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# HIT FIELD THROW GROW

YMCA Youth Baseball



**Registration Deadline: April 5**  
**Practice Begins: Week of May 13th**  
**Games begin: Week of June 3rd**  
**End of Season Tournament July 27 & 28**  
**No mid-season tournament this year**

- Players will spend 60 hours or more improving their skills during this program!
- Players will receive full MLB themed uniforms!
- Players can expect to play 15 + games!
- Multiple child discount available! **Discount not available online.**
- Register before March 15<sup>th</sup> and receive an extra \$5 off! **Discount not available online.**
- Financial Assistance is available!

**\$15.00 Late fee if registered after the deadline**

## Youth Baseball, Beloit YMCA

League Is Based on Current Grade Your Child Is In

YMCA MEMBERS RECEIVE \$25 OFF LISTED PRICE

Shetland (K) \$75

Pinto (1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup>) \$125

Mustang (3<sup>rd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>) \$125

Bronco (5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>) \$150

Pony (7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>) \$150

Participant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Pant Size: Youth: S M L XL Adult: S (26-28) M (30-32) L (34-36) XL (38-40)**

**Shirt Size: Youth: S (6-8) M (10-12) L (14-16) XL (16+) Adult: S M L XL XXL**

Volunteer Head Coach

Volunteer Assistant Coach

Volunteer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach T-shirt Size: \_\_\_\_\_



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## **Baseball Important Dates**

<b><i>April 5</i></b>	Baseball / Softball Registration Deadline
<b><i>April 15</i></b>	Mandatory Coaches Meeting at Beloit Ironworks YMCA at 6:00 pm
<b><i>April 28</i></b>	Pre-Draft Skill Session for Ages 9-15. 3 <sup>rd</sup> /4 <sup>th</sup> grade at 12:30 pm, 5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup> grade at 1:45 pm, 7 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup> grade at 3:00 pm. Held at YMCA Complex.
<b><i>May 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup></i></b>	League Drafts
<b><i>May 8</i></b>	All players should have received call from coach with team info
<b><i>May 13</i></b>	Teams may begin practice this week
<b><i>June 3</i></b>	League Games Begin
<b><i>July 1-5</i></b>	League Break (No Games)
<b><i>July 27 &amp; 28</i></b>	End of Season In House Baseball & Softball Tournament



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FAQ'S can be found at <http://www.statelineymca.org/baseballsoftball-ages-3-15/>

## Frequently Asked Questions About YMCA Baseball & Softball Leagues

### *What age groups does YMCA Baseball & Softball serve?*

Our **baseball leagues** are for players ages 5(k) – 15 (9<sup>th</sup> grade). Our **softball leagues** are for players ages (1<sup>st</sup> grade)7-15 (9<sup>th</sup> grade). To determine your player's "league age" for each program, please see below.

### *When does registration begin and where can I register?*

Registration officially opens on February 18th. You can register at the Beloit or Roscoe YMCA or online at [statelineymca.org](http://statelineymca.org)

### *What programs are offered for each age group?*

#### **BASEBALL**

**Shetland (ages 5-6):** This league is a mix between coach pitch and t-ball. This league plays once a week and follows the guidelines of our other baseball programs. We use soft-core safety baseballs to reduce the fear of injury and increase player enjoyment. This league consists of boys and girls who are put on a set team for the season. Shetland teams can expect to play a minimum of 10 games. Each player receives 5 pitches from their coach and if they do not put the ball in play, a Tee is then used. Games are 1 hour in length.

**Pinto (Grades 1 & 2):** This league is coach pitch to allow for more "hittable" pitches at the plate and more action in the field. Each player can receive up to 7 pitches from their coach. If the batter does not put a live ball into play, after 7 pitches, an out is recorded. Teams are formed by the YMCA.

**Mustang (44/60) (Grades 3 & 4):** This is a player-pitch league. Games are played on diamonds with a 44' pitching distance and 60' bases. There is no leading off and no stealing until the ball crosses the plate. Teams are formed through a draft.

**Bronco (48/70) (Grades 5 & 6):** In this division, games are played on diamonds with a 48' pitching distance and 70' base paths. Players may lead off and steal as they would in a regular game. Teams are formed through a draft.

**Pony (Grades 7, 8, & 9):** Games in this division are played on full-sized diamonds and follow NFHS rules with some exceptions. Teams are formed through a draft.



