

# Expectations for Travel Baseball/Softball

## For Coaches:

- Communication is the most important thing you can do (early and often)
  - Please look at some example communications (pages 3, 4, 5 & 6) that were formally passed out (hard copy and email) to the parents and players: (if you aren't good at this, get a team mom or dad that is)
    - Page 3: Form passed out at tryouts to ensure EVERYONE knows what they are signing up for
    - Page 4: Form passed out once the team was selected
    - Page 5&6: Form passed out at first parent meeting (~3 to 4 weeks after tryouts)
  - Some best practice examples of communication throughout the season
    - Set up a Google Calendar and place all practices and games on there. Not everyone is tech savvy but most parents love this and use this religiously – they always know what's going on from their phone or computer and have instant directions assuming you put the address in to wherever the practice or game is.
    - Put your team on Game Changer – not only is this ideal for scoring a game and allowing parents, players & fans to follow along, this is also a great communication tool. Using the “announcements” feature, it's easy to send quick reminders to everyone – they need to setup notifications from the app, but once they do this once they are all set.
    - Set up a text thread for all parents for quick reminders about various topics.
    - Set up a text thread for players if they all have phones – this is extremely handy for our 14U team – reminding them what to wear for practice, don't forget their cup, etc. etc. The older the kids are the less you need to bother the parents.
    - Team snap is another great tool to use for communication
    - Good old email works fine too but admittedly this is probably the least desirable for most.
    - Bottom line, everyone has their own preferred method of receiving information. What works best for one person doesn't mean it works for everyone. I tend to touch as many of these as possible to ensure everyone always knows what's going on.
- Coaching Philosophy
  - “To each their own” – everyone is entitled to their own personal preferences, just make sure parents and players know this upfront (again, communication is paramount).
  - My personal preferences:
    - **#1 Priority** → Player Development – the goal should be to make every player better by not only playing against better competition (which comes with the territory of travel baseball/softball) but also improving their fundamentals and knowledge of the game. Oh, and make sure the kids are having fun!
    - **#2 Priority** → Continuous Batting / Everybody plays half the game defensively – what a great way to keep every kid involved in the game. Continuous batting, when allowed (most all places allow this until high school) use it! I also find it wonderful to ensure each kid is playing in at least half of the innings defensively. Some travel coaches think this is crazy and want to win at all costs....I find that laughable at these young ages. Oh yea, make sure the kids are having fun!
    - **#3 Priority** → Win / Play Hard – yes everybody wants to win, but by no means should this be your #1 priority at these young ages. Once they get to high school, yes winning should take precedent but until then we should all be focusing on preparing them for high school and developing their skills and involving them in the game. Don't forget....make sure the kids are having fun 😊!

# Expectations for Travel Baseball/Softball

## For Parents & Players:

- Ensure all your questions are answered before you agree to have your child join the team. You must know what you're getting into prior to joining (~# of games, tournaments, cost, coaching philosophy, playing time, travel distances, etc.). The coach should have provided this upfront, but if not ask the questions.
- Once you sign-up, DO NOT allow your child to quit – sets a bad example and causes difficulties for the rest of the players and coaching staff.
- Refrain from yelling or screaming during practices or games. I know it's tough, we all expect 8 year-old little Johnny to know exactly what to do with the ball at all times, but leave this to the coaching staff. Hearing multiple voices yelling at the same time will not help your child. Allow the coach to coach and you to enjoy quietly watching the entertainment.
- Expect to play several weekend tournaments – if the coaches do their job on communication this will not be a surprise, but be sure to find out how many tournaments you will be playing, overall # of games, etc. Every coach/team is different but generally speaking, you should expect to play at least 20 games along with 2+ tournaments. As the kids get older, this typically increases. It's not uncommon for teams to play 40+ games and 6-7 tournaments on top of this (60+ games in total). If you are looking for less than 20 games, then just sign up for rec baseball/softball.
- Outside instruction is highly recommended. Some coaches are better than others, but if you want to keep up with the better players, this is a great idea. Some teams may include this in the cost to play, but most will not.
- If your child plays multiple sports at the same time, this is fine but be sure to let the coaches know what scheduling conflicts may exist and what you and your child's priorities are. If the priority is not baseball/softball, then be prepared for potentially less playing time.
- Fundraising! Be prepared to ask friends and family for money at various times throughout the season.

