

Bloomington Normal Baseball Association



Our mission is to “Provide organized affordable youth baseball to both recreational (In-Town) and competitive (Travel) teams for players ages 5 through 18

Welcome to our March Newsletter

Welcome to our new monthly newsletter for BNBA families. We hope to utilize this electronic newsletter to provide information to our parents, coaches, players and umpires in a regular format. We will still use our website and group emails to complete timely communication but we hope that this will help the flow of information from the office.

BNBA IN House Program News



BNBA has provided organized affordable baseball to Bloomington-Normal for over 50 years. Formerly known as American Junior Baseball and American Legion Baseball, the BNBA provides both recreational (In-Town) and competitive (Travel) teams for players ages 5 through 18 and typically accommodates 1,000 players each season. Registration fees for In-Town players range from \$95 to \$170 based on the league. Registration fees provide uniforms, equipment, umpires, program operations and supplemental insurance for players. The In-Town program provides for the largest number of players and includes six leagues as follow:

- **T-Ball / Ages 5-6** Cost \$95.00
- **Rookie League / Ages 7-8** Cost \$115.00
- **American League / Ages 9-10** Cost \$125.00
- **National League / Ages 11-12** Cost \$170.00
- **Major League / Ages 13-14** Cost \$170.00
- **Senior League (Recreational High School Division) / Ages 15-17**

The season begins in early May and concludes in late July. Teams are scheduled 2-3 games per week including a season end tournament for players in the National and Major leagues. Rainouts are attempted to be rescheduled as field availability allows. Weekday games begin at 5:30 or 7:45 pm and Saturday game times vary from 11 am to 3 pm. The In-Town program does not play Sunday games. The BNBA relies on volunteer coaches who are asked to promote the fundamentals of the game, equitable playing time and sportsmanship. The goal in this division is to provide a positive baseball experience for players and fans.

To register your child for In House Leagues please go to

<http://everysport.net/bnba/OnlineRegistration/2017In-houseRegistration.aspx> to complete the process

After You Register What Happens Next

After you complete your child's registration, you will await the close of registration for our program. Once we enter mid-March we begin to form teams and this process runs through the close of registration. We cannot complete rosters until we have closed registration. Additionally, we cannot complete league schedules until we have closed registration and know how many teams will be in each league.

Rosters will be forwarded to all participants first. Families should have those rosters by April 20. Practice and Game Schedules will be emailed to all families by April 26. The list below outlines important dates for the In House Program

In House League Key Dates - 2017

April 14	Close of Registration
April 17,18,19	Team Assignments are finalized
April 20	Team Assignments Released Emails sent to all parents
May 8	In House Practice Begins
May 22	In House League Games Begin
May 26-29	Memorial Day Weekend No Games
June 3	Saturday Picture Day at the CornCrib
July 1-4	No Games July 4 Holiday Break
July 14	End of Season for T-Ball, League 1 and League 2
July 17 – 22	Post Season League Tournaments for League 3 and League 4

Coaches Corner

This year we are registering Coaches online so that we can background check all coaches. Online registration of Coaches is at no cost to the Coaches. We appreciate our volunteer coaches. We will offer a number of training opportunities to our Coaches. We will have a Coaches training clinic in late April before the start of the season.

Special Opportunity for our In House Coaches - Your son can play for free

As a Head Coach your player will have your Registration fee refunded if you can do one of two things

1. Designate the BNBA for A State Farm Good Neighbor Grant. As a Coach you can designate the BNBA as a recipient of one of your Volunteer Employee