



Handbook

Updated 8/2025

Mission Statement

The St. Peter Baseball Association is a program of service to youth. Its goal is to provide children ages 7-18 with an enjoyable baseball experience, which includes learning the basic skills of baseball, teaching and instructing youth in the rules of baseball, promoting teamwork, and developing skills necessary to play youth baseball. The organization aims to instill the values of sportsmanship and competition in youth and to prepare them for high school athletics.

The primary objective of the St. Peter Baseball Association (SPBA) is to promote the growth of baseball at all levels of competition for the St. Peter Community. The development of sportsmanship, teamwork, honesty, courage, respect for authority, and physical fitness are other priorities of the association. The association is committed to providing players with volunteer coaches who work with players of all ability levels and to teach the rules of the game along with proper baseball fundamentals.

Eligibility

Players that are 7 or going into 2nd grade through 18 or going into 12th grade at the time of the baseball season are eligible to participate in SPBA. Only St. Peter Public, Private School and home school students or residents are eligible. The board reserves the right to add players based on team numbers.

Registrations

SPBA will hold registration from September 15th- October 15th for the following spring/summer season. SPBA runs from March- July. Registration is held as a stand-alone registration period and communicated via e-mail and a letter to parents through the schools. The registration deadline is very important due to logistics of SPBA having to form teams, recruit coaches, enter tournaments and order uniforms. A \$25 late fee will apply to those who do not register in time.

Registration Fees

Registration fees are used to offset the costs of tournament fees and equipment. Registration Fees will be paid online through Sports Engine on the website. The registration fee for 7-11 year olds (2nd grade-5th grade) is \$300. The registration fee for 12-18 year olds (6th grade-12th grade) is \$450. This includes the cost of a uniform and a hat. . **Registration fees are non-refundable if the player chooses not to participate.**

Scholarships

Scholarships are available through the association and Connecting Kids. The application for scholarships through Connecting Kids will be online and should be completed before registration. Families will be responsible for paying 25% of the registration cost and the association and Connecting Kids will pay the remaining 75% if a family qualifies through the application process.

Cancellation Fees

No refunds will be given to families who decide to have their player not play for SPBA after registration. If uniforms are paid for you will receive that once they come in.

Uniforms

SPBA introduces new uniforms as needed. We encourage players to keep the uniforms in good shape as we intend to use them for more than one year. Uniforms will be an additional cost at registration if needed after the 2026 season.

Volunteer Hour Requirements

A Volunteer Hours deposit check of \$100.00 is required to be turned in prior to your child's first practice in order to participate. Checks will be destroyed when hours are fulfilled or cashed if not worked.

Every family that has a 11U - 18U player is required to work 4 hours per player with a max of 10 hours per family. Coaching (up to 2 coaches per team), and working at tournaments that SPBA hosts will provide opportunities to fulfill the hours. There will also be other opportunities that will be communicated by each team's head coach.

Practices

SPBA holds all practices at John Ireland School, Ramsey Park, Rotary Field, Gault Park, Community Spirit Park, Jefferson Fields, Veteran's Park fields, the 507 Facility or "The Barn" at the fairgrounds. Practices should begin by March 15th. The goal is to have at least 1 practice a week for 1 ½ hours for each team during the preseason. This may vary for 7th and 12th grade students until after the school baseball season concludes.

Formation of Teams

7U to 10U Teams (going into 2nd grade-5th grade)

If multiple teams are required, it is the intent to make them equal in terms of talent and capability based on a coach's recommendations and evaluations. Team sizes will be set with the goal of up to 10 players and no more than 13 players on a team. Coaches will be appointed to the team their child is placed on. All players in 7U- 10U grade will have equal playing time in each game. Coaches are encouraged to allow players to play different positions unless there is safety concern. All players in the dugout will be in the batting line-up with free substitution in the field. These teams will also follow the [South Central League Rules](#). The St. Peter Association Board reserves managerial rights for the formation of all teams.

