

# Cal Ripken Age 9-12 Baseball Registration Information for 2020



Sauk Prairie Summer Baseball provides opportunities for players age 6-18 to play summer baseball in three different programs defined by player age: Coach Pitch (ages 6-8), Cal Ripken (ages 9-12) and Babe Ruth (ages 13-18). The level a player should register for is determined by their age as of May 1, 2020.

Sauk Prairie Summer Baseball has made a commitment for players to play age appropriate (as opposed to grade). There may be situations where a player or players may be asked to "play up" to ensure teams are filled out or because of safety concerns and those will be handled on an individual basis.

**Cal Ripken Program Overview:** 14-game traveling baseball league following the Cal Ripken rules with games tentatively scheduled for Tuesday and Friday nights for U10 and Monday and Friday nights for U12. Teams will practice 1-2 times per week starting in April/May before the games begin and typically once per week after games begin. Practices can be any evening or on weekends depending on coach and field availability. Home games will be played on fields in the district and away games will be in surrounding communities.

As you probably have heard, the school district has put together a facility plan that will go to referendum in April. This plan includes many items including building additions/upgrades, new indoor pool to replace the current one that has reached the end of its useful life and outdoor sport facility changes required to accommodate the expansion of the high school.

As an organization, we are super excited about these facility improvements as our youth will benefit greatly for years to come. With the excitement will come also challenges as while the facilities are being built some of the fields we routinely use will be unavailable for a season or two. While this will be inconvenient in the short term, the long term value will be immeasurable. However, game schedules may be impacted some due to field space challenges and some games may need to be played on nights other than the regularly scheduled nights or there may be more road games than usual. We realize this is not ideal for planning purposes, but the short term inconvenience will be well worth it when they are playing on the new fields.

**We will be offering tournament team opportunities at the following levels U9, U10, U11 and U12 IF the evaluations show that a competitive team can be achieved at each level. Those teams will play in the A level division of Cal Ripken for league and play in 3-4 weekend tournaments during the summer. There will be an additional fee required for these teams to cover tournament costs and players must be committed to attending the scheduled games and tournaments. Within a week or two of evaluations being completed offers will be made for the tournament teams and players must accept and submit their tournament fee within 10 days to confirm their spot on the team.**

**The players that don't make the tournament teams will be placed on evenly split teams at the U10 (9/10 year olds) and U12 (11/12 year olds) levels that will play in the Cal Ripken B level division. If there is a desire of players on these teams to play any weekend tournaments and parents willing to coach the SPSR Board will work with those families to make that possible.**

**Volunteering:** Each family will be required to volunteer a minimum number of hours for each child in the program (baseball and softball) in the areas of concessions, evaluation day, field clean up day, clinics and tournaments. Required number of hours will be set by May 15th. Sign up will be done on the Sauk Prairie Baseball & Softball web page [www.saukprairiesummerball.com](http://www.saukprairiesummerball.com) under the Dibs tab once times become available. Those not completing their volunteer time will lose their \$100 deposit. For those families receiving scholarships there will be additional volunteer requirements.

**Volunteer Deposit Requirement:** New this year every family in the program will need to submit a check in the amount of \$100 which will be held until the end of season. Families that meet their hour requirement will get their checks back, those that don't will have the check cashed. Other sports in the community have implemented this process and found the compliance with volunteer requirements is improved. Deposit checks will be due on the date of evaluations.

**\*\*Families on the tournament teams are required to work additional volunteer hours on our host tournament weekend or weekends. Those requirement hours will be determined once dates are set. The \$100 deposit doesn't apply these hours. The tournament can only run successfully if every family completes their additional hours required at this tournament.**

**Field Maintenance:** Each field must be groomed after each practice and game. If there is a double header or teams practicing back to back the teams from the first game/practice will rake/drag the field to ensure it is in good condition for the 2nd game. It is a requirement that each player will assist in this task multiple times throughout the season and parents are encouraged to help as well. Players who do not assist with field grooming may have their playing time impacted. Each field will have equipment for grooming available. It is very important that we teach our boys from a very young age the importance of taking care of our fields and that it is every player's responsibility to help.

**Registration Fee:** The 2020 Registration fees will be \$145 for affiliated and \$165 for non affiliated. No increase from 2019.

**Registration Deadline:** All baseball players for the summer season must be registered by **Friday, March 6, 2020**.

**Evaluation Day:** Evaluation Day for all players ages 9-12 playing Cal Ripken will be on Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> in the High School North and South Gyms from 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. A specific schedule of when each age is being evaluated will be sent in early March to registrants. Evaluation day attendance is required for all players. ***A parent or guardian is required to come to evaluations with their child and check them in as shirt and hat sizes will be confirmed at this time. Also, the volunteer deposit check is due on evaluation day. Please mark your calendar.***

**Questions regarding Cal Ripken should be directed to [spsrbaseball@gmail.com](mailto:spsrbaseball@gmail.com)**

**\* Equipment Needs:**

Participants will need a pair of plastic cleats, a glove, grey baseball pants, and a cup. All players will receive a uniform shirt, practice shirt and baseball cap. **We strongly recommend players purchase a black helmet as well to prevent lice outbreaks, but there will be team helmets available.**