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**Tball (ages 3-4) Registration Begins in April:** This league is for beginners who would like to be introduced to the basics of baseball or softball. There are two sessions offered and each one lasts 5 weeks. Registration for this program begins in April. All players learn hitting and fielding fundamentals in a supportive "skills session" environment. We use soft-core safety baseballs to reduce the fear of injury and increase player enjoyment. Each game or practice lasts about 1 hour. The first half of each session is devoted to skill development through drills and stations that teach the fundamentals of the game. The second half of each session involves live t-ball games where players will hit the ball from a batting tee (height-adjusted for a level swing) batting in order through the lineup for the entire game.

### ***How do I determine my player's "league age"?***

For both baseball and softball, register your child based on the current grade your child is in on registration day. **No player is allowed to play up or down a division!**

### ***Is my child on the same team he/she was last year?***

No. Each child will be assigned to a new team or will be re-entered into the draft. This is done so kids have the opportunity to play for other coaches and meet new kids in the program.

### ***What do the programs cost?***

Due to an anonymous donor we are able to continue to offer the lower pricing we started last season! This was done to offer the opportunity to families who may have not been able to afford to participate in the past!

<b>BASEBALL</b>	<b>Game Nights</b>	<b>SOFTBALL</b>	<b>GAME NIGHTS</b>	
Shetland- \$75.00	M/T/or Thur	8u- \$79.00	Primarily	M/W
Pinto- \$125.00	T/TH	10u- \$79.00	Primarily	T/Th
Mustang- \$125.00	M/W	12u- \$79.00	Primarily	M/W
Bronco- \$150.00	T/TH	14u- \$79.00	Primarily	T/Th
Pony- \$150.00	M/W			

\*STATELINE YMCA MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE \$25 OFF OF THE BASEBALL PRICE AND \$20 OFF OF THE SOFTBALL PRICE.

**\*There will be a \$15 late registration fee**

**\*There is a multi- child discount. If you are registering more than one child from the same household you will receive \$10 off of EACH registration.**



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## Do you offer financial assistance?

Yes! If you are in need of financial assistance you may apply at the YMCA. To ensure that the paperwork is completed on time, we ask that the financial assistance, paperwork is in by April 1<sup>st</sup>. To be granted financial assistance we will need the previous year's tax form or a letter of non-filing, 1 month of paystubs, and all federal and state aid you receive ( S.S.I, food share, etc.) **We ask that anyone who plans to apply for financial assistance have their application in by March 15th to ensure enough time for the application to be processed before the registration deadline.**

## What does the player fee cover?

Each player's fee covers only a portion of the expenses we incur to operate our leagues (team equipment, uniforms, umpires, grounds crew wages, grounds keeping equipment, concession stand supervisors, janitorial services, etc.). We cover the rest of our operating expenses with support from a combination of sources, including our donors, team sponsors, on-field advertisers, concession stand operations, and tournament hosting activities.

## What is Your Refund Policy?

Once practice begins you are only eligible for a **50 percent credit** on your account. This is due to the fact that uniforms are already ordered and teams have already been formed by this time. All refund requests are subject to the director's approval. Once games begin you will not be allowed a refund or a credit. All refund requests will be at the directors discretion.

## Do parents need to volunteer in the concession stand or in any capacity?

Our concession stand is fully staffed so you can sit back and relax while watching your child's game! We do however, depend on volunteer coaches for our program. **Our program is a very large program and the need for motivated and dedicated volunteers is constantly growing. If you are interested in coaching please indicate that on the registration form or contact the YMCA at 608-365-2261.**

## Does my player need to buy any equipment to play?

The YMCA supplies all our teams with balls, bats, batting helmets, and catcher's gear. We also supply all our players with a team uniform, which consists of a T-shirt, hat, pants and socks for baseball players, and a T-shirt, socks and pants for softball players. YMCA players generally supply their own fielding gloves, batting gloves, shoes/cleats. **We also encourage all softball players to purchase a fielders mask.** We strongly encourage players to label their equipment so that we can return it to them if they happen to lose it during the season!

## When is uniform pickup?

The complete uniform will be given to coaches this year to handout at practice.



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## **When is picture day?**

Picture day is currently being scheduled!

## **Does the YMCA cut any kids?**

No. If you register for YMCA baseball or softball, you are registered and will be placed on a team. (Please note, however, that we do have limits to the number of players who can play in each league, and we will close registration for those leagues as they are filled.)

## **How many games do the teams play?**

### **BASEBALL**

In all leagues other than our T-Ball program and Shetland program, our teams play roughly 15 games. Since our leagues have an end of the year tournament, the exact number of games for each team depends on how well the team does in the tournaments.