PROS - of Travel Baseball/Softball	CONS - of Travel Baseball/Softball
Better Competition	Cost
Better Coaching	Time Commitment
More Exposure	Can Be Ultra-Competitive
More Games Played	Tougher Workouts / Practices
Play Other Schools / Cities / Clubs	
Encourages Character Development*	

*\*Encouraging Character Development is a huge benefit of travel sports. Travel teams are generally more serious and therefore they put a greater emphasis on things like being on time, demonstrating maximum effort, and having a good attitude.*



# 2020 Brecksville Bees Baseball – 14U



## General Form Passed Out at Tryouts

### Objective / Goals:

Provide top level instruction and training for players dedicated to playing high school baseball. Co-Head Coaches Jason Kelley & Jason Ganim, along with assistant Coaches Mark Minatel and Mike Mancuso, will be combining efforts to work in conjunction with John Mutch and the Brecksville varsity baseball coaches throughout the season. The varsity program will be conducting several clinics for our specific team and will be very much engaged throughout the season (attending practices / games / etc.). We will also be playing some of our home games at the Brecksville varsity baseball field.

### Commitment to Games

- We will play anywhere from 14 to 20 league games in the OPL, and 5 to 10 non-league games plus an additional 6 to 8 tournaments. Each tournament will be at least 3 games, so, in total we are looking at anywhere between 45 to 60 games.
- 1 to 2 of our tournaments will include overnight stays. While, the team budget will bear the cost of the tournament itself, all travel and hotel expenditures will be incurred by the parents. One of these tournaments will be a week-long tournament in Myrtle Beach (Ripken Experience)
- The season starts in early-April and goes through mid-July (OPL league tournaments is typically 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week in July).
- Our goal this year will be to roster 11-13 players.

### Commitment to Practices

- Indoor team practices – we will be using an indoor turf facility in Fairlawn (Force Sports) between January thru March on Saturdays. These will be led by all of the coaches (Mike Mancuso & Brecksville Coaching Staff to attend as available)
- Indoor hitting practice - we will be using Juan Sanchez from the Brecksville Batting Cage (Fielder's Choice). More details to come on this, but it will most likely be 1x per week between January thru March. Juan played 7 years in the minor leagues for the Toronto Blue Jays, Minnesota Twins and Milwaukee Brewers (played AAA for Milwaukee). If anyone requests other hitting instructors, we can make that work (Dan Smego, etc.)
- Indoor pitching practice – Coach Jason Kelley will be working with the pitchers at Functions of Life (Broadview Heights) as well as outside when possible. This will start in December 2019 and will continue until the season begins in April. Coach Kelley pitched and holds many records at Bowling Green State University and was drafted and pitched in the Milwaukee Brewers organization. We will also be using Coach Mike Mancuso from the Brecksville Batting Cage for individual pitching lessons as well (graduate of Brecksville and pitched for the Georgia Bulldogs and played in the Chicago White Sox organization).
- During the season practices will be scaled back. A lot will depend on weather and field availability.

### Commitment to Further Outside Instruction

- We will teach the kids the detailed fundamentals of the game as we have a very experienced coaching staff, but our teaching will not always be enough. While it is by no means a requirement, it is strongly encouraged to find outside instruction beyond team practices. Hitting / Pitching / Catching / Speed & Agility all are very important. If you need help finding a contact, please reach out to any of the coaches.

