home, etc... When I walk through the dugout I'm focused on the TEAM only.
- Understand that the SMBA reserves the right to release any player from the team for poor sportsmanship by the player and/or the player's family during games or for other reasons to include but are not limited to lack of cooperation, poor attitude, lack of commitment, effort or attendance.
- Understand that any removal of your child and/or a family member from a game will result in a two (2) game minimum suspension for the child and your family.
- Understand that negative comments or ridicule of another player, family and/or manager or coach using any social media outlet is grounds for immediate removal from the program

Tryouts:

During tryouts, parents are asked to stay in the bleachers and away from the players unless requested. This will minimize the distraction to the players and allow the evaluators to do their jobs.

Roster Announcements

We anticipate that the final selection process will be completed with-in a few days after tryouts are complete.

Remember, this is a selective process and not an indicator of your players future baseball career if not selected. During the ramp up to Cooperstown, we might call up a player from the tryouts. Players should all be gracious in acceptance and those who are not chosen should be prepared if that moment comes.

SMBA Conduct Policy

By Signing Below, I / We acknowledge that we have fully read and understand:

- There is a significant time commitment to the team and teammates.
- There is a significant cost commitment to the team and teammates.
- There is a significant conduct commitment to the team and teammates.
- This is NOT a recreational tryout and there is NO minimum playing time or sit requirement.

Practices and games unless previously discussed/arranged with the team manager are mandatory.
Being late for games / practices or missing games / practices can and will affect playing time.

This is a tryout only and in no way is my child guaranteed a spot on any team.

Participants Name and Age Date

Parent/Guardian Name Printed Parent/Guardian Name Printed

Parent/Guardian Signature Parent/Guardian Signature