

ROLAND PARK BASEBALL LEAGUES, INC.
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Dear RPBL Families,

We are pleased to announce that registration for the Roland Park Baseball Leagues (RPBL) 2021 Spring Season is now open for all ages. To register, please [Click Here](#).

We encourage you to register right away, as teams fill up. Registration fees will increase after **February 1, 2021** and registration will close on **February 15, 2021**. Any registrations received after that date will be placed on a waiting list and will be accepted only if space becomes available.

Please find detailed information below about the Roland Park Baseball Leagues. We look forward to your registration and another great season for Roland Park Baseball in 2021!

Warm regards,
Chuck Fancher
RPBL Commissioner

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1. **Philosophy**: RPBL has a long and rich tradition dating back to 1952, and we have grown to become the largest youth baseball league in Baltimore City with over 800 players participating on 59 teams this past season, both boys and girls, ranging in age from 5-15 years old. We are a full-participation “recreation” league where all players participate in every game they attend, and no players are “cut” from our regular league teams.

RPBL’s motto: “Little League – Big Fun” sums up our attitude and approach. The League’s emphasis is on improving skills, making friends, playing together on a team, and above all, having fun. We encourage sportsmanship, camaraderie and respect, and strive to provide a positive and learning experience for all who are a part of the league – players, parents, families, coaches, umpires, and others. Please [click here](#) to read the RPBL Mission Statement.

2. **Age Groups:** The Roland Park Baseball Leagues are set up as follows:

- T-Ball League (Ages 5 and 6). Designed as an introduction to baseball.
- International League (Ages 7 and 8). Where coaches pitch to players.
- National League (Ages 9 and 10). Where the players pitch to each other. Bases are set 60 feet apart.
- American League (Ages 11 and 12). Played on a diamond with 70 feet base paths and stealing all but home is allowed.
- Teen League (Ages 13-15). This is baseball played on a regulation, 90 foot diamond.

Eligibility is determined by a child's age on May 1, 2021. For example, a player that is age five on May 1, 2021 would be eligible for T-ball; a player that is age ten on May 1, 2021 would be in the National League. Exceptions are sometimes made for special circumstances. Please email all requests to rolandparkbaseball@gmail.com. Thank you.

3. **Roster Requests:** RPBL is one of the few leagues where we allow roster requests for specific teammates, but please know that providing a positive experience for all players and striving for team parity are paramount. Requests for a teammate will be considered but cannot be guaranteed, especially at the National, American and Teen Leagues where competitive balance is a major factor. In addition, volunteers for Assistant Coaches are very much appreciated, but the League reserves the right to assign Coaches and Assistant Coaches to teams based on availability and need. Moving just one player around can affect multiple players and teams, so we request your understanding and politeness if a request is not granted.

4. **Travel League:** While RPBL's primary emphasis is on participatory recreation level baseball, we also offer a Spring Travel League program in the 9-10, 11-12 and 13-15 age groups for those seeking additional baseball at a more competitive level. A player's age is determined by the age that he or she is as of May 1, 2021. That is, a player who turns 13 on May 1, 2021 would be considered 13 for the Spring season; a player who turns 13 on May 2, 2021 would be considered 12 for the Spring season. Players must play for and fully participate with their recreation team in order to play on a RPBL Travel team known as the Roland Park Rangers. Exceptions can be made on a case-by-case basis for those playing full-time (minimum 10 regular season games) on their school team where a player may be "waived out" of RPBL recreation play and still participate on a RPBL Travel team.

Travel teams typically play one or two games on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon during the season, and have one or two weekly practices scheduled on late Saturday afternoons. Attempts are made to avoid conflicts between recreation and travel schedules, but in the event of such conflicts which can occur with rescheduled or rained-out games, the League requires a priority of recreation over travel play.

