2026 Travel Parent Meeting

Alexandria Youth Baseball Association

Travel Directors: Scott Dack and Alyssa Yrjo

AYBA Travel Parent Meeting

2026 Season

- New to Travel?
- Evaluations
- Expectations
- Expenses
- Equipment

New to Travel?

Travel baseball is competitive. Athletes are evaluated and placed on teams that match their **current skill level**.

Our focus is on frequent practices and developing the **fundamental skills** of the game — including the mechanics of fielding ground balls and fly balls, pitching, and hitting.

AYBA Travel Baseball does not have equal playing time expections or a requirement to play multiple positions.

Age	Touches/week	Games	Tournaments
9U	3 (includes In House)	20-25	3
10U	3-4	25-30	3
11U	3-4	35-40	3
12U	4-5	35-40	3
13U	4-5	40-45	4
14U	4-5	45	4

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AYBA Rule Change

Effective 2026 Season

9U – In-house play is required and will be at the Minor League level.

10U & Up – In-house play is optional and left to the parents' choice.

Travel Evaluation

Travel Evaluation

September 7, 2025

- A **$20 non-refundable fee** is required to participate in travel evaluations. This fee does not apply toward the 2026 registration cost.

- Evaluations are a key part of placing athletes on the correct teams — there are **no make-up dates**, and prior evaluation scores (travel or in-house) will not be used. Missing evaluations will result in a **score of zero** for this portion.

- Evaluations are conducted by volunteer evaluators with no current athletes in the AYBA travel system. They have extensive baseball experience, many with prior coaching backgrounds. Scores are based on the **mechanics** of each skill, not the success of the attempt.

- All scores are generated on site and combined with Summer 2025 coaching evaluations to determine each athlete's team placement.

Note: 2025 Travel coaches will be in attendance - they will NOT be evaluating, but rather assisting the tryout process (Ex: hitting grounders, catching balls, soft toss, etc.)

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Tryout Date:

September 7th at Knute Nelson

Arrive to your evaluation time 15-20 minutes early.

Please wear athletic attire - NO JERSEYS

CLOSED to Public (including parents) - Please plan to pick up your child 2 hours after tryout start time.

If they are done early we will arrange for your child to call you.

8:00 am	12U
10:00 am	13U
1:00 pm	14U
3:00 pm	11U
5:00 pm	9U/10U

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Travel Evaluation

September 7, 2025

- Data generated from the tryout along with the prior coaching evaluations are utilized to obtain a final score for each athlete.

- Shortly after evaluations, the selection committee will meet to review the results and assign athletes to the appropriate teams. **All committee decisions are final.**

- Rosters will be posted on alexyouthbaseball.org and emailed to families by **October 1, 2025**.

- Typically, each age group will have both a **AAA** and **AA** team, with rosters based on the number of athletes evaluated.
    - AAA teams typically have 10 –11 players
    - AA teams typically have 11–12 players.

Travel Expectations

Week and Tournament Expectations

Age	Touches/week	Games	Tournaments
9U	3 (includes In House)	20-25	3
10U	3-4	25-30	3
11U	3-4	35-40	3
12U	4-5	35-40	3
13U	4-5	40-45	4
14U	4-5	45	4

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Travel Expectations

2026 Season

AYBA holds players and families to reasonable participation expectations. Our goal is to develop not just baseball players, but well-rounded young adults.

Families who accept a roster spot are expected to commit to attending all scheduled practices, games, scrimmages, and tournaments.

Travel Expenses

Travel Expenses

Annual Participation Fees

- $20 non-refundable evaluation fee (due prior to evaluation date)
- 9U = $350
- 10U-14U = $525
- Registration fees are due by **October 15th**, with a minimum of **50%** required at that time. The remaining balance is due by **January 1st**. A payment plan is available if not paid in full, and all payments are **non-refundable**.

Travel Expenses

“Other” Expenses

Travel baseball can be costly, and beyond registration there are additional expenses families should plan for, including:

- Hotel accommodations
- Meals while traveling
- Fuel costs
- Gate fees at tournaments
- Team apparel such as matching pants, belts, or socks
- Optional team activities or outings

Travel Equipment

Travel Equipment

How much does this cost?

- Batting Helmet
- Baseball Glove
- Baseball Pants (Design to be determined)
- Baseball Belt
- Baseball Socks
- PLASTIC Molded baseball cleats (no metal)
- Protective Cup (to protect the genitals — STRONGLY RECOMMENDED)
- Baseball Bat - See next slide

Travel Equipment

Bat Standards - MYAS/Gopher State

MYAS/GOPHER STATE/NORTH STAR BAT GUIDELINES

Listed below are bat specifications for 9-19 year old teams participating in any MYAS/Gopher State/North Star baseball programs. This specification is in addition to the USSSA Bat Performance Standards which include USA bats. All bats must include the USSSA Mark, USA Mark OR is a qualified BBCOR bat and also MUST follow the size and/or weight differential listed in the chart below.

AGE	MAX DIAMETER @ THICKEST PART	LENGTH	WEIGHT DIFFERENTIAL	EXAMPLE
9U - 11U	2 1/4"	Unlimited	Unlimited	
	2 1/2"	Unlimited	Unlimited	
	2 3/4"	Unlimited	Unlimited	
	2 5/8"	Unlimited	Unlimited	
12U - 13U	2 1/4"	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
	2 1/2"	36" or less	-10	
	2 3/4"	36" or less	-10	31-inch bat cannot weight less than 21 ounces
	2 5/8"	36" or less	-10	
14U - 14/15A	2 3/4"	36" or less	-5	32-inch bat cannot weight less than 27 ounces
15U - 14/15A - 16U-19U	2 5/8"	36" or less	-3	32-inch bat cannot weight less than 29 ounces

9-14 YEAR OLDS

Big Barrel Bats (2 5/8" or 2 3/4"- **14u & Below**) - Only those big barrel bats made by approved USSSA or USA licensed manufacturers that are either...

(1) Made with the USSSA or USA Mark (see image); or

(2) Is a qualified BBCOR bat; or

(3) Is Wood

Small Barrel Bats (2-1/4" in diameter or less) - Only those small barrel bats made by approved USSSA or USA licensed manufacturers that are either...

(1) Made with the USSSA or USA Mark (see image); or

(2) Is Wood

Small Barrel Bat Comment: The above includes Tee Ball bats that are longer than 23 inches in length. Tee Ball bats 23 inches and shorter in length from approved USSSA licensed manufacturers will continue to be allowed without the NEW or Old USSSA marks.





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In Summary



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AYBA Travel Baseball

- Good Sportsmanship! Have Fun! Make Friends! Work hard! Support Coaches! Learn Baseball! Personal Growth! Support all AYBA Cardinals!
- Any questions?
    - Email: travel@alexyouthbaseball.com
    - Please leave a phone number so we can text or call
    - Scott Dack and Alyssa Yrjo