

MYBA Team Formation FAQ

1. What information about my player is considered at team formation?

Team formation uses overall tryout scores to initially rank players within their Round 2 tryout groupings. This includes Round 1 tryout score weighted at $1/3$ and Round 2 tryout score weighted at $2/3$. To complete the rosters for each team the following information is considered with the goal of creating balanced and well rounded teams:

- Round 1 and Round 2 tryout scores
- Prior Season Ranking (PSR) data
- Prior season stats
- Pitching/Catching skills

Note: Pitching and catching data collected during tryouts does not factor into overall scores. This data is used to complete rosters, ensuring that when there are multiple teams at a level (A, AA, AAA), each team has players who are willing and able to pitch and catch.

2. How do you decide who gets to participate in the AAA/AA tryout at each age level?

Round 1 data along with player Prior Season Ranking (PSR) scores are used to create an Overall Round 1 Tryout Score. A player's Round 1 hitting/skills score accounts for $1/3$ of the Overall Round 1 Tryout and their PSR score accounts for $2/3$ of the overall score. Players are ranked and the top players are invited to the Round 2 AA/AAA tryout. Additionally, the top players at Round 2 A/AA tryouts may be invited to participate in the Round 2 AA/AAA tryout.

3. What is MYBA's stance on keeping teams together? Some years it seems like the same kids are on the same team and other years there are significant changes.

We definitely see the benefit of keeping teams together **when all players try out at the same level** as this allows players to know and trust their teammates and coaches and allows coaches to continue building on prior season work. Rostering players at a level where they can be competitive and grow continues to be our first priority.

4. What factors impact player movement?

There are a number of reasons players may move up or down a level between seasons. These include:

- Changes in player performance
- Ability to compete at prior season level
- Number of players trying out at a given age level

5. Who makes the decision about what team my player is on? I've heard that coaches get to choose their teams or that teams are already decided before tryouts even happen.

Provisional coaches for teams are allowed to participate in the team formation conversation, however all final decisions are made by MYBA's Team Formation committee.

This committee is comprised of at least 5 board members and includes the President, Director of Baseball, Team Formation Coordinator, Coaching Coordinator, and Travel Director. The Registrar participates in this process through formatting and sharing collected player data. Parents who hold these roles on the board do not participate in the team formation process at their player's age level until their player has been rostered to a team.

Provisional coaches are those coaches that have been tentatively selected pending final tryout data related to their player's level. Typically coaches that

have coached at a level the previous season are named as provisional coaches for team formation purposes. Being a provisional coach in no way ensures that the coach's player will be rostered to a team at a specific level. Final coaching assignments have coaches following player placement based on tryout data.

Team formation is a lengthy process for those involved and includes considerable attention to all available data for each player to ensure thoughtful roster placements. The Committee scrutinizes the data and performance by each and every individual player to determine team placement. Things like friend requests, neighbors/ease of commuting, or other non-baseball related factors are not considered in the process.

6. Why can't my player be moved to a different team after rosters have been posted, even if it's at the same level?

We understand that when we field multiple teams at the same level of play, parents (and players) may prefer certain teammates or coaches. When we have multiple teams at the same level, our goal is for those teams to be equally balanced and not tiered. To that end, we consider a lot of variables, including pitching/catching availability, when rostering those teams. It isn't as simple as swapping one player for another. Additionally, doing so would create the potential for a significant number of requests that we wouldn't be able to honor.

If you have specific concerns about teammates and/or coaches, please make sure to mention those in your end of season survey or email president@mplsmillers.org **prior** to the tryout process so we can best address those issues before teams are rostered.