

Rochester Youth Baseball Association

Celebrating our 53rd Year

"Youth Growing Through Baseball"



January 2010 Registration Newsletter

Registration For the 2010 Season Will Take Place On

January 26th & 27th 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM

At the Recreation Center Gym located at Elton Hills Dr. & N. Broadway

From The President

Welcome to 2010 and the kick off to the RYBA season. We've been hard at work reviewing what went well in 2009 and what needs refinement for 2010. RYBA is a not-for-profit organization run by a board of directors which is made up of a group of individuals that volunteer their time. RYBA board members and other volunteers are dedicated individuals who donate hundreds of hours of their time to our program every year. Please stop and thank them for all their efforts when you see them out at the baseball fields. Thank your coaches all year long for taking the time to teach both the game and the skills of baseball.

We have impressive facilities for our youth players, thanks in a large part to the great work done by the Parks department. Field quality is an area where we were asked to improve and last year we successfully had more 2nd and 3rd grade teams scheduled onto real "skinned" infield baseball fields. While our expenses have increased in the last few years to help repair and maintain not just the Rochester Baseball Complex, but fields on school district property, we believe this is part of providing an excellent experience for the kids and remains a priority of the organization. We would like to thank those within the org as well as those who work in the Parks department of the City of Rochester for making this happen.

One of the most common themes of the RYBA program is the positive experience that kids have with the season. We will continue to focus on the kids and to ensure that their experience is a good one within our program. In support of this we need each and everyone's help to take advantage of moments throughout the season to help provide the environment we seek to offer. Start with sitting back and enjoying the games (relax). Enjoy the outdoors on a beautiful day (be thankful). Help your player understand the importance of teamwork (teach). Reminisce about the days you played baseball on the field (laugh). Discuss how dedication can lead to success (on and off the field). Highlight the importance of the relationships and friends that are made (Talk with your child). Display respect for players, coaches and umpires (Act by example). It's the life long lessons that they will benefit from rather than the game they won in early June of their 5th grade season. These life long skills are not fielding and batting, they are about dealing with both **team** success and failures along with their own **individual** contributions to both the positives and negatives of the final score. It's about "picking each other up" in the times of failure and the cheers from the crowd after a great play.

As a parent you have an important job, to encourage and help your child have a positive experience. We've provided the basic guidelines on how to do this in our RYBA Code of Conduct. Our Conduct code can be found under the **ABOUT US** section on our web site at www.rybamn.com. Our expectation is that you will adhere to these basic guidelines on the field just as you would in the rest of your personal and business worlds. If you witness violations to our code of conduct our commissioner contact information is listed on our website.

Baseball is a sport where I encourage my own kids and the players I coach to **PLAY HARD and HAVE FUN**. It IS possible to do both and that's why we exist as an organization, "**Youth growing through baseball**".

Thank you for your continued support, Paul "Hoovey" Halverson, 2010 RYBA President

CONTACT RYBA

Website: <http://www.rybamn.com>

Email: rybamn@rybamn.com

Phone: 287-1659 (Monday – Friday 8am-5pm)

Post office: RYBA, PO Box 6631, Rochester, MN 55903

If necessary, you may mail in your registration forms. RYBA coupon cards will be mailed to those who register by mail.

REGISTRATION Fees

** \$ 90 - Grades K through 3 (includes four \$10 fundraiser cards)

** \$130 - Grades 4 through 8 (includes four \$10 fundraiser cards)

** \$360 Maximum registration fee family

Note: Only player fees will be refunded before the first game is played, not the four \$10 fundraiser cards

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO PLAY

All boys and girls that are **CURRENTLY** in Grades K through 8 are eligible to play.

HOUSE LEAGUE:

At the 4th through 8th grade, we will have both major and minor divisions. We have set up some fun and exciting changes as well to our K-3 programs. Basically, we are moving things so that real baseball is played at earlier ages without umpires. We still want to promote baseball success rather than failure in these divisions. Please visit this section in the newsletter and visit the K-3 tables at registration for further detail.

