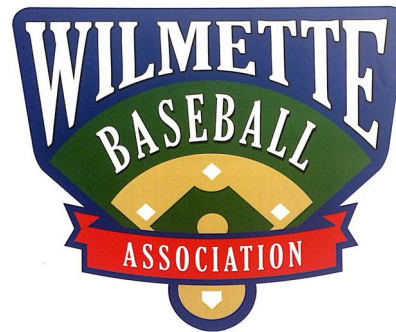


2022 Mustang Travel

Parent Meeting – November 7, 2022



Welcome to Mustang Travel

Looking forward to a great 2023 season!!!

- Updated year-round program based on parent feedback will help ensure player development.
- Tryouts were competitive. We had a tough number try out this year-53. 15 cuts were made but we were able to have a third team. This is the third year we are having an A, B and C team.
- Players that made a team should be proud of their accomplishment while supporting those that did not make a team.

Teams & Selection Process

- Teams were selected based on all available information: travel coaches, fall skills coaches, house league play and the four evaluators at travel tryouts
- Cutting players is the least favorite part of volunteering for WBA-this year was tough because options are limited.

Program Highlights & Updates

Best in Class & Cost-Efficient Program

- Designed in coordination with New Trier Feeder Baseball for 13U and 14U travel players
- Fall team selections and team-based winter workouts, with flexibility in the event of schedule conflicts
- Spring house league still required, but Saturday's reserved for travel practices & scrimmages run by IBA
- All Mustang Travel players required to be drafted into Mustang Spring House League
- Summer weekday travel baseball camp the first two weeks after school year ends
- IBA hired to help identify coaches to fill any open positions and help develop coaches
- Coaches are force ranked based on WBA Board and IBA observations, as well as parent feedback
- Based on the last three year's success, high school "intern" program to develop aspiring coaches will continue
- Attendance will continue to be monitored in 2023 at all Mustang Travel events
- Performance and attendance feedback shared with WBA league managers and New Trier Feeder Baseball

Based on parent feedback and WBA board observations, program updates for 2023

- Winter Workouts will be at The Yard in Northbrook-they moved into a great, new facility.
- Memorial Day Tournament in Kenilworth, Jim Christ in Glenview around July 4 weekend.
- Practices will see a significant increase in intensity, and coaches will be instructed to be more vocal
- Early season practices will also incorporate more scrimmages between the teams and with mixed teams

Commitment & Expectations

Player and parent commitment required to make the season successful

- Player attendance and positive attitude are critical
 - Focus on other players and make sure a team can be fielded for all games
 - Players to always help teammates with positive encouragement
 - Playing time may be limited in the event of absences or behavioral issues

- Parent volunteers needed:
 - Team parent to collect regular feedback on team dynamics and report back real time to WBA in a constructive manner
 - Help organize outside trips (if any) and coordinate travel season logistics
 - Coach spring house league teams-let me know today if you are interested
 - Always stay positive in front of the players – channel feedback through team parent or WBA board (real time). **Stay out of the dugout**, and do not provide advice or criticize coaches or umpires during games. Sit down the line and enjoy it-it ends all too quickly.

- WBA is a non-profit and its board is 100% volunteer based.

What's Included & Payment Dates

Top quality year-round travel program...

- Winter workouts run by senior IBA coaches
- They will be much more intensive this year
- Saturday travel practices in April & May run by senior IBA coaches
- Weekday summer camp the weeks of June 12th and 19th run by senior IBA coaches
- LSFBL regular season & playoffs-season starts in late May and runs until late July
- Two local travel tournaments, plus other tournaments(if possible)
- Uniforms & team gear
- Coaches – two full time, plus one intern (if available), per team

Payments for 2022 Travel Season

- Initial deposit of \$975 due **11/14/22**
- Balance of \$975 is due on **2/28/23**

Other

- Mustang Spring House League is required – separate registration and fees
- Fall Skills clinics are optional – separate registration and fees

10U Coach Line-up (Preliminary – Subject to Change)

TO BE ANNOUNCED



Coach Availability and Information

- Each of our head coaches are college students.
- They will be available for your teams when they return from school, which is usually mid May.
- All of them have coached in WBA for years and know what they are doing.
- We stress communication with parents in weekly emails to lay out the week.
- Do NOT talk to them about lineups, positions and the like (the stories I have are legendary over the years)
- This is the year that parents sit back and watch. Let your child be judged over the course of a season by an independent coach. They will flourish.
- It is imperative that you are supportive and positive AT ALL TIMES, not only with your child but with ALL of his teammates
- Support your coaches, as well. Buy them a meal, get them a Gatorade and see if they need anything during the season.
- Stay out of their way when it comes to coaching decisions
- You may question strategy and positioning, as we all do when watching baseball. Just keep it to yourself and DO NOT create a team atmosphere where kids and parents are complaining.
- This is for the kids-not you. Let them have fun with their buddies and get better at baseball. Let them be coached by others during the travel season.

