

2021 Shoreview Area Youth Baseball (SAYB)

13-15 Year-Old Player Evaluation and League Information

General:

Player evaluations are held to determine team formation for the Big League Program. The Big League is made up of traveling "AAA" & "AA" teams as well as an "A" Tournament Team and limited travel teams (North Star League). ***It is requested that all players participate in the tryout process whether or not they plan to participate on an AAA/AA or A team.*** This will assist us in team formation to ensure each team is as balanced as possible at all levels.

The SAYB program, in cooperation with the Hamline University Baseball program, has scheduled the 2021 player evaluations to take place on **Sunday, Feb 28th**, the event will take place at Mounds View High School. There is no additional fee required to participate in the player evaluation process. It is included in your registration fee.

The Hamline University Baseball program is recognized as one of the top baseball programs in the state and is a major supporter of youth baseball. They have years of experience in conducting coach and player clinics and are excited to be working with our organization.

Hamline University Baseball will conduct our player evaluations and it is the primary component of determining player placement. This 1½ hour event is designed to provide the association input on player skills and assist in player placement; giving each player the best opportunity for success. Our experience has been that by combining a clinic atmosphere with the tryout process, it is less stressful and assists in gaining a better and impartial overall understanding of a player's ability.

The experience will consist of multiple stations. The stations will include infield, outfield, hitting, running, and throwing. Each player will be evaluated at the different stations by members of the Hamline coaching staff or their players. No Shoreview evaluator or input is utilized during this player evaluation. The hope is that this clinic type atmosphere will allow the player to relax, learn, excel, and have fun without unnecessary pressure and anxiety. Based on feedback from other baseball associations and our experience from many years, we anticipate that this process will provide the players with a better opportunity to demonstrate their skills.

Player Evaluation: Mounds View High School

Sunday, February 28th

Age	Time
13 year-olds	9:00 - 10:30
14 year-olds	10:45 - 12:15
15 year-olds	1:00 - 2:30
All ages who could not attend the earlier session*	2:45 - ? (depends on # of players)

*=The evaluators for this session may be different than the ones who evaluated the players of similar age earlier in the day. Please be aware that each evaluator does score differently. By participating in this session, each player/family needs to understand the possibility of a variance in scores from earlier in the day.

Important: We have put a great deal of effort into organizing this event to maximize its effectiveness, so please try to adjust your schedule to meet your child's designated clinic/tryout time. We recognize that conflicts can occur. If a child is unable to make their scheduled clinic/time, please attempt to attend the afternoon session. **If the assigned time or the afternoon session is not an option, please attend any of the other listed sessions. You do not need to call to make an adjustment for a tryout/clinic outside of your assigned time.**

Covid-19 Notes:

- **Mounds View High School and SAYB will work together to implement and practice all necessary protocols in regards to Covid-19. These protocols will be shared before tryouts.**
- **Although there are two rounds of tryouts scheduled, Covid may have other plans for us. We may have to drop one of the two tryout dates. We know this puts family plans in limbo, but for now, please make every attempt to participate in the February 28 tryout.**

Directions: **Mounds View High School** is located at 1900 Lake Valentine Rd, Arden Hills, MN 55112

Evaluation details:

- **Please arrive 20 minutes early for each session** to allow time for warm-up, sign in, and orientation. SAYB will provide the tryout number and materials to attach to the player.
- **Attire:**
 - Players should wear a plain t-shirt (please do not wear a nylon or "Under Armour" type shirt since the numbers do not stick to that fabric).
 - Players should wear tennis shoes (No spikes) and a protective cup. Bring your glove and if you prefer, your own bat (A limited quantity of bats will be available). Batting gloves are recommended to avoid blisters.
- **Bat Sizes:** Definition of "legal" bats can be a complex issue. For the evaluation process, the primary concern is related to the "minus" differential. The "minus" number is the difference between the length and weight of the bat. As an example, a 32" long bat that weighs 22 oz is defined as a -10. For the purposes of this email, bats eligible for the tryout process are as follows.
 - 13 year-olds
 - A small barrel bat defined as a 2-¼ diameter is legal regardless of weight as long as it has a USSSA or USA mark noted on the bat.
 - A Big Barrel Bat (2 ⅝ or 2 ¾) is legal if it is no greater than a -10, meaning that a -9.5 would be legal and a -10.5 would be illegal.
 - **MYAS is NOT requiring the -8 USSSA bat standard that went into effect nationally for 2020 season. However, if you play tournaments out of state, this -8 bat may be required.**
 - 14 year-olds
 - Small barrel bats are illegal.
 - Big Barrel (2 ⅝ or 2 ¾) are legal if it is no greater than a -5, meaning a -4.5 or less is legal and a -5.5 or greater is illegal.
 - 15 year-olds
 - No less than a -3
 - A -2.5 or less is legal and a -3.5 or greater is illegal.
 - If you plan to use your own bat, present it at check in, as we will be verifying proper weight for the appropriate age group. Any bat not meeting regulations, will not be allowed.

Team Formation/Next Steps

Results from the February 28th player evaluation, identifying players in consideration for the AAA/AA teams, will be listed in early March via the SAYB web site. Players qualifying for an AAA/AA Team will be asked to participate in an additional tryout session that will occur outdoors Sunday, March 28 at Northwestern University. This 2nd process will be facilitated by the coach at each level along with additional observers. The goal is to have all teams finalized and players notified by mid April.

Please try to keep the tryout process in perspective. Ultimately, the goal of a player evaluation process is to place players on teams where they will have the best chance for success and overall skill development.

Team Commitment:

The AAA/AA experience is a more intense level of baseball which requires a greater degree of commitment. Teams will participate in practices or games 3 – 4 days during the weekdays and will play approximately 4 – 6 weekend tournaments in the months of May, June, and July. Teams qualifying for State Tournaments may continue to play through the first week of August. Players and parents should agree ahead of time to that level of commitment so that the team can count on your presence. If you do not wish for this level of commitment, please do not occupy the place of a player who is willing to do so. It is suggested that family vacations or participation in camps for other sports, take place after the first week in August.

Additional Fees:

Players making an AAA/AA/A should expect additional fees of approximately \$200 per player above the initial registration that will be collected ***at the start of the season.*** This fee covers tournament entry fees and the cost of upgraded uniforms. Also, should a team qualify for a state tournament, gate fees and team entry fees will be the responsibility of the respective team. (Generally \$400 entry fee and \$150 gate fee per team.)

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.
Thank you,

[Chris Henrich](#)
SAYB
VP Big League