### Financial Commitment

- Our cost this year will be \$1,950 per player. Attached is a budget estimate →
- Upon accepting a roster spot and committing to the team, we will ask for \$750 upfront. The remaining balance can be paid by Dec 31<sup>st</sup>.
- This budget includes \$8,000 in fund raisers / donations, so we will be conducting approx. 3 fundraisers.
- The large expense this year is the Ripken Experience in Myrtle Beach

<u>Income</u>		
Player Fees	\$23,400	\$1,950 per player
Net Fund Raisers / Donations	\$8,000	~3 fundraisers (Wing Night, Squares, Etc.)
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$31,400</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>		
Ripken Experience (Myrtle Beach, SC)	\$8,400	Weeklong tourney
Uniforms	\$4,500	2 sets (jersey, pants, hat, belt & cleats)
Tournaments (6-8)	\$3,500	
Varsity/Mancuso coaching	\$3,500	~150hrs x \$20/hr
BH or Brecksville City Fee / OPL	\$3,000	Fields, Umps, Insurance, Baseballs, Etc.
Force Sports Fairlawn Rental	\$3,000	10 Sat x 2hrs (Jan-Mar)
Hitting Lessons with Juan Sanchez	\$3,000	10 Sessions x 1hr (3 hitters per session)
Pitching / Catching Training	\$1,400	Functions of Life rental
Team Bags	\$600	
Team Helmets	\$400	
Game Changer	\$100	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$31,400</b>	

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Coach Jason Kelley ([jasonbgsu23@gmail.com](mailto:jasonbgsu23@gmail.com) – 440-520-9539), Coach Jason Ganim ([jpganman@yahoo.com](mailto:jpganman@yahoo.com) – 678-296-0264) or Coach Mark Minatel ([markjimin@gmail.com](mailto:markjimin@gmail.com) – 330-730-1776).



## 2020 Brecksville Bees Baseball – 14U



### General Expectations

- Expectations from players:
  - Always have a positive attitude
  - Give 100% effort all the time
  - Be respectful to everyone on the baseball field (teammates, coaches and the opposing team)
  - Sprint on and off the field
  - Look and act like a team – no crying, throwing things, stay focused, etc.
  - Pay attention to fundamentals – execute covers and cut-offs, work through the ball, creep on every play, etc.
  - Pay attention to the details of the game – know the count, know how many outs, know what you are going to do with the ball before every pitch, execute coach's signs, etc.
  - Become a better baseball player – have fun!!
  - Your goal should be to prepare yourself for the following year when high school baseball begins
  - If you have a question about playing time or positions that you play, please come to either Jason's to discuss. Do not have your parents do the work for you, you are now mature enough to handle this yourself
- Expectations from parents:
  - Do not coach your kid from the stands. If you have something that you feel our coaching staff should know / benefit from, please let us know.
  - Please be on time for all practices and games. If you are going to be late, please let us know as soon as possible. We expect to have the players arrive prior to game time by at least 45 minutes, but ideally shoot for 60 minutes prior. For practices, 10-15 minutes early. Being exactly on time, is being late.
- Things you can expect from our coaching staff:
  - Communication will be key – Other than face to face time when possible, Game Changer, Google Calendar, email and text are the main forms of communication. Everyone needs to be connected to Game Changer and will get access to our team google calendar.
  - Playing time: We like to roster bat when it's possible / available. We also like to ensure that everyone gets to play defense at least half the game. There are no guarantees, but this is what we strive for in all game settings (league games, non-league games and tournaments).
  - Setting lineups: Both Jason's will be setting the lineup. We will be in strong connection with the rest of the coaching staff.
  - We think playing multiple sports is outstanding! If there are ever any conflicts, please notify us as soon as possible. Baseball should take priority over other sports when we have games.
  - We run this team as if it were a "club" team. The coaching staff has a tremendous passion for baseball and are dedicated to make this team great and improve each players skills. The off-season practice schedule / training facilities / personal instruction that your son will receive are all at levels of most all club teams. We are not a typical city travel team.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Coach Jason Kelley ([jasonbgsu23@gmail.com](mailto:jasonbgsu23@gmail.com) – 440-520-9539) or Coach Jason Ganim ([jpganman@yahoo.com](mailto:jpganman@yahoo.com) – 678-296-0264)



