



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When does the season begin and end?

T-Ball and Coach Pitch -

Practices begin on Saturday, April 30th

Games Begin on Saturday, May 14th

Season Ends on Saturday, July 9th

AA through Majors -

Practices begin on Sunday, May 1st

Regular Season Games Begin on Saturday, May 21st

Regular Season Games End on Sunday, July 3rd **

All-Star Games for Each League on Sunday, June 26th

Playoffs End on Sunday, July 17th **

*** Exact date could be impacted by rainout rescheduling*

[SYBL Important Dates for 2022](#)

When are games played?

T-Ball and Coach Pitch - Games will take place once a week on Saturday mornings or early afternoon. Weekday games will be added the week of June 6. Exact dates for scheduled games can be accessed [here](#).

AA through Majors - Teams will have a mix of weeknight and weekend games. Leagues will typically play the same weekday nights throughout the season. **

*** Rainouts may lead to adjusted schedules and games played on non-typical days.*

Where will practices and games be held?

All SYBL practices and games are held at [Shaker Heights City and School facilities](#) throughout the City of Shaker Heights. Locations will vary throughout the season.



What equipment do I need for my player? All players will need to following items for each practice and game:

T-Ball and Coach Pitch: Properly fitting baseball glove and water bottle. Bats Optional. Each team will have bats to share.

AA through Majors: Properly fitting baseball glove, baseball batting helmet, and water bottle. Having a personal baseball bat is recommended (coaches can provide information about bat guidelines for the respective league), but not mandatory. Players at these levels should also have baseball or similar cleats for all practices and games. Male players should wear an athletic cup when playing the catching position in a practice or game. The league provides catchers gear for every team.

Are uniforms part of the registration cost?

Yes, registration includes pants, jersey, and a hat - which are the players to keep after the season has ended.

AA through Majors - In addition to a jersey, hat, and baseball pants, players will also receive team-colored socks, the players keep these items as well.

Is financial assistance available for registration and equipment?

For families with financial hardship, scholarship assistance is available for registration and equipment through the Shaker Schools Foundation's "[Level the Playing Field](#)" program for students enrolled in grades 1-12 in the Shaker Heights City School District.

Are leagues coed?

Yes, all leagues are coed.

What is the minimum age to enroll my child in the T-Ball Program?

T-Ball is open to all kids who will turn age 5 by June 1 and/or will be enrolling in Kindergarten in the Fall 2022.

Who coaches an SYBL team?

SYBL coaches are volunteers, typically parents/guardians and other community members who share SYBL's values and coaching curriculum goals. Parents/guardians can identify their interest in being a volunteer coach when they register their player(s).



What is required of volunteer coaches?

All SYBL coaches are required to complete a Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) background check with the City of Shaker Heights. In addition, coaches are required to complete courses sponsored by the National Federation of State High Schools Associations (NFHS) on concussion protocols, sudden cardiac arrest, and protecting children from abuse. Coaches are also required to participate in a coaches clinic to develop their team management and baseball instruction skills.

Are there other ways to help out with my players' team if I am not a coach?

Yes, teams can utilize volunteers for other roles - including assisting coaches with bench management, scorekeeping, base coaching, etc. Parents/guardians who cannot commit to coaching but are willing to help should let their coach know early in the season.

My child has never played t-ball/baseball, is that okay?

Yes, SYBL has adopted a [coaching curriculum](#) to equip our volunteer coaches with the best possible tools and training to prepare your player for play at their level and develop their skills for each subsequent level of play. Coaches will focus on individual growth and development, as well as team-building, and a spirit of competition that is appropriate for the age level.

What is the purpose of “evaluations” for AA through Majors?

The evaluation session helps coaches and the league commissioners understand each players' skills and understanding of the game to ensure that teams are well-balanced for a competitive and fun season. There are no “cuts” in SYBL, all registered players are assigned to a team.