

2018 Baseball Registration Now Open!

Hello Monticello Baseball Families,

Registration for the 2018 season is now open and we are happy to announce some exciting new opportunities for your ballplayer this year. Please read through this entire document as there is very important information listed below in regards to changes that are being made this season.

Association Wide News

The Monticello Baseball Board is committed to providing a quality baseball experience for all kids involved. We have invested time and funds during the offseason to provide coaches and players at every level with the equipment and tools needed to further develop our young players.

Coaches can look forward to:

- Sample practice plans
- Access to training drills and videos
- Required coach's clinic with the Monticello High School Baseball coaching staff at no cost.
- Training equipment and other tools to increase the productivity of your practices.

Coaching registration is also now open. Applicants for a traveling team head coach position must fill out their registration no later than 2/28/18 to be considered. Head coaching interviews for traveling teams only, will be conducted the first part of March. Please watch the website and your email for details.

Fundraising

This season our association will be partnering with Heggie's Pizza for fundraising. More information will be provided as the season starts, but we will be asking players to sell a minimum amount of pizzas per family. Each family will be charged a \$25 "Fundraising Deposit" during registration and if the minimum order of pizzas is met, we will refund that family their deposit after the fundraising sale is complete. Families choosing to sell above and beyond the minimum amount will be eligible for additional refunds to help offset their registration fees. Pizza sales will be optional but families choosing not to participate in the fundraiser will not be eligible for fundraising refunds.

9u & 10u (3rd & 4th Grade) News

NEW FOR 2018: Players in the 9u and 10u age levels that are not selected for the traveling teams at those ages will be placed on one of our 9/10u Quad City teams. The 9/10u Quad City league will take the place of the "In House" league that the association has provided in the past. These teams will represent Monticello in the Quad City league and have the opportunity to play teams from Becker, Big Lake, & Clear Lake.

*****Please note that we will still be fielding a Gopher State traveling team at 9u and 10u level. The Quad City league will only be for those players not selected to one of these teams.***

11u, 12u, 13u, & 14u News

NEW FOR 2018: Based on the great feedback we received from the 11-14u survey that was emailed out, the association will be offering the opportunity for players who do not make the upper level traveling team in each of these age groups to be part of an additional Gopher State traveling team.

****IMPORTANT****

The formation of an additional traveling team at a given age level will be based on the number of players interested. In order to form two traveling teams we need to have a minimum of 22 players (11 per team) express a desire to play on either of these teams. If we do not reach the minimum 22 players at a given age level, ONLY ONE TRAVELING TEAM WILL BE FORMED.

During the online registration process you will be asked to check a box stating your child wishes to tryout for a Competitive Team or for a Recreational Team. All players regardless of what level they wish to play at are encouraged to come to tryouts. However, please note that by checking the Competitive Team box, you are stating that if your son is selected for one of the traveling teams, you are committing to playing for that team this coming season and you agree to pay the additional Traveling Team registration fee at that time. Finally, please note that checking the Competitive Team box during registration DOES NOT guarantee a spot on a traveling team. It only verifies that your child will be at tryouts and would like to be considered for a roster spot.

You will not be able to request the upper or lower traveling team. Following the first round of tryouts, the top 22 players that checked the Competitive Team box will be invited back to the 2nd round callbacks. The coach of the upper level team will conduct the callback tryout and select players for the upper level team. The remaining 11 players will be placed on the lower level team and a head coach will be selected from the available applicants.

In the event there are tied scores following the first round of tryouts, the association may invite more than 22 players to callbacks. However, the maximum amount of players on the lower level team will not exceed 12.

Players who check the Competitive Team box who are not selected for one of the traveling teams will be mixed with the players who check the Recreational Team box to form one or more Quad City teams. These teams will take part in the Quad City league as in years past.

The board is very excited about these new opportunities and we realize you may have questions. If you do, please email Brian Schmitz at bschmitz@airliftdoors.com. If not, please go online and register your child as soon as possible.

We will see everyone in ages 9 through 14 at tryouts at the Monticello High School on 3/18/18. Tryout times for each age group will be posted as we get closer to that date. 8u evaluations will take place in April. Please keep a look out for emails regarding dates/times for 8u evals as well.