

# 2026 Eagan Baseball Parent Meeting





# Agenda

→ **Introductions**

→ **In House**

◆ Goals; Levels of play; Key Dates;  
Transitioning to Travel

→ **What's new in 2026?**

◆ Fields update; New Jerseys and New  
League for Majors-Seniors

→ **Field Improvement Projects**

→ **Q & A**

# EAA - Eagan Baseball

Eagan Baseball is a subdivision of EAA

## Executive Committee

- ★ **President**
  - Eric Kraushar
- ★ **Vice President**
  - OPEN
- ★ **Director of Communications**
  - Lindsay Bergstreser
- ★ **Treasurer**
  - Christina Goldstein
- ★ **Director of Tournaments**
  - Jeffrey Baumann



A vertical image on the left side of the slide shows a close-up of a brown leather baseball glove with a white baseball resting inside it. The background is a blurred view of a baseball field with green grass and a white base.

# Board Positions

- ★ **Director of In House:** Andy Groebner
- ★ **Equipment Director:** Mike Kraus
- ★ **Technology Manager:** Isaac Leffler
- ★ **Tryout Manager & EHS Liaison:** Erin Ayers
- ★ **Director of Business Development:** EAA
- ★ **Tournament Concessions:** Cambria Fladager
- ★ **Volunteer Coordinator:** Kelly Kenley
- ★ **Uniform/Apparel Coordinator:** Ryan Baum
- ★ **At Large**
  - Jack Goin
  - Ryan Boudewyns
  - Craig Pluff



# Eagan Baseball Programs

## ➤ In House Program

- **2025: 47 Teams from Rookies to Seniors**
- **2025: 560 players**  
Historical: 2024: 570, 2023: 543, 2022: 525

## ➤ Travel Program (9U-14U)

- **2025: 19 Teams, 227 players**
- **Increased 9U to three teams in 2024, 10U and 11U now at four teams in 2026**

## ➤ Legion/15+ Program

- **3 or 4 Teams**
- **~ 60 players**



# In House

## ❖ **Goal of In House Baseball**

- Development of fundamentals
- Learning the game
- Have fun!

## ❖ **Equipment:**

- Gray pants; glove; helmet; bat; & cleats

## ❖ **We supply:**

- Catchers gear; jersey & hat

## ❖ **Season Dates**

- Season starts May 4th
- Picture Day: June 10-11 at Blackhawk Middle School
- Jamboree July 11th & 12th (Lex-Diffley Fields)
  - Rookies; Mites; Squirts II; Squirts III, & Minors
- BAC End of Season Tournament week of July 6
  - Majors; Ponies; & Seniors



# In House

## ❖ Coaches Training

**Sunday, April 26**

10-11 a.m. In-House Coaches Clinic (K-3rd Grade)

11-12 p.m. In-House Coaches Clinic (4th+ Grade)

## ❖ Spring Training Opportunities

**Sunday, April 19 and 26**

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Preseason Camp (K-3rd Grade)

1-2:30pm Preseason Camp (4th-7th Grade)

**Sunday, May 17 and 31**

10-11:30 a.m. Pitching/Catching Camp (3rd-5th grade)

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Pitching/Catching Camp (6th+ grade)

These FREE training and player clinics will be hosted at The Cages in Burnsville.



# In House

## ❖ Team Formations

- School
- Friend Requests

## Levels of Play

### ❖ Rookies

- Pre-K & Kindergarten
- Tee-Ball
- Tuesday & Thursday
- Picture Day: Wednesday, June 10

### ❖ Mites

- Kindergarten & 1st Grade
- Tee-Ball with Coach Pitch
- Monday & Wednesday
- Picture Day: Thursday, June 11



# In House

## ❖ Squirts II

- 2nd Grade
- Coach & Player Pitch
- 1st year for Catchers and Pitchers
- Monday & Wednesday
- Picture Day: Thursday, June 11