10U AA Tournament Team

A 10U AA Tournament Team can be made using the coaches evaluations and recommendations and the evaluations done in the fall. The top 10 scoring players will be asked to participate in a 10AA tournament team. Playing time is not guaranteed at this level. This team may enter tournaments determined by the coach and the board. If these players choose to be a part of this team there will be an additional cost for the tournament fees. The St. Peter Association Board reserves managerial rights for the formation of all teams.

11U-14U (going into 6th- grade)

Players interested in playing 11U-14U baseball will participate in evaluations where teams will be determined based on skill and ability using evaluation scores and coaches evaluations from the previous season. Players will be placed on either the AA or A team when numbers allow based on skill level. The number of players selected to be on the AA or A team will vary from year to year based on evaluation and the total number of

players in that grade. All players will have playing time but it will not necessarily be equal. All players in the dugout will be in the batting line-up with free substitutions in the field. AA is an advanced level of play that will be more competitive. The teams will follow the [South Central League](#) or the [Metro Baseball League](#) depending on what league they are competing in. The St. Peter Association Board reserves managerial rights for the formation of all teams.

15U-18U (going into 9th -12th Grade)

Players interested in playing 15U-18U baseball will participate in evaluations where teams will be determined based on skill and ability using evaluation scores and coaches evaluations from the previous season. Players will be placed on either the AA or A team when numbers allow based on skill level. The number of players selected to be on the AA or A team will vary from year to year based on evaluation and the total number of players in that grade. Playing time is not guaranteed at this level. AA is an advanced level of play that will be more competitive. Occasionally players will be moved up to a higher level of play by the High School coaching staff. School Ball takes precedence over SPBA, these players will only be allowed to play SPBA tournaments during the non-school baseball season. The teams will follow the [South Central League](#) or the [Metro Baseball League](#) depending on what league they are competing in. The St. Peter Association Board reserves managerial rights for the formation of all teams.

Cutting of Players

SPBA believes that no child should be or will be cut in 7U to 18U baseball. Our goal is to make the game fun and rewarding. We firmly believe if someone wants to be part of the team, they will have a role and will be placed on the team.

Late Registrations

The SPEA Board reserves the right to accept late registrations on an individual basis. The number of teams and the number of players on a team will be considered when making the decision. Players who wish to register after the deadline will need to send a letter of appeal to the SPEA board explaining why they would like to be considered for registered late.

League and Tournament Selection

Age	League	# of Tournaments	State
7 and 8 U	South Central League	0	No
9U	South Central League	0	No
10U	South Central League	End of year Tournament	No
10U AA	No League	2-4	Yes if Bid or At-large Bid

11U	A: South Central League AA: Metro League	2	Yes if Bid or At-large Bid
12U	A: South Central League AA: Metro League	2	Yes if Bid or At-large Bid
13U	A: South Central League AA: Metro League	2	Yes if Bid or At-large Bid
14U	A: South Central League AA: Metro League	2	Yes if Bid or At-large Bid
15U	A: South Central League AA: Metro League	2	Yes if gBid or At-large Bid
Junior Legion	American Junior Legion	2-3	No
Legion	American Senior Legion	2-3	No

These numbers include any entry fees and gate fees. SPYBA will pay up to the minimum number of tournaments for each age level. If a team elects to play in more tournaments, then what is not covered by SPYBA it will be the responsibility of the parents to cover those fees. 8

Volunteer Coaching

We want parents to get involved in coaching their children. A healthy program has coaches that are passionate about kids, the game and being reliable and able to attend practice on a regular schedule. All potential head coaches will need to apply, pass a background check and complete basic first aid and concussion training to be considered for SPBA. If there is more than one coaching application for the head coach per team, coaches will be determined by the Board. Assistant coaches and anyone who will be in the dugout will also need to pass a background check and complete basic first aid and concussion training to be considered for SPBA. We follow the coaching guidelines of the [South Central League](#) or the [Metro Baseball League](#) depending on what league they are competing in.

Dealing with Conflict

Procedures have been developed for establishing a line of communication between the association, parent/guardian, players and coaches in order to allow an expression of differences that can occur in athletic environments. These procedures should follow an orderly process.