## 2020 Brecksville Bees Baseball – 14U



### Bees Parent Meeting Topics (hold <1 Month after selecting team)

- Game Changer Communication
  - Your account – Alerts – Teams and Players – (turn on for our team)
  - Your account – Alerts – Alert Delivery – for “Team Announcements”, “Schedule & RSVP Updates” & “Game Start/Game Over” --> turn on for “Email” and “Push Notifications”. I would recommend not turning these on for “In-Game Updates” and “Player Activity”.
  - All games & practices will be added to this
- Google Calendar – All games & practices will be added to this
- Bat Size (BBCOR -3) – required for league play (potentially) and all Sandusky Sports Force Tournaments – otherwise a -5 can be used for all else. Both is recommended, not required.
- Spring Break plans? (Fri, April 10<sup>th</sup> thru Sun, April 18<sup>th</sup>) --> current plan includes tourney weekend of 4/10-4/12
- Dates to be aware of:
  - **Pitching / catching practices w/Jason Kelley** @ FoL will be on Saturdays between 1/4 thru 2/29 (9 sessions) – Each session will be 4 pitchers / 2 catchers for ~45 min (x2 sessions) – 1 ½ hours in total
  - **Pitching practices w/Mike Mancuso** @ Brecksville Batting Cages (dates TBD throughout Jan / Feb / Mar) – 30 min individual sessions – 6 sessions for each pitcher (will avoid duplication w/ Jason’s practices)
  - **Hitting practices w/Juan Sanchez** @ Brecksville Batting Cages (dates TBD throughout Dec / Jan / Feb / Mar) – 60 min sessions with 3 hitters at a time – 10 sessions for each hitter (if you want Smego @The Dugout or anyone else instead, please let us know asap)
  - **Team practice** @ Force Sports Fairlawn on Saturdays from 10am-12pm from 1/25 thru 3/28 (10 sessions). Jason Ganim will be leading the practices with a very specific curriculum.
  - **Cal Ripken Experience** @ Myrtle Beach, SC will be from Sun, June 28<sup>th</sup> thru Fri, July 3<sup>rd</sup> – goal is for everyone to stay in the same hotel (more details / options to come)
  - **6 Tournaments** – 2 in Sandusky (April / May), 1 in Columbus - Nations State Tourney (mid-June), 3 local (April / May / June) – if you know of any weekends that don’t work, please tell us asap. We will do a tournament over Memorial Day Weekend. 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend will be open (just getting back from Myrtle Beach) – as tournaments open-up we will register (worst case by December all will be scheduled)
- Fundraising – need approx. \$9,500 (ideally looking for 3)
  - \$50 Squares for 4 games (sell by 11/30): OSU/Mich, NCAA Football ‘ship, Super Bowl, NCAA Bsktball ‘ship
  - Wing Night at 3 Spot in North Royalton (baskets from each family) – shooting for a Saturday in January (ideal) or February. Any Saturday’s that do not work?
  - Texas Hold’em Tournament – Feb/Mar timing ideally
  - Any other ideas?
- Brecksville varsity connection
- If missing games or practices, please notify us as soon as possible
- Fall League update
- Budget (details attached)



# 14U Bees Baseball Budget

Spring / Summer (2020)

# Players	Cost / Player	Total
<b>Total Income</b>		
		<b>\$37,200.00</b>
Player Fees (Spring/Summer)	12 \$1,950.00	\$23,400.00
Player Fees (Fall)	12 \$275.00	\$3,300.00
Early Donation	12 \$83.33	\$1,000.00
Fundraisers / Donations	12 \$791.67	\$9,500.00

\$750 upfront + \$750 by Oct 31st  
 + \$500 by Dec 31st + \$225 by Feb 29th  
 To be discussed at parent meeting