2010 DONATIONS – Tax Deductible!

Let's make sure every kid has a chance to participate in the game! Donations to RYBA are Tax Deductible! Please consider making a donation to RYBA to help fund those with financial need and the college scholarships provided by RYBA. The chance to play baseball is what RYBA is all about and we want to ensure we provide every opportunity without hurdles for participants. Donations will help offset the financial assistance that we've offered for many years without additional registration fee increases across the board. The registration form has a box to select and specify an amount. It is tax deductible as RYBA is an officially recognized non-profit organization.

FUNDRAISING:

For the 2010 season, all RYBA players will again participate in the fundraiser and receive four coupon cards as part of your total registration fee. A player can either sell the coupon cards or keep them for their own use. The coupon card we used last few years has been a huge success. The "RYBA SCORE Card" will be available at registration and any questions that you may have can be answered at the fundraiser table. This is a great way for us to give back to our community and especially to our RYBA team sponsors on the coupon card.

2010 EQUIPMENT:

RYBA will be supplying caps and uniform T-shirts to all players. Each player must also provide a, glove and appropriate shoes. Rubber or plastic cleats are recommended, but not required. Metal cleats can be worn in 8th grade only. Players in grades 2-8 will be responsible for supplying their own navy or black "NOCSAE stamped" **batting helmet**, gray pants and black belt. **RYBA uniform code will apply**. Helmets will be available for purchase at registration.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE If you are in need of financial assistance for the RYBA registration fees please contact Tony Dunbar. He can be contacted at the registration table during sign-ups or email at rybamn@rybamn.com with subject line of FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

ADAPTIVE BASEBALL LEAGUE: This league will again be administered by the Miracle League Board. RYBA supports this league with equipment and storage. For more information contact Karen Meyer, Director of Adaptive Recreation at Rochester Park and Recreation. Karen can be reached at 507-328-2539

SPONSORS WANTED! We wish to thank our 2009 sponsors for their support of Rochester Youth Baseball. We are in need of additional sponsors for the 2010 season. Sponsor fees are \$200, if you have any business associates, who would be interested in sponsoring teams, please contact Mike Young at 282-9065 or mryoung0924@charter.net.

2010 TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL PICTURES: Varsity Photos will again take RYBA photos this year. Individual and team photos will be available for purchase. Varsity donates a portion of all sales back to RYBA.

RYBA SCHOLARSHIPS: RYBA offers four \$1,000 scholarships towards post-High School education. All applications must be submitted by March 31, 2010. Winners will be based on specific criteria, please see the RYBA website for more information. Winners must apply the award towards post high school education in the fall of 2010. Winners will be notified and also announced at local High School "year end award ceremonies"

COACHES CLINIC: RYBA will host a free Coaches Clinic on March 21 from 12:30 to 5:00 at the UCR Fieldhouse. All coaches are encouraged to attend

CONCESSIONS: RYBA will again have our concession stand opened Monday-Thursday for the entire house league season at the Rochester Baseball Complex. We will be offering hot dogs, nachos, popcorn, candy and soft drinks. Come join us at The Snack Shack for great food before, during, and after your games!

VOLUNTEERS: RYBA is looking for head coaches, assistant coaches, and general volunteers for the upcoming season. Please mark your area of interest on the registration form. If you select "volunteer" you may be emailed during the season as we look for help on specific projects or events. Examples include occasional fieldwork, delivering pictures, or assisting with shirts and hats.

UMPIRES NEEDED: Umpires are needed for the 2010 season! We need about 25 umpires per night to cover all the games. Umpires are paid for each game they cover. Umpires must be over the age of 16 and have a valid driver's license. The season runs from 5/10 – 7/25. See the "What's New?" section of www.rybamn.com/umpires to register or attend RYBA registration on 1/26 & 1/27. Don't hesitate to email questions or comments to Zack Dunbar at dunbar.zack@gmail.com.

