

# Travel Softball Guidelines

Mundelein Baseball and Softball Association, PO Box 606 Mundelein, IL  
[www.mbsaonline.org](http://www.mbsaonline.org)

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## OVERVIEW

Our mission is to provide a higher level of competition for talented and motivated Mundelein softball players who want to continue playing beyond the house league.

Benefits of Mundelein's Travel Program:

By offering a competitive travel softball experience our players and families benefit by:

- Being able to play competitive softball together with their school aged friends and families
- Continue to build local pride in their community by representing Mundelein throughout the area
- Ability to play home games at many of our newly updated fields at community park
- Indoor winter practices to prepare for spring tournaments, spring travel season, and summer travel season depending on which age level and team strategy
- Improvement of skills in a team-focused local environment
- Teams will work hard to win games, but winning will never become more important than teamwork and good sportsmanship
- Gaining a nearly year round, high value experience of competitive softball, with their friends, for roughly half the cost of other travel softball programs.

## TIME COMMITMENT

The Travel teams play at a higher level of competition than the standard House season and require a strong commitment from both player and family.

To continue and enhance the development of the Program's participants, the following expectations will be the foundation of Mundelein's competitive travel softball program:

### 9U/10U

The softball season is from April 1<sup>st</sup> – July 31<sup>st</sup>.

#### Practices

- Practice will be 1-2 times per week during the season.
- Indoor practices will take place starting the first week of December and run through the beginning of April, **1 to 2 days** per week. There will be a 2 week break for Christmas and New Years.

#### Tournaments

- 2 - 3 Fall Tournaments
- At least 1 Indoor Winter Tournament
- 4 - 5 Summer Tournaments

### 11U/12U

The softball season is from April 1<sup>st</sup> – July 31<sup>st</sup>.

#### Practices

- Practice will be 1-2 times per week during the season.
- Indoor practices will take place starting the first week of December and run through the beginning of April, **1 to 2 days** per week. There will be a 2 week break for Christmas and New Years.

#### Tournaments

- 3-4 Fall Tournaments
- At least 1 Indoor Winter Tournament
- 6-7 Summer Tournaments

### 13U/14U

The softball season is from April 1<sup>st</sup> – July 31<sup>st</sup>.

#### Practices

- Practice will be 1-2 times per week during the season.
- Indoor practices will take place starting the first week of December and run through the beginning of April, **1 to 2 days** per week. There will be a 2 week break for Christmas and New Years.

#### Tournaments

- 3-4 Fall Tournaments
- At least 1 Indoor Winter Tournament
- 6-7 Summer Tournaments

## **15U/16U**

The softball season is from April 1<sup>st</sup> – July 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **Practices**

- Practice will be 1-2 times per week during the season.
- Indoor practices will take place starting the first week of December and run through the beginning of April, **1 to 2 days** per week. There will be a 2 week break for Christmas and New Years.

### **Tournaments**

- 4-5 Fall Tournaments
- At least 1 Indoor Winter Tournament
- 7-8 Summer Tournaments

*Older level teams may include longer distance overnight trips as well.*

## TRAVEL SEASON & PHILOSOPHIES

The philosophy of travel play is to seek the most competitive team(s) possible. Mundelein has a rich history of baseball and softball from t-ball through high school and by continuing to offer a strong travel program we are able to give a great experience for the kids and families who support our community at all skill levels.

The members of the non-profit league wanted to create a competitive environment balanced with the desire to keep kids playing community softball.

- While learning a great game, players and families benefit by being alongside other school aged friends with common interests, all while building community pride.
- The Travel teams will be competing against quality competition from other area programs, while developing good sportsmanship and respect for all players on all teams.
- The program seeks to prepare players for participation in high school softball. We are teaming with the MHS coaches to teach our coaches the drills and skills they would like the players to know. This partnership will help transition the kids from youth softball to high school softball to have them better prepared along the way.

## **TRYOUTS**

Tryouts will be held annually in July/August for all ages.

The reason for having tryouts in July/August is so that MBSA has teams in place for fall games/tournaments, winter indoor workouts as well as participation in early Memorial Day Tournaments and any spring travel games.

# REGISTRATION, FEES, REFUND POLICY

## REGISTRATION

- A registration link will be shared with you upon receiving an offer to join a team.

## FEES

- Players have 24 hours to accept an offer. Offers are verified/confirmed by payment.
- Deposits are due at the time of registration. This deposit is your player's agreement to play a full season for the Mundelein Stampede Travel Softball League.
- Payment plans are available.

## REFUND POLICY

- No refunds are made after any payments are made, as we have held your players' spot and began building our teams, cut other players, attracted managers, and began ordering uniforms, etc. for the upcoming season.

*Offers are typically sent out 24-48 hours after tryouts.*

What do FEES typically cover?

- Indoor Practice Facilities
- Fall Tournaments
- Winter Tournament
- Summer Tournaments
- Umpire Fees
- Uniforms
- Helmet & Bat Bag
- Purchase of additional practice equipment
- Additional spiritwear will also be available for purchase but is not mandatory.

## UNIFORM, EQUIPMENT, & BAT REQUIREMENTS

Included with your fees:

- 3 Jerseys
- 1 Pair of Socks
- 1 Belt
- Helmet (every 2 years)
- Bag (every 2 years)

Players responsibility to purchase:

- Softball Pants/Knickers
- Bat
- Mitt
- Softball Cleats (no metal cleats)
- Sliding Shorts
- Batting Glove (optional)
- Face masks

Bat Requirements

- 9u/10u:
- 11u/12u:
- 13u/14u:
- 15u/16u:

*Discovery of an Illegal Bat: Any batter that enters the batter's box with an illegal bat (i.e. does not comply with the MBSA Bat Rules) shall be called out immediately upon discovery (via appeal or umpire's call). The batter may also be called out after his/her time at bat is complete, so long as the illegal bat is discovered prior to the first pitch of the following batter.*

## FALL BALL

Fall Ball will begin once teams are final. Typically, there are 2-5 Fall Tournaments, depending on the age level, and practices will be held 1-2 times per week.

*We understand that many of our players may be playing other sports in the fall/winter, and they will be excused. We just ask that they communicate their conflicts to the coach. However, once our season begins in April we expect all our players to make softball a priority.*

## GAMES & SCHEDULES

Questions, contact the VP of Softball-[vpssoft@mbsaonline.org](mailto:vpssoft@mbsaonline.org)

*These are estimates and are subject to change*

Age Level	Winter Workouts	Fall Tournaments	Winter Tournaments	Summer Tournaments	Travel Season Games	Practices Per Week
<b>9U/10U</b>	1-2 per Week	2-3	1	4-5		1-2
<b>11U/12U</b>	1-2 per Week	3-4	1	6-7		1-2
<b>13U/14U</b>	1-2 per Week	3-4	1	6-7		1-2
<b>15U/16U</b>	1-2 per Week	4-5	1	7-8		1-2

## COMMUNICATION

- Practice and game schedules are available through **Sports Engine**.
- Please RSVP to practices & games in **Sports Engine**.
- Be sure to check **Sports Engine** often for messages, alerts, and schedules.



- [optional] Games can be live streamed through **Game Changer**- please contact your child's coach/manager to see if **Game Changer** will be used this season.



- MBSA's Board of Directors are available to help you. Please see their roles and contact information on our website or click [HERE](#).
- Also, there is always a *Board Member on Duty* while games are being played at the MBSA Complex, during the season. Please visit the concession stand to see who is available that day and they can assist you.