



USCAA Baseball



USCAA TRAVEL BASEBALL GUIDELINES

Rev. January 1, 2025

Overview:

The USCAA travel baseball program plans to select one travel “A” team for each age group, ages 7-14. A second team or “B” team and in select circumstances a third “C” team, may also be selected as long as player and parental participation are available. Eligible players will be selected based upon the results of the tryout process and parental confirmation that they will adhere to the travel policies. “A”, “B”, and “C” teams will be comprised of the top players within each age group, in performance order. Summer travel team rosters will remain in effect until the summer travel selection process the following year when new teams will be selected. This includes the Winter and Spring periods and the activities that a team engages in. Player participation in the Winter and Spring periods is not mandatory.

Expectations:

The following are key expectations of the USCAA travel baseball program. Most USCAA travel team selections will be conducted in April and May, in part, to provide more time for travel managers to schedule practices, games, and tournaments throughout the travel season (June through end of July).

- For a player to be eligible to be selected to a Travel A, B, or C team, the player must have played in the USCAA Rec program AND participated in a minimum of 70% of Rec games played by their team.
- A single vacation within the stated guidelines not to exceed seven consecutive days will be permitted for players during the 2022 travel baseball season regardless of whether a practice or game is scheduled on one of those days. Players taking a vacation are only permitted to miss part or all of a single tournament scheduled between the day after Kennywood Day through the end of July. It is highly encouraged that all players be present in its entirety for their respective USCAA home tournament. To provide the best possible experience for the TEAM it is required that players and parents communicate any vacations planned or considered to their age group League Director prior to tryouts.
- Planned absences for the current travel baseball season, as well as missed dates and unplanned absences from a prior year travel baseball season, may be considerations in the selection of the new travel baseball teams.

- Parents of players considering trying out for a travel baseball team are required to inform their Rec baseball manager and the player's age group League Director prior to tryouts.
- Upon selection to a travel team, parents must pro-actively communicate to the player's travel manager any vacation dates that the player shall miss.
- Travel managers are encouraged by USCAA to reward players who demonstrate personal commitment and consistent attendance within the travel season with the opportunity for additional playing time during travel games.
- The success of our home USCAA tournaments is heavily based upon the participation and assistance of volunteers, parents, and coaches. Parents are accountable for their assigned tournament (USCAA hosted) responsibilities including concessions, press box, and field duties. If a parent is unavailable during one of their assigned times, it is the parent's responsibility to provide coverage by switching with another parent or paying one of the approved workers to cover their assignment. Missed responsibilities can also be a consideration in the travel team selection process for the following seasons.

Tryout/Evaluation Clinic and Tournament Information:

Travel team selections are scheduled for the following dates or timeframes (weather permitting):

- Training League: 7 and 8 year-old travel teams: player tryout will be in late April/early May.
- Minor League: 9 and 10 year-old travel teams: travel player evaluation clinic and the Rec manager travel selection meeting will be in late April/early May.
- Major League 11 year-old travel teams: travel player evaluation clinic and the Rec manager travel selection meeting will be in late April/early May.
- Major League 12 year-old travel teams: travel player selection is a two-part process of input from outside evaluators at the tryout/evaluation clinic (50%) and input from the in-house and travel team managers in the player's league (50%). Evaluations are expected to be completed by late February/early March to allow for planning time for the team that will go to the Cooperstown Dreams Park Tournament in July.
- Pony League: 13 and 14 year-old travel teams: travel player tryout/evaluation clinics will be scheduled as needed.

USCAA will host travel baseball tournaments on the following dates:

- 12 year-old USCAA tournament: June 26-30
- 11 year-old USCAA tournament: July 3-7
- 10 year-old USCAA tournament: July 10-14
- 9 year-old USCAA tournament: July 17-21
- 8 year-old and 7 year-old USCAA tournaments: July 24-28

Additional Information:

For players ages 7-12, the travel season will typically consist of participation in four (4) to five (5) tournaments. It is encouraged for team's schedules to consist of mostly practices earlier in the season. Most tournaments are expected to be played later in June and through the end of July.

Travel team practices may begin immediately following travel team selection though preferably not in conflict with the USCAA Rec baseball program. Once school is completed in June, players will be practicing or playing games virtually every day of the week and weekend. Therefore, it is important that each of the players and their parents understand the expected commitment to participate on a travel team. The USCAA travel season concludes no later than July 31.

There will be no travel baseball practices or games on USC's Kennywood Day to provide the opportunity for the players and families to participate in this community event.

If you have additional questions, please contact the Travel Baseball Commissioners, at baseball@uscaasports.org.