Mustang Travel Coach Expectations

WBA Board and IBA will work with all of our travel coaches prior to the season to help ensure excellence in the following areas:

- Attendance & punctuality
- Preparedness
- Attire
- Behavior
- Practices
- Games
- Communication

2023 Travel Baseball Calendar

Winter Workouts – mid January through mid March

Spring House League – February (tryouts/evaluations) through first week of June

Saturday Practices in Spring – April and May

Summer Travel Camp – weekdays weeks of June 12th and 19th (could be snow day conflicts)

Summer Travel Season – Late May, June and July (LSFBL playoffs end July 23)

Fall Clinic/Travel Tryout Preparation – September & October

Travel Tryouts – October

Rest Arms – October through December-PLAY OTHER SPORTS, PLEASE!

Winter Workouts

Designed for serious players to prepare for the spring and summer seasons

- Team based practices
- IBA senior level coaches will oversee and evaluate

Schedules

- The Yard (Northbrook)(1/9/23-3/13/23)
 - 10 Green – Wednesdays 5-6pm TURF and Thursdays 5-6pm CAGES
 - 10 Blue – Wednesdays 5-6pm CAGES and Thursdays 5-6pm TURF
 - 10 Gray ---Saturdays 2-3pm TURF and Sundays 8-9am CAGES

If the schedule above does not work for your player on certain weeks, they are welcome to join a workout at the other time slot (a couple players per time slot max).

Spring House League

Why house league?

- Mustang House is awesome! No super teams this year-there is a draft
- Goal is to make all teams as equal as possible-standings, playoffs and World Series this year
- We only allow two Green players on any one team and make sure no teams are “loaded”
- Time to get into playing condition for summer travel
- Play with buddies from school to create lifetime memories
- Opportunity for parents to coach – not that many chances left.....please volunteer!!!

Schedule

- Evaluations – **Thursday February 23rd at The Yard in Northfield – 530pm-830pm**
 - **THIS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE**
- Two indoor practices per team at The Yard in March (coaches to draft dates/times)
- Games played all days, except Saturdays (reserved for travel practices and practices)
- Season starts the first week of April and we hope to conclude the World Series right after Memorial Day to make room for the travel tournament
- All Star Game will be on Memorial Day

Spring house league is required for all travel players

Encourage non-travel players to register

Saturday Practices in Spring

Travel teams work with senior IBA instructors outdoors to prepare for the travel season

- Individual skills of hitting, fielding, throwing, and baseball IQ
- Team oriented skills
- Regular coaches participate if available
- Teams practice two hours for 6 consecutive Saturdays leading up to the travel season

Schedule (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

- Hibbard North (Rec Center)– Saturdays April 15, 22, 29; May 6, 13, 20
 - 10 Green 1:30-3pm Hibbard North
 - 10 Blue 3-430pm Hibbard North
 - 10 Gray 430-6pm Hibbard North

Summer Travel Camp

Travel teams & coaches work with IBA in an intensive two-week camp

- Individual skills of hitting, fielding, throwing, and baseball IQ
- Team oriented skills
- Teams practice two hours each day for 10 consecutive weekdays
- This will be MUCH MORE intensive this year

Schedule

- Every weekday the weeks of June 12 and 19th
 - Schedule to be announced

Summer Travel Season

All teams play in the Lake Shore Feeder Baseball League

- Visit lsfbl.com for rules, bat regulations (no change from 2022 season), field locations, and updates
- WBA has one vote on the LSFBL board – parent feedback welcome
- lsfbl.com is a great website. Up to date schedules, scores and field locations.

Schedule

- ~16 game regular season will start late May or early June
- WBA board members work with reps from the other towns to schedule games
- We do our best to start games after house season and not have too many games in a row
- **Bulldog** Tournament, in Winnetka, usually Memorial Day– all Mustang teams
- **Jim Christ** Tournament – likely early July – all Mustang teams.
- LSFBL's single elimination playoffs end on **Sunday 7/23/23 (hold Monday 7/24/23 for rainouts)**

The Fall Clinic

Designed for serious players to prepare for fall travel tryouts

- Goal is to develop sound fundamentals by performing drills properly and repeatedly
- First 30-45 minutes of each session focused on reps at basic skills
- Second part of each session focused on controlled scrimmages, with coaches helping players anticipate what to expect on the next play, and also review what happened on the prior play
- IBA senior level coaches to run
- Separate registration and fees

Schedule

- Mid September through mid October
- Registration will open in summer