## **Does every player get to play?**

Yes! In all leagues every player on the team roster must have at least one plate appearance and play three consecutive outs on defense in each game.

## **When does the season start, and how long does it last?**

Except for t-ball, our season runs from mid-May until the beginning of August. The T-ball program has two sessions with session one beginning in May, and session two beginning in June.

Teams are formed in mid-to-late April. Your coach will contact you by May 8th and practice is allowed to begin the week of May 13<sup>th</sup>.

Our league games are played Monday-Thursday with the exception of the End of Season Weekend Tournament. League play will begin the week of June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Once games begin, teams will generally play two games per week. We do our best to schedule our games so that certain leagues play on certain days of the week.

## **How often will my player's team practice?**

We believe one of the most important factors in player development is regular team practices. For that reason, we encourage our volunteer coaches to practice with their teams as often as they can, subject to our guideline that every team should have at least three sessions per week (practices and games combined), weather permitting.

Because each of our coaches has a unique job situation, and because the practice fields in our area are limited, it is impossible for us to tell you exactly when your player will have practices during the



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season. In general, you can expect your player's team will practice two or more times per week before the season starts, and that the practice schedule will lighten after league games begin.

### **Where are the games played?**

All league games are played at our facility at the YMCA Youth Sports Complex located at 3301 Prairie Ave., Beloit..



### **Do games occur on the weekends?**

Rarely. There are two weekends that games will occur on. **The weekend of July 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>** will be the end of season tournament for baseball. We do our best to schedule our league games for Mondays through Thursdays only, and to keep Fridays open so that if we have rainouts during the week, those games can be made up on Friday without disturbing weekend plans.

We do our best to schedule our league games so that they occur on certain days during the week, but since the number of teams in each league fluctuates from year to year, we may not always be able to do this.

### **What times are the games?**

The baseball games are *usually* scheduled to begin at either 5:30 or 7:30p.m. Softball games are *usually* scheduled to begin at 6:00p.m.



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## Bat Requirements

There are new bat standards this year. All of our bat standards will be in line with the USA Bat Little League Standards.

The bat must be a baseball bat which meets the USA Baseball Bat standard (USABat) as adopted by Little League. It shall be a smooth, rounded stick, and made of wood or of material and color tested and proved acceptable to the USA Baseball Bat standard (USABat). Beginning with the 2018 season, non-wood and laminated bats used in the Little League (Majors) and below, Intermediate (50-70) Division, Junior League divisions, and Challenger division shall bear the USA Baseball logo signifying that the bat meets the USABat – USA Baseball's Youth Bat Performance Standard. All BPF – 1.15 bats will be prohibited beginning with the 2018 season. Additionally, starting in 2018, the bat diameter shall not exceed 2 $\frac{5}{8}$  inches for these divisions of play. Bats meeting the Batted Ball Coefficient of Restitution (BBCOR) standard may also be used in the Intermediate (50-70) Division and Junior League divisions. Additional information is available at [LittleLeague.org/batinfo](http://LittleLeague.org/batinfo).

**Shetland and Pinto** – Any little league approved bat for baseball or T-ball. It shall not be more than 33 inches in length; nor more than 2 $\frac{1}{4}$  inches in diameter, and if wood, not less than fifteen-sixteenths (15/16) inches in diameter (7/8 inch for bats less than 30") at its smallest part. Wood bats taped or fitted with a sleeve may not exceed sixteen (16) inches from the small end.

**Mustang** - The bat may not exceed 33" in length. It shall not be more than 33 inches in length; nor more than 2 $\frac{5}{8}$  inches in diameter, and if wood, not less than fifteen-sixteenths (15/16) inches in diameter (7/8 inch for bats less than 30") at its smallest part. Wood bats taped or fitted with a sleeve may not exceed sixteen (16) inches from the small end.

**Bronco**- It shall not be more than 34" inches in length; nor more than 2 $\frac{5}{8}$  inches in diameter, and if wood, not less than fifteen-sixteenths (15/16) inches in diameter (7/8 inch for bats less than 30") at its smallest part. Wood bats taped or fitted with a sleeve may not exceed eighteen (18) inches from the small end.

**Pony** - It shall not be more than 34" inches in length; nor more than 2 $\frac{5}{8}$  inches in diameter, and if wood, not less than fifteen-sixteenths (15/16) inches in diameter (7/8 inch for bats less than 30") at its smallest part. Wood bats taped or fitted with a sleeve may not exceed eighteen (18) inches from the small end.

For a list of approved bats please visit <https://usabat.com/>



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