Current Grade	Game days	Photo Date	Tryouts	Season Starts	Season Ends	Year End Tournament	Entry Fees
Kinderball	M/W	June 17 th		6/7	7/28	N/A	\$90
1 st	T/TH	June 14 th		6/8	7/29	N/A	\$90
2 nd	M/W	June 15 th		6/7	7/28	Optional 7/30-8/1	\$90
3 rd	T/TH	June 16 th		6/8	7/29	Optional 7/30-8/1	\$90
4 th major	M/W	May 11 th	April 19-25	5/10	7/18	7/16-18	\$130
4 th minor	M/W	May 13 th		5/17	7/18	7/16-18	\$130
5 th major	T/TH	May 12 th	April 12-18	5/18	7/25	7/23-25	\$130
5 th minor	T/TH	May 26 th		5/25	7/25	7/23-25	\$130
6 th major	M/W	May 11 th	April 12-18	5/10	7/18	7/16-18	\$130
6 th minor	M/W	May 13 th		5/17	7/18	7/16-18	\$130
7 th major	T/TH	May 12 th	April 12-18	5/18	7/25	7/23-25	\$130
7 th minor	T/TH	May 26 th		5/25	7/25	7/23-25	\$130
8 th major	M/W	May 11 th	April 12-18	5/10	7/18	7/16-18	\$130
8 th minor	M/W	May 13 th		5/17	7/18	7/16-18	\$130

All Dates subject to minor change. Depending on the weather, 5th through 8th grade tryouts are scheduled for April 12 to April 18 and 4th grade tryouts are scheduled for April 19 to April 25. An email and a postcard will be sent to players in grades 4th through 8th with specific dates, times and locations of tryouts.

Other Grade specific information (Refer to complete grade rules on the RYBA website):

Kindergarten T-Ball: All players will hit the ball from the “T”.

1st Grade 5-Pitch: Each team will provide a pitcher (coach or parent) the entire season.

2nd Grade Player/Coach-Pitch: Players/Coaches pitch, see <http://www.ryabmn.com/Second+Grade-08.pdf> for more information. There is an optional (players must sign up) year end tournament for 2nd and 3rd grade players at no additional cost.

3rd Grade Player Pitch: Players/Coaches pitch (no walks) the first half of the season transitioning to only player pitch after the July 4th break. There is an optional (players must sign up) year end tournament for 2nd and 3rd grade players at no additional cost.

4-8th Grade Major/Minor Leagues: Players are invited to try out for the majors league in their grade level and area. Please check the box on your registration form if you want to try out for the “majors”. Those players that decide not to try out for majors or are not selected for a majors team will be assigned to a minor league team in their grade/area. There will be a year end weekend tournament for each grade and league.

2010 RYBA Bat Rules:

Bats that do not meet the following criteria will not be allowed for RYBA games.

BAT RULES	RYBA House Leagues bat is legal	Traveling age bat is legal (Metro MBL rules)
2 1/4" diameter – No length/weight restrictions	All levels (K - 8th grade)	10U, 11, 12, 13, 14 year old
2 5/8" diameter with MINUS 10 or less (length minus weight)	5th - 7th grade	11, 12, 13 year old
2 3/4" diameter with MINUS 10 or less (length minus weight)	5th - 7th grade	11, 12, 13 year old
2 5/8" diameter with MINUS 5 or less (length minus weight)	5th - 8th grade	11, 12, 13, 14 year old
2 3/4" diameter with MINUS 5 or less (length minus weight)	5th - 8th grade	11, 12, 13, 14 year old

Other Key RYBA Dates To Remember

- Jan 26-27 2010 Registration from 6:00 - 8:30 at the Rec Center
- Feb 12-13 Grand Slam Expo at UCR Dome. See www.rochsports.org/2010grandslamexpoflyerweb.pdf
- March 21 Coaches clinic from 12:30 to 5 at the UCR Fieldhouse
- Mid Aug Coaches Dinner Silver Lake Pavilion 6-9 pm

Optional weekend tournament of 2nd and 3rd grade players hosted at the Rochester Baseball Complex. For more information, email Joe Prisco at prisco_24@yahoo.com or see www.rybamn.com.

2010 GRAND SLAM EXPO - Come on Feb 12 & 13 to see first-hand and utilize the new UCR Dome. Free clinics for youth on Friday night along with an all day Saturday event where you can test products such as new gloves and bats inside portable batting cages. The Rochester Adult Softball organization is hosting the event and working with multiple youth sports organizations. Proceeds from the weekend \$5 pass sold by RYBA will be put towards our RYBA scholarship funds. Special bonus this inauguration year, receive two complimentary tickets to the Expo for each additional \$10 fundraiser card purchased above the 4 card requirement. That is a \$10 fundraiser card and two \$5 Expo tickets for only \$10!

2010 - OFFICERS

President	Paul Halverson
Vice President	Scott Rosenow
Secretary	Dean Schoeberl
Treasurer	Bruce Kall
Past President	Dan Herold

Committees - 2010 Chairperson

Clinics	Dan Herold	Concessions	Rocky Grad
Equipment	Scott Lutz	Registration	Tony Dunbar
House	Dave Newman	Fields	Mike Gozola
Traveling	Kent Thielen	Photos	Mike Young
Sponsors	Mike Young	Compliance	Executive Board
Newsletter	Mike Young	Fundraiser	Molly Williamson
Fall League	Tim Heightland		

2010 RYBA Board Members

Kurt Bakken, Dan Brust, Jeff Coleman, Rich Cyr, Don Darbo, Tony Dunbar, Dean Fox, Mike Gozola, Rocky Grad, Paul Halverson, Mark Hayward, Tim Heightland, Dan Herold, Krista Holtegard-Stropp, Bruce Kall, Mike Korte, Steve Lee, Chris Lingen, Scott Lutz, Neil Malm, Dave Marver, Mike Muehlenbein, Gary Neumann, Dave Newman, Larry Nierman, Tom Novak, Shawn Paskika, Dale Pfrimmer, Chris Prindle, Joe Prisco, Scott Rosenow, Scott Samuelson, Dean Schoeberl, Bob Smith, Dave Terpstra, Denny Teske, Kent Theilen, Scott Walston, Scott Welder, Russ Wiesner, Mike Young

2009 RYBA General Operating Financial Statement**INCOME**

Concessions	\$	6,486.49
Donations	\$	2,840.00
Fall Ball Income	\$	4,080.00
Fundraiser	\$	69,320.59
House League Income	\$	116,098.20
Interest Income	\$	4,306.21
Traveling League Income	\$	121,622.34
Misc Income	\$	1,531.21
TOTAL INCOME	\$	326,285.04

EXPENSES

Accounting	\$	1,190.00
Advertising Expense	\$	225.00
Bank Charge	\$	97.00
Coaches Appreciation		
Dinner	\$	1,454.22
Coaches Clinic	\$	677.83
College Scholarships	\$	4,000.00
Fall Ball Expenses	\$	2,041.80
Field Complex	\$	41,661.68
Field		
Development&Equipment	\$	4,732.03
Future Development	\$	25,230.03
House League Expenses	\$	109,755.79
Insurance	\$	3,339.28
Misc Operating	\$	3,273.65
Network Services	\$	578.31
Office Supplies	\$	111.43
P&R Seasonal Labor	\$	4,500.00
Postage	\$	664.18
Traveling League Expenses	\$	119,854.11
VFW Expenses	\$	2,898.70
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$	326,285.04

2010 RYBA TRAVELING BASEBALL

Again this year we will be using AAA, AA, and A designations rather than A, B, and C for our traveling baseball teams. The AAA designation is the highest level of competition followed by AA, and A. We will attempt to have two AAA teams and one AA team for each group, ages 10-14; depending on the number of players we have at tryouts.

Based on the success of the 10 & under program last season, again this year any player that attends tryouts for the 10 & U level will be able to participate in traveling baseball at one of the AAA, AA or A levels. This year, we again have a 10 & Under A (Travel only) team that will practice during the week and play in four tournaments throughout the summer. They will not participate in the House league. The remaining A teams will participate in the House league and will play in a minimized 4 week, 2 tournament A traveling program. This year we will look to have up to two A teams for the 11 year olds and one team for 12 and 13 year olds. This will all be based on number of players trying out. One change for all A teams this year is if you qualify for a State Tournament your team can participate in one State Tournament.

Traveling Programs	10 & Under				11 year olds			12 year olds			13 year olds			14 year olds		15/16
Birthdate cutoff	Born after 4/30/1999				Born after 4/30/1998			Born after 4/30/1997			Born after 4/30/1996			Born after 4/30/1995		Born after 4/30/1993
2009-2010 Grade	Grades 2-4 *				Grade 5 *			Grade 6 *			Grade 7 *			Grade 8 *		-
Tryout dates (Tenative)	4/5 - 4/8 (3 sessions)				3/15 - 3/23 (3 sessions)			3/15 - 3/23 (3 sessions)			3/15 - 3/23 (3 sessions)			3/15 - 3/23 (3 sessions)		-
Level	AAA	AA	A	A	AAA	AA	A	AAA	AA	A	AAA	AA	A	AAA	AA	AA
Number of teams at this level	2	1	1	multiple	2	1	1-2	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	as needed
Number of players at this level	24	12	12	any 3rd/4th graders that try out ***	24	12	12-24	24	12	12	24	12	12	24	12	TBD
Team Type	Travel only			Part-Time Travel	Travel only		Part-Time Travel	Travel only		Part-Time Travel	Travel only		Part-Time Travel	Travel only		Travel only
Costs ****	\$195		\$175	\$80	\$195		\$90	\$220		\$90	\$220		\$90	\$220		\$195
Season	April through July			June (July)**	April through July		June (July)**	April through July		June (July)**	April through July		June (July)**	April through July		April through July
League Participation	10U "travel only" teams participate in no league. Tournaments only			Dual rostered on house league	11 year old "travel only" teams participate in no league. Tournaments only		Dual rostered on house league	Metro (MBL) League 16 games		Dual rostered on house league	Metro (MBL) League 16 games		Dual rostered on house league	Metro (MBL) League 16 games		Twilight League
Tournament participations Information - Initial information for Rochester and Omaha Tournaments																
Number of Tournaments (not including state)	5	5	4	2	5	5	2	4	4	2	5	5	5	5	5	TBD
RYBA "Classic"	6/4-6/6	6/4-6/6	-	-	-	-	-	6/4-6/6	6/4-6/6	-	-	-	-	-	6/4-6/6	-
Omaha, Nebraska	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6/17-6/20	-	-	-	-	-	6/17-6/20	-	-
RYBA "Challenge"	-	-	6/18-6/20	6/18-6/20	-	-	6/18-6/20	-	-	6/18-6/20	-	-	6/18-6/20	-	-	6/18-6/20
RYBA "Klampe"	-	-	-	-	6/25-6/27	6/25-6/27	-	-	-	-	6/25-6/27	6/25-6/27	-	6/25-6/27	-	-
State Tournaments	0-2	0-2	0-2	1 if qualify	0-2	0-2	1 if qualify	0-2	0-2	1 if qualify	0-2	0-2	0-2	0-2	0-2	TBD
* Baseball age criteria is required. A player may tryout for an older age bracket if they are in the grade listed, but younger than the age shown. It must be designated prior to tryouts																
** Players on part-time traveling teams play for approximately a 4 week season. The season would extend into mid July if the team qualifies and decides as a team to attend a state tournament																
*** All 3rd/4th graders at 10U tryouts will be placed on a 10U team (AAA, AA, or A). 2nd graders may earn "travel only" teams but only used on part-time teams to fill rosters to 12 players																
**** Travel fees are collected after team selection and are in addition to the fees paid at registration																

“House” League – Non-traveling youth league within Rochester, all games played in Rochester.

“Metro” League – Traveling league for Rochester and SE metro cities, games played home and away age 12 & up.

“Twilight” League – 15 year old league of SE Minnesota teams, games played home and away.

Tryouts: Tryouts are free. There is no additional fee until the player is selected for a team. The tryouts will be held indoors at the UCR field house and RCTC dome. Each player will attend 3 sessions.

Eligibility: Again in 2010, players must meet one of the following criteria: attend an ISD #535 school, attend a school within the ISD #535 busing zone, live within the ISD #535 busing zone, or have participated on an RYBA traveling team in 2008.

Tournament Highlights: The 12AAA and 14AAA teams will again be traveling to Omaha for the SlumpBuster Youth Tournament. This tournament takes place between June 18th and June 20th for 12AAA and between June 17th and 20th for 14AAA. This will be a great time for our ball players to compete with baseball teams from around the country as well as see a game at the College World Series.

Thank you and *please* feel free to stop by the traveling baseball table at registration with any questions you may have.
Kent Thielen, RYBA Traveling Director

We wish to thank our 2009 sponsors for their generous support of Rochester Youth Baseball.

37TH STREET TIRE & AUTO	MAYO CLINIC
A. G. STROBEL	MERCHANTS BANK
A+ COMPUTERS	MICHAELS RESTAURANT
ABRA AUTO BODY & GLASS	MIKE BUSCH STATE FARM
AETOS AERIAL IMAGES	MINNESOTA FIRST
AFFINITY PLUS FEDERAL CREDIT UNION	MINNWEST BANK
ALLEN & HEIM LAW OFFICE	MINUTEMAN PRESS
AL'S SPECIALTY MARINE	MOGEN HOMES
AMERICAN LEGION POST 92	NIETZ ELECTRIC
AMERICA'S MATTRESS	OLMSTED COUNTY DEPUTY SHERIFF'S ASSOCIATION
ATLAS INSURANCE BROKERS	OLMSTED MEDICAL CENTER
AUTO FINANCE CENTER	OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE
B&B OVERHEAD DOOR	OVERBY ORTHODONTICS
BECKLEY'S OFFICE PRODUCTS	PAGE DAIRY FOODS
BEIGHLEY TAX SERVICE CONSULTANTS	PARAMARK
BLACK'S AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE	PENDLE HANSEN BAGNE
BRAASCH COMMERCIAL INVESTMENTS	PETER DOKKEN REAL ESTATE GROUP
BRAATEN SAND AND GRAVEL	PHARMACEUTICAL SPECIALTIES, INC.
BREKKE FIREPLACE SHOPPE	PLAY BALL RIGHT
BRINKMAN BUILDERS	PREMIER BANK
BROTHERS BAR & GRILL	ProCuts
BUTLER VIDEO	PRO-STALL AUTO GLASS
C.O. BROWN INSURANCE AGENCY	REMAX – JOLENE DOSDALL
CAR-X AUTO SERVICE	REMAX OF ROCHESTER BILL TOWEY
CHILDREN'S EXCHANGE	RJY DEVELOPMENT
CLEAR VISION CONSULTING	ROCHESTER BASEBALL CAMPS
COLD STONE CREAMERY	ROCHESTER COMMERCIAL BANKS ASSOCIATION
DAIRY QUEEN - SOUTHSIDE	ROCHESTER FIRE DEPARTMENT RELIEF ASSOCIATION
DAIRY QUEEN NORTH BROADWAY	ROCHESTER FUEL INJECTION
DICK'S SPORTING GOODS	ROCHESTER HARLEY DAVIDSON
ESSIG AGENCY	ROCHESTER TOWING
FAGAN STUDIOS	RYAN & GRINDE, LTD
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FURNITURE SUPERSTORE	S & S MOVING
GILLESPIE SPORTING GOODS	SENECA FOODS CORPORATION
GLYNNER'S PUB	SHOOT-N-SAVE SPORTS
GOPHER SEPTIC SERVICE	SHOREWOOD SENIOR CAMPUS
GuidePoint Pharmacy	SOMERBY GOLF CLUB
HEARTMAN INSURANCE AGENCY	STATE FARM - JOSWIAK INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.
HOST LIONS CLUB	STRAINS MOTORCOACH TOURS
HUBER EYECARE	SUPERIOR SCREENERS
HUNT SILVER LAKE DRUG	THE AFFILIATED GROUP
JOHNSON PRINTING	TILSON AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE CENTER
KENNEDY TRANSMISSION	TRUCKIN' AMERICA
LAKESIDE DENTISTRY	TS CONCRETE
LARRY FLICEK INSURANCE AGENCY	WELLS FARGO
LARSON SIDING & WINDOWS	WHISTLE BINKIES OLDE WORLD PUB
LECHNER PROPERTIES	WOODRUFF COMPANY
MAHN FUNERAL HOME	YAGGY COLBY ASSOCIATES
MASTER JEWELERS	YOUNGQUIST LAW OFFICE