

**When is registration/tryouts?** Registration typically opens in early December and is open until the week before Tryouts. Tryouts will take place in March. Please register as soon as possible—it helps greatly with the season planning process.

**What is the tryout process?** Tryouts are two days long (only one day for 9u age level) and include drills testing the player's skills at infield technique, outfield technique, pitching technique and hitting technique. The evaluations are completed by independent evaluators (the Forest Lake Brewers town ball team). Team placement is determined by the player's skills and tryout scores. The number of teams per age group depends on player count, skill levels, and field availability. FLBA typically will have two teams at each age level.

More information, including the Tryout skills matrix and Team formation process can be found on our website under the Resources Tab.

**How much does traveling baseball cost?** Registration fees depend on age and cover all regular season and playoff field costs, uniform shirt, game balls, hat, umpires, team equipment (including catcher's gear), and in-season tournaments. Pants are not included in the fee.

In 2025, the fees are as follows:

9u- \$275 (2 weekend tournaments)

10u & 11u- \$500 (3 weekend tournaments, one of which is an Out of Town tournament)

12u & 13u- \$550 (4 weekend tournaments, one of which is an Out of Town tournament)

14u- \$550 (4 weekend tournaments, one of which is an Out of Town tournament)

Teams may also qualify for and choose to participate in state tournaments. FLBA will cover the cost of the Entry Fee and Gate Fee for one State Tournament only.

The Out of Town weekend tournament usually requires a hotel stay. Typical locations would be St. Cloud, Rochester, Mankato, Duluth, etc.

Additional team activities, like team-building events, may incur extra costs.

**What color pants should I buy?**

Light Grey, plain baseball pants are required. A narrow, single black stripe on the outside of each leg is acceptable as well. Undershirts, socks and belts should be maroon colored.

**What is the length of the season?** The season typically kicks off with practices in early April. League games typically begin the beginning of May and continue through June, with playoffs and state tournaments extending into July (for qualifying teams). The season consists of

14 regular season games and 2-4 weekend tournaments. 9u teams play a 12 game regular season schedule.

**How often does my team have games or practice?** Game schedules and practice schedules are set by the coaching staff of each team. Generally speaking, 9u teams will have 2 to 3 events per week. The number of events increases with age. The 14u teams will typically have 4 to 5 events per week.

Practices and league games are typically held on weekdays. FLBA strongly encourages our coaches to hold practices during the weekdays, however, an occasional weekend practice is possible. The only weekend events should be for tournaments.

**Where do they play?** Home games are played at either Kulenkamp Fields or Fenway Park. The 14u teams may also occasionally play at the Forest Lake Middle School or Schumacher Field.

Regular season away games are usually played at northern and eastern suburb communities.

**Who can coach?** FLBA relies mostly on volunteers to coach our teams. If you're passionate about baseball and want to make a difference in youth sports, we welcome you to apply! We conduct background checks to ensure a safe environment for everyone. Head coaches are chosen by a board sub-committee. Head coaches choose assistant coaches after team selection. More information can be found on our website under the Resources Tab.

**Is FLBA made up of all volunteers?** Yes, FLBA is a non-profit organization run by volunteers. While some coaching positions may be paid, especially for higher-level coaching, the heart of our organization is our dedicated volunteers. Join us and be part of something special!

**What equipment is needed?** Players should have their own pants, glove, cleats, protective cup, batting helmet, and bat. FLBA provides catchers gloves and equipment.

**What age group should my child play in?** In general, players will play with their grade level UNLESS they are too old under league rules. The league restriction is:

<b>9-year-old Team (3rd grade)</b>	<b>Must be 9 (or younger) on April 30 of the current season</b>
<b>10-year-old Team (4th grade)</b>	<b>Must be 10 (or younger) on April 30 of the current season</b>
<b>11-year-old Team (5th grade)</b>	<b>Must be 11 (or younger) on April 30 of the current season</b>
<b>12-year-old Team (6th grade)</b>	<b>Must be 12 (or younger) on April 30 of the current season</b>

**13-year-old Team (7th  
grade)**

**Must be 13 (or younger) on  
April 30 of the current season**

**14-year-old Team (8th  
grade)**

**Must be 14 (or younger) on  
April 30 of the current season**