## Total Expenses \$37,209.77

<b>Uniforms</b>			<b>\$6,850.87</b>	
Fall Jersey / Practice Jersey	12	\$38.74	\$464.85	Alleson brand
Fall Pants (Gray Knickers)	12	\$16.24	\$194.91	Alleson brand
Spring Red Jersey	12	\$80.00	\$960.00	Mizuno brand - order in December
Spring Black Jersey	12	\$80.00	\$960.00	Mizuno brand - order in December
Spring Gray Pants (x2)	24	\$45.00	\$1,080.00	Mizuno brand - order in December
Metal Cleats	12	\$100.00	\$1,200.00	New Balance - order in December
Turf Shoes	17	\$85.00	\$1,445.00	New Balance - order in December - used for practices/turf fields
Hats	20	\$17.51	\$350.12	Use for both seasons - includes coaches and others
Socks (x2)	24	\$5.10	\$122.49	Use for both seasons
Red Belts	12	\$6.12	\$73.49	Use for both seasons
<b>Team Equipment</b>			<b>\$2,168.90</b>	
Team Bags	12	\$46.80	\$561.60	Use for both seasons
Bag Embroidering	12	\$8.00	\$96.00	
Helmets (with jaw guard)	12	\$69.94	\$839.30	Use for both seasons (ordered 14) - \$59.95 ea
Stickers / Logo for helmet	12	\$6.00	\$72.00	
Baseballs	12	\$33.33	\$400.00	Use for both seasons (8 dozen x \$50)
GameChanger	12	\$16.67	\$200.00	Use for both seasons (\$100 per season)
<b>Tournaments</b>			<b>\$12,340.00</b>	
Ripken Experience, Myrtle Beach	16	\$525.00	\$8,400.00	4 coaches included -> Sun, June 28 thru Fri, July 3rd
Sandusky Sports Force Tourney	12	\$82.92	\$995.00	April
Sandusky Sports Force Tourney	12	\$82.92	\$995.00	April/May
Nations State Tourney	12	\$66.67	\$800.00	Mid-June
OPL Mid-Season Tourney	12	\$29.17	\$350.00	Mid-May
Other Local Tourney	12	\$33.33	\$400.00	April/May/June
Other Local Tourney	12	\$33.33	\$400.00	April/May/June
<b>Indoor Training</b>			<b>\$9,200.00</b>	
Force Sports Fairlawn Rental	12	\$225.00	\$2,700.00	10 2hr sessions from 1/25/20 to 3/28/20
Hitting Lessons with Juan Sanchez @Brecksville Batting Cage	12	\$266.67	\$3,200.00	\$80 per hr for 3 kids x 10 sessions
Pitching Lessons with Mike Mancuso @Brecksville Batting Cage	12	\$175.00	\$2,100.00	\$35 per 30min for 1 kid x 6 sessions (assume 10 pitchers)
Pitching Lessons with Jason Kelley @Functions of Life	12	\$100.00	\$1,200.00	Functions of Life space rental only (approx 6 sessions - all pitchers)
<b>Coaching Fees</b>			<b>\$2,500.00</b>	
Mike Mancuso / Varsity Team	12	\$208.33	\$2,500.00	
<b>Brecksville City Fees</b>			<b>\$1,510.00</b>	
CVYO Fee	12	\$20.83	\$250.00	
BTBA Player Fee	12	\$55.00	\$660.00	
Bees Insurance	12	\$10.00	\$120.00	
Special Project Fee	12	\$15.00	\$180.00	
Field Fee	12	\$25.00	\$300.00	\$25 per home game / assuming 12 home games
<b>League / Umpire Fees</b>			<b>\$2,640.00</b>	
Fall League Fee	12	\$16.67	\$200.00	
OPL League Fee	12	\$33.33	\$400.00	
Umpire Fees (Fall)	12	\$50.00	\$600.00	Fall (12 games x \$50)
Umpire Fees (Spring / Summer)	12	\$120.00	\$1,440.00	Spring/Summer (24 games x \$60)

## Net Balance (\$9.77)