Travel teams have open try-outs before the season. Travel players are selected through a variety of factors including skill level and potential, commitment and attitude, and ability to fit in with and contribute to the team. Consideration is given to previous participation on a RPBL Travel team, but selection is not guaranteed to players who have played on a travel team previously. If you are interested in more information about trying out for a RPBL Travel team, [click here](#).

The registration fee for 2021 Spring RPBL Travel teams was \$250 per player, which is in addition to the recreation league registration fee. The 2021 fee has not been set yet, but will be listed on the website along with tryout dates as they become known. Registration is necessary, but the tryout is free. The registration fee is only collected after teams are announced. After registration, you will receive notice of the tryout schedule.

More information will be available in the Travel Teams section of the RPBL website as dates and locations of events are set. Please check there for updated information.

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5. **Schedule:** The 2021 RPBL Spring League schedule is as follows. Note that due to COVID-19 precautions a number of exact dates will not be set until closer to the start of activity:

December 6, 2020	RPBL Spring Registration Opens
TBD	Spring Travel Tryouts
February 1, 2021	Spring Registration Fee Increases
February 15, 2021	Spring Registration Closes
Feb 22-26, 2021	Team Assignments
TBD	Picture Day (location TBD)
March 2021	Team Practices
April 2021	Games Start
TBD	Opening Ceremonies and Silent Auction Fundraiser
April - June	Regular Season
May - June	Playoffs for National, American and Teen Leagues
June 2021	All Star games for the National, American and Teen Leagues
TBD	Closing Ceremonies and Basket Fundraiser

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6. **Coaches and Assistant Coaches:** RPBL owes its strength not just to its history and traditions, but also to its great cadre of volunteer coaches. We are currently looking for coaches and assistant coaches at all levels. No experience is necessary, but we encourage a positive attitude, patient teaching style, and commitment to providing a great youth sports experience for all involved. Please indicate your interest in coaching or serving as an assistant coach on the Registration form or [click here](#). You will likely get as much or more out of coaching than you give!

7. **Registration Fees:** 2021 Spring Registration Fees are as follows:

Until February 1:

T-Ball: \$105 per player.
All Other Leagues: \$130 per player.
A \$25 discount applies for additional siblings in the same family.

After February 1:

T-Ball: \$130 per player.
All Other Leagues: \$155 per player.
A \$25 discount applies for additional siblings in the same family.

8. **“League Endowment” Program:**

Our League strives to provide a RPBL baseball experience to players even if their families cannot afford the registration fees or equipment. The “League Endowment” program offers scholarships to those in need. Application to the “League Endowment” program is confidential and can be accessed by clicking a box on the registration form or by [clicking here](#).

RPBL also seeks contributions to the “League Endowment” program. These contributions are used to support scholarships, defray operating expenses and to finance capital projects. For example, the generosity of RPBL patrons allows us to maintain the fields during the season.

RPBL is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, and contributions to the fund are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law.

9. **Team Sponsorships:** We typically have around 60 teams in 5 different age groups. In addition to this we participate in several travel team leagues. Every team needs a sponsor to help pay for the uniforms, equipment, field maintenance, umpire fees, and trophies. We need your help in supporting the Roland Park Baseball League’s 2021 season. Every recreational team sponsor will have their name imprinted on their team’s shirts. In addition, your advertisement is printed with a photograph of your team in the RPBL Annual Program. This keepsake is given to all players, families, and sponsors. At the end of the season, each sponsor will receive an attractive plaque, with a photograph of their team, which recognizes their contribution to the Roland Park Baseball Leagues, Inc.

On behalf of RPBL, I ask you for your support, and thank you for your consideration of this request. If you are interested, please [click here](#) for the sponsorship agreement, or email rolandparkbaseball@gmail.com.

Registration is now on-line, and you no longer need to mail in a paper form. The league waiver is also part of the on-line registration process. If you still wish to register with a mail-in paper form, please contact Caroline Macsherry Mapp at (410) 467-9182 or at rolandparkbaseball@gmail.com.

RPBL – “*Little League, Big Fun!*”