

WAUSAU YOUTH BASEBALL & SOFTBALL, INC.
POLICY ON ALLOWING PLAYERS TO PLAY UP A LEAGUE

- The President, through instruction and consultation with the Vice Presidents of Baseball and Softball shall form a committee of no less than 3 and no more than 7 to decide all requests for a player to play in a league higher than the players actual birth date allows. There shall be a separate committee for softball and baseball.
- All requests for playing up shall be made in writing to the President to be forwarded to the committee. The committee's decision shall be in writing (email) as well. Said request shall be made at least 3 days before tryouts if tryouts are required for the division sought to be placed in.
- While making this decision the opinions and/or evaluations of the player agents from both affected leagues and the Vice Presidents of Softball and/or Baseball shall be considered.
- It is recognized that Baseball uses a birthdate date cutoff of April 30 for ages 10 through 18 and a birthdate of December 31 for ages 9 and below and Softball uses a birthdate date cutoff of December 31. This results in different consideration and hence why we have two different committees.
- It is the strong expectation of WYBS that players will play in the league designated by their birthdates with very limited exceptions.
- The following exceptions, but not limited to the enumerated exceptions to Paragraph number four, will be consider:
 - a. That Wausau School District uses a September 1 date for the cutoff for admission to kindergarten; you may have players who may not be able to play in the same league as their school classmates based on birth date.
 - i. For Softball, given the December 31 cutoff date, this could be a large group and the exceptions should be granted infrequently if at all considering the impact it will have on a league.
 - ii. For Baseball, given the April 30 or December 31 dates the same factors should be considered.
Factors to consider;
 - 1. The likelihood of non-participation if not allowed
 - 2. The ability of the player, are their skills such they should be allowed to play up.
 - 3. The opportunity for other players to play on all-star teams or achieve success with the removal of the player from the lower league and team.
 - 4. Parents should be cautioned that removing their players to a higher league may not be beneficial and could result in negative consequences for the player including playing 3 consecutive years in that league.
 - a. The league will not allow a parent of player moving up a league to be the manager or coach of a team so that team gets a coach or manager draft pick. The selection of the players should be because of the player not because of the parent. The parent should not have a role in assisting the player to move up.
 - b. The player must go through the draft and assume the risk that as a younger player he may have to play behind the older players in the league. This will also curtail complaints from older players of not being allowed to play because the younger player's parent manages or coaches. As always there exist numerous other roles for a parent to volunteer.
- b. The talent of the player.
 - i. This is more crucial in the T-Ball and Coach pitch leagues where there can be a wide divergence of talent
 - ii. Children of a younger age develop differently if the Committee is presented evidence that a players skills are above that of the league T-ball, Rookie, 6u and 8U they should be considered

for movement to a higher league commensurate with their abilities and to the enjoy the game to the greatest extent possible.

- iii. For the 9-10 and 11-12 baseball leagues and the 10U and 12U softball leagues this exceptions should be granted in the rarest of situations. For these 4 leagues WYBS believes playing within ones correct age bracket creates the best experience for everyone.
- c. Children playing in one family playing multiple divisions
 - i. Some families feel it is impossible to have games 4 nights in a week and want to consolidate the family into one league. This can be an option, but great weight must be placed on the talents of the younger player. Will there inclusion on the older team be beneficial to themselves and the other players.
- d. Miscellaneous
 - i. The three exceptions above are the most common however there is always something not thought of. The committee can and will review every decision taking into account the following:
 - 1. The best interest of the player;
 - 2. The best interest of the team;
 - 3. The best interest of both affected leagues/divisions; 4. The best interest of WYBS. ii. A negative response to any one of the four interests should cause the Committee to strongly consider rejecting the request.

It shall be the goal of this committee to make sure the requesting children develop the fundamental skills of baseball and fast-pitch softball, while at the same time learning the values and skills sports, especially baseball and fast-pitch softball, can teach them to achieve success in their lives. In making the decisions we wish to afford every player the opportunity to participate based on sportsmanship, fair play, discipline, safety, teamwork and fun but never on winning. This is consistent with the WYBS mission statement.

Attached is a table depicting the typical placement of participants based on Babe Ruth and/or Little League guidelines. The age guidelines are not determined by WYB&S rather they are determined by the sanctioning organization.

2016 Little League Age Chart FOR BASEBALL DIVISION ONLY

Match month (top line) and box with year of birth. League age indicated at right.

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AGE
2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2011	2011	2011	2011	4
2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2010	2010	2010	2010	5
2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2009	2009	2009	2009	6
2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2008	2008	2008	2008	7
2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2007	2007	2007	2007	8
2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2006	2006	2006	2006	9
2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2005	2005	2005	2005	10
				2005	2005	2005	2005					10
2005	2005	2005	2005	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	2004	11
2004	2004	2004	2004	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003	2003	12
2003	2003	2003	2003	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	2002	13
2002	2002	2002	2002	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	2001	14
2001	2001	2001	2001	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	15
2000	2000	2000	2000	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	1999	16
1999	1999	1999	1999	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	1998	17
1998	1998	1998	1998	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	18

Note: This age chart is for **BASEBALL DIVISIONS ONLY**, and only for 2016

BABE RUTH LEAGUE, INC. BIRTH CHART FOR 2016 – SOFTBALL DIVISIONS

2011 Jan 1 - Dec 31 4	2007 Jan 1 - Dec 31 8	2003 Jan 1 - Dec 31 12	1999 Jan 1 - Dec 31 16
2010 Jan 1 - Dec 31 5	2006 Jan 1 - Dec 31 9	2002 Jan 1 - Dec 31 13	1998 Jan 1 - Dec 31 17
2009 Jan 1 - Dec 31 6	2005 Jan 1 - Dec 31 10	2001 Jan 1 - Dec 31 14	1997 Jan 1 - Dec 31 18
2008 Jan 1 - Dec 31 7	2004 Jan 1 - Dec 31 11	2000 Jan 1 - Dec 31 15	

All player ages are determined by the birth chart shown above.

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