1. No conflict between a parent, student, official or coach should be addressed during or immediately following a game. The game site or practice field are not appropriate places to handle conflict. Coaches should not meet or deal with conflict at these times or places. Most conflicts are better resolved after an appropriate cooling down period. There should be a 24 hour rule before discussing conflict.

2. The following steps should be taken in order for conflict to be resolved:

Step 1 - A meeting should take place between the player and the coach. This meeting can be initiated by either the player or the coach.

Step 2 - If the player still feels that the conflict is not resolved, a meeting with the player, the parent, and the coach(es) will take place to try to resolve the conflict.

Step 3 - If the conflict is still not resolved, a board member will act as a mediator and step 2 will be repeated to help come to a resolution or conclusion

SPBA Email

SPBA distributes information by e-mail throughout the year to participants. Coaches will communicate to their teams via e-mail, Game Changer, Remind or text throughout the year. If you ever need a contact, please reach out the President or Manager at stpeterbaseball@gmail.com

Code of Ethics for Players, Parents and Coaches

All St. Peter players, parents, coaches, and fans are considered ambassadors of St. Peter. Any issues or questions a parent may have should be addressed with the coach first and foremost. The following Code of Ethics for Parents, Players and Coaches have been adopted by the SPBA board. Coaches are not expected to tolerate abusive behavior. Behavior that does not follow these codes of ethics that is conducted during any event in which a St. Peter team is participating will not be tolerated. It is the responsibility of those who witness this behavior to report it to a SPBA Board Member or the President immediately. SPBA reserves the right to dismiss participants or ban parents who violate the stated policies.

Players Code of Ethics

- I hereby pledge to be positive about my youth sports experience and accept responsibility for my participation by following this Player's Code of Ethics Agreement.
- I will encourage good sportsmanship from fellow players, coaches, officials and parents at every game and practice by demonstrating good sportsmanship.
- I will attend every practice and game that I can and will notify my coach if I cannot.
- I will expect to earn playing time.
- I will do my very best to listen and learn from my coaches.
- I will treat my coaches, other players, officials, and fans with respect, regardless of race, sex, creed, or abilities, in all manners of communication, including web pages and all other electronic mediums, and I will expect to be treated accordingly.
- I will encourage my parents to be involved with my team in some capacity because it's important to me.
- I will do my very best in school.

- I will remember that baseball is an opportunity to learn and have fun

Parents Code of Ethics

- I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care, and encouragement for my child participating in youth sports by following this Parent's Code of Ethics Pledge.
- I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice, or other youth sports event.
- I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my child ahead of a personal desire to win.
- I will support coaches and officials working with my child, to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.
- I will remember that the game is for youth-not for adults
- I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans, and officials, with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability
- I promise to help my child enjoy the youth sports experience by doing whatever I can, such as being a respectable fan, assisting with coaching, or providing transportation.
- I will require that my child's coach be trained in the responsibilities of being a youth sports coach and that the coach upholds the Coaches' Code of Ethics.
- I will support and help the SPBA implement and enforce their Coaches, Players, and Parent Ethics policies.
- I will treat other coaches, players, other parents, officials, and fans with respect, regardless of race, sex, creed, or abilities, in all manners of communication, including web pages and all other electronic mediums, and I will expect to be treated accordingly.

Coaches Code of Ethics

- I hereby pledge to live up to my coaching responsibilities by following the Coaches Code of Ethics.
- I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of a personal desire to win.
- I will treat each player as an individual, remembering the large range of emotional and physical development for the same age group.
- I will do my best to provide a safe playing situation for my players.
- I will promise to review and practice the basic first aid principles needed to treat injuries of my players.

- I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all my players.
- I will lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all my players.
- I will be knowledgeable in the rules of baseball and I will teach these rules to my players.
- I will use those coaching techniques appropriate for each of the skills that I teach.
- I will remember that I am a youth sports coach, and that the game is for children and not adults.
- I will treat other coaches, players, officials, and fans with respect, regardless of race, sex, creed, or abilities, in all manners of communication, including web page and all other electronic mediums, and I will expect to be treated accordingly.