

2024 Round Lake Malta Youth Baseball -- Parent Information

We are so pleased to have you a part of Round Lake Malta Youth Baseball. We strive to be a truly recreational baseball league, where children can learn to love to play baseball!

Contact Information

You can always reach out to the board members, your coach or our other volunteers. Our general email is roundlakebaseball@gmail.com.

Who We Are

We are a co-ed recreational baseball league for players ages 4-12. The cutoff for age divisions is May 1st.

- Developmental T-ball is for players age 4
- T-ball is for players ages 5 and 6.
- 7U
- 8U
- 10U (ages 9 and 10)
- 12U (ages 11 and 12)

What Your Child Will Learn and Encounter:

- Teamwork
- Discipline
- Sportsmanship
- Facing Adversity
- Communication Skills
- Problem Solving
- Patience

Who and Where We Play

We play at the fields in the Village of Round Lake. Occasionally, practices may occur elsewhere, predominately at Chango Elementary School or Malta Community Center. Minors and Majors will have games at the Halfmoon Town Park as well.

Game Schedules

Game schedules are not compiled until late March or early April, but all teams should expect to have two to three games per week. Games are Monday through Friday at 6pm and Saturdays at 10am. Occasionally, if rainouts require a lot of make up games, we will have two games on Saturday (9:30am and 11:00am). If rainouts really back up the schedule, we will have some Sunday games. Games could be any day of the week.

League Website

Our league website can be found at leagues.bluesombrero.com/roundlakebaseball. The website contains nearly all the league information. Anyone can create a user account, but only users can see some of the content on the site, like our team rosters and schedule. This website is also where registration takes place. Additionally, all volunteers must have their own account or be added to a player's account. Be sure that your email is listed on your player's account or that you get your own account.

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Team Rosters

We try to accommodate as many player and coach requests as possible when drafting T-ball teams, and, at all levels, distribute players by age and gender. But, requests are not guaranteed. In order to help keep evenly matched teams in Minors or Majors, we limit teammate requests to one request per coach. We do not hold tryouts or a formal draft for any level of play. Team rosters are released in late March, after registration closes. They can be viewed on the website under the Team Central tab. Only registered users can view the rosters.

Team Communications/ Team Pages

The website has a page for each team. Your coach can communicate with your team through this page by starting a discussion. All team members will get an alert when a discussion or when a comment is added to a discussion.

Team Practices

All T-ball teams should have at least one practice/meet up after field clean up day(s) but before opening day. All baseball teams should have at least 2 practices after field clean up(s) day but before opening day. More practices can be scheduled at the coach's discretion.

In addition to the preseason practices, T-ball teams will practice for 15 minutes before playing a game. Please have players arrive 5 to 10 minutes prior to 6:00. Practice will be from about 6 to 6:15 and then the three inning game will start at 6:15. Coaches will prepare a simple drill to focus on developing a skill, instead of just using the time to warm up.

For Baseball Teams -- Coaches are encouraged to schedule some mid-season practices. Limited field space makes it difficult to practice at our fields on days other than Sunday, and so coaches may arrange for meet ups in area parks or school grounds for practice.

Clinics

We will be holding pre-season clinics for the players at the Collette Baseball Training Facility. Dates are April 10th, 17th, and 24th (Wednesdays) from 6:30 to 7:30pm. Their instructors will work with our players on different skills. No charge for families. Be on the lookout for a sign-up form.

Uniforms

All players are issued a shirt and hat, and all baseball players (Minors and Majors) also are issued baseball pants. All coaches are issued a shirt and hat. Uniforms will be distributed to coaches about one to two weeks prior to opening day. Coaches will distribute the uniforms to players at practice, making sure everyone has them before the opening day parade. All coaches and players should wear their uniforms for the opening day parade, the team photos, and all games.

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Rain Outs

The league will notify families of rainout by posting on our website and facebook by 4pm. If weather conditions change prior to or during the game, it is the responsibility of the coaches to call a rainout. Unfortunately, our field can stay wet for quite a while after it rains. We will reschedule all baseball rainouts, time and weather permitting, in the next available open date at the field. You'll get a notification on the email that you registered with about the rescheduled date, and the updated schedule will show on the website when you login.

Division Rules

Division rules will be posted on the website under the League Information page. Please familiarize yourself with these rules prior to the beginning of the season. (Coming Soon)

Equipment

All players at bat and running bases must wear a helmet. T-ball players playing the pitcher's mound, or infield must also wear helmets. Players bring their own glove, and all boys age 6 and older must have a supporter cup to play. Players are NOT required to wear cleats, but metal cleats are prohibited, for safety reasons. Teams will have helmets if players do not have one. We also have bats to utilize.

Game Etiquette

Coaches should choose a dugout prior to the game. It is customary for the home team to use the dugout on the 1st baseline, but Home and Away designations on the posted schedule are not meaningful for that purpose. For T-ball, there are foldable team benches, located along the 1st and 3rd baseline.

AED and First Aid Kits

Thanks to a grant from the Global Foundries/Town of Malta Global Foundation and the fundraising efforts of our players, we have an automatic external defibrillator at the field that has both adult and pediatric pads. This machine is very user friendly, even if you have not been trained on it. It can act as a defibrillator and walk you through the steps of CPR. In the unlikely event that it is needed, it is located in the concession stand. Anyone can utilize the AED.

First Aid Kits are in every coach's equipment bag and also at the concession stand (for spectators and players alike!) Ice packs are available in the concession stand.

Player Conduct

All families were required to agree to a code of conduct during the registration process. The bottom line of the code of conduct is to set a good example for the children. Cheering for your team is welcome, but it is not acceptable to root against the opposing team, or engage in poor sportsmanship or use foul language. If your player is in the majors, please remind them of a universal truth in all sports: Sometimes a call goes your way, and sometimes it doesn't. That is part of playing sports and part of learning good sportsmanship. Players may not argue with umpires. Also, remind your players to encourage their whole team. This league is for all players!

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Parent Involvement in Games

If Coaches are in need, parents are encouraged to assist their team coach wherever they can be helpful. Please offer to help your coach on the field or in the dugout. For T-ball, coaches often welcome several parents onto the field to help the children learn. For Minors, coaches need to pitch or recruit a parent to pitch. It is particularly useful at this age to have a dugout parent, to make sure the children have an appropriate helmet and bat, and are on deck at the right time. For Majors, coaches will likely need less help on the field, and parents should not be on the field unless the coach has agreed to have them help (such as 1st or 3rd base coach or dugout parent). Please offer to help your coach where needed.

Concession Stand and Other Volunteering

All parents are asked to help with the league in a way that is best suited for them. Aside from coaching, the primary need is for volunteers at the concession stand. At the beginning of each year, a sign-up list is circulated as we ask that you try to cover one slot. Our concession stand is simple and running it is easy.

Parents may also help by volunteering to help with **opening day** (food, administrative, set-up, breakdown). We will also need assistance with end of season events.

Field Clean-Up Day - We are expecting all families to support this. No practices can be held on these days. It is a great way for the players to build relationships and for guardians to get to know each other.

We also ask families to participate in a **raffle** or other fundraisers if they are able, but have no fundraising minimums.

End of Season Event

We hold a division by division end of the year event in June. Trophies are also awarded to all participants at these events.

Sponsors

Please support our generous sponsors throughout the year. We could not do this without them! If you know anyone that would like to sponsor a team, please connect us!

We hope that you have found this information useful and always welcome your input and questions. We look forward to seeing you at the fields.

THANK YOU!