## ❖ Squirts III

- 3rd Grade
- Player Pitch
- Tuesday & Thursday
- Picture Day: Wednesday, June 10

## ❖ Minors

- 4th & 5th Grades
- Monday & Wednesday
- Picture Day: Thursday, June 11



# In House Feedback

## Jamboree Respect Issues

- ❖ **The In House End of Year tournament has become too competitive and rowdy? How can we change this?**

President Kraushar and In-House Director Andy Groebner will be addressing this and general game play at our coaching clinics in April as well as the week of the jamboree. The weekend tournament is meant to be a celebration of the season. Let the kids decide the winners, not the coaches or spectators.

We plan to have Jamboree Coordinators for the Squirt II and III, and Minor levels, in addition to board members, on-site to monitor this level of expectation.



# In House Feedback

## Umpires

### ❖ **Our game didn't have an umpire?**

We are partnering with our in-house and travel umpire coordinators to provide training clinics (first one is April 18 at Pinewood Elementary from 8-11 a.m.) for young and new umpires.

Additionally, we are providing mentor umpires for early-season games for these newer umpires. We are setting them up to be as successful as they can when they take on games!



# In House

## South Valley Baseball League (new name in 2026)

### ❖ Majors

- 6th & 7th Grades
- Varying days of the week

### ❖ Ponies

- 8th and 9th Grades
- Varying days of the week

### ❖ Seniors

- 10th - 12th Grades
- Wednesday and Sunday night games



# In House Feedback

## Weather

### ❖ **Who makes the call when Mother Nature is not cooperating?**

If rain persists through the day, the City of Eagan will close fields. Our In-House Director, Age Group Coordinator or President will relay that decision to head coaches via email.

Parents can always check the city's hotline at [651-675-5511](tel:651-675-5511).

Games should always be stopped if lightning is in the vicinity. Coaches are responsible for making the right decision. "If you hear it, clear it." Lightning can strike 10 miles ahead of or behind the storm front and thunderhead clouds.



# In House Feedback

## Field Maintenance

### ❖ **Who's in charge of mowing and taking care of the fields?**

The field maintenance is taken care of by the City of Eagan or ISD196. Eagan Baseball routinely talks to field maintenance departments to request more frequent lawn mowing and field dragging, emphasizing player safety.

President Kraushar is meeting with city officials on Wednesday to present these challenges from past years.

Coaches are to report to Age Group Coordinators of any field complainants.



# In House

## Age Group Coordinators

❖ **Please welcome!**

Rookies - Jane Reichstadt

Mites - Lacy Hedstrom

Squirts II - Jill Wicker

Minors - Kevin Wendt

Majors - John Daniel Hernandez

These volunteers will be in charge of team rosters, schedules, uniform distribution, league standings for Squirt III and Minors, and general questions.

We're still in need of an age group coordinator at Squirt III!



# Field Improvement Projects

- **2024**
  - \$15,000 for Little Goat Improvements
- **Spring 2026**
  - Regrading at elementary school fields
- **Fall 2026**
  - In House Fields
    - Adding fences and player benches like we currently have at Quarry, Bridle Ridge and Mueller Farm (Woodland)
- **Future**
  - Little Rahn for 9U Travel
    - Grass Infield and permanent mound
    - Outfield Fences at 200 feet
    - New Backstop fence



# 2027 Travel Season Tryouts

## ➤ 10U - 14U

- Beginning of September 2026

## ➤ 9U

- Middle of March 2026 (this Sunday, March 15)

## ➤ Transitioning from In House to Travel


- Practice 1-2 times per week
- 14 League games
- 3-4 Tournaments
- MBL Playoffs in July
- Chance to play in 2 State Tournaments in July
- 30 - 40 games in total



# Opening Day

- Join us on Sunday, May 3 at Goat Hill
- First-ever event celebrating Eagan Baseball
- All 12U and 14U teams will play on the two fields beginning at noon with games running through 6:30 p.m.
- Ballpark Concessions
  - Hot dog, chips, cookie, and a drink meal
  - Other concessions available
- Contests
  - Rummage Sale
  - Closest to 2nd Base Ball Toss
  - Home Run Derby
  - Youth Games
- This is a program fundraiser/celebration!

# Questions?

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- **We can take questions until 7:00**
  - **Chat with us 1 on 1 after the Travel meeting ends at 8:00**
  - **Email us**
    - **Eric**
      - [president@eaganbaseball.org](mailto:president@eaganbaseball.org)
    - **Lindsay**
      - [communications@eaganbaseball.org](mailto:communications@eaganbaseball.org)
    - **Andy**
      - [inhouse@eaganbaseball.org](mailto:inhouse@eaganbaseball.org)



**THANK YOU!!!!!!**



# 2026 Eagan Baseball Parent Meeting





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→ **Travel**

◆ DIBS; Fields; Tournament; Coach Selection; Spring Training; Tryouts

→ **Field Improvement Projects**

→ **Q & A**

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# Eagan Baseball Programs

- **In House Program**
  - 48 Teams
  - About 600 players
  
- **Travel Program**
  - 19 Teams
  - About 230 players
  
- **15+ / Legion Program**
  - 3-4 Teams
  - 60 players



# Travel Program

## ➤ Registration Fees

## ➤ DIBS

- 6 hours; 12 max

## ➤ Tryouts

- 9u
  - March 15th @ Rosemount Dome
- 10u-14u
  - September @ Lexington/Diffley Fields
- Hire Independent Evaluators through the Cages
- Process is Evaluated Every Year
  - Board Members
  - The Cages
  - Surrounding Associations



# Travel Feedback

## Tryouts

### Common concerns

- ❖ Too short of an evaluation
- ❖ Coaches take players they are familiar with

### Changes made in past year

- ❖ Increased coach evaluation score by five percent for 10-14U tryouts
- ❖ Shifted station placement to allow for coach candidates to have expanded viewing of players

### Future Tryouts

- ❖ Exploring options for second day of tryouts



# Travel Program

## ➤ **Player Selection**

- Top 16 players are grouped into the “AAA” pool
- Top 4 players are “locked” on that team
- Head coach chooses 8 of the remaining 12 to complete their roster
- The 4 players not selected are “locked” to the next level.

## ➤ **Fall Coach Selection**

- 6 Person Selection Committee that includes board members and baseball parents
- Coach follows the Player
- Lucky to have so many great parent volunteers limiting the number of paid coaches in our program



# Travel Program

## ➤ Spring Training

- Starts the week of March 30th
- The Cages
  - 4 - 90 minute practices
- Savage Dome
  - All teams have three sessions totaling four hours for training

## ➤ Games

- MBL season begins April 15
- Traditionally, Eagan home games have started as early as May 1. Working with the City of Eagan to open the fields around April 20 for practices



# Travel Program

## ➤ Tournaments

- Eagan plus 3 (plus 2 for 9U)
- State Tournament Bids
  - Eagan Baseball covers the fee for earned bids
  - At-Large Bids
  - Gate Fees - paid by the team

## ➤ State Tournaments

[MBL State Tournament](#)

[Gopher State Tournament](#)

# Travel Program

## ➤ Fields

- 9u
  - Primary - Rahn
  - Secondary - Lex/Diff
- 10u
  - Primary - Lex/Diff
  - Secondary - Rahn
- 11u
  - Primary - Lex/Diff
  - Secondary - Little Goat (games can start as late as 8:00)
- 12u
  - Little Goat
- 13u
  - DHMS
- 14u
  - Big Goat & Big Rahn





# Field Improvement Projects

- **2024**
  - \$15,000 Little Goat Improvements
  
- **2026**
  - In House Fields
    - Add fences and player benches
  
- **2027 and beyond**
  - Little Rahn
    - Grass Infield
    - Permanent mound
    - Outfield Fences at 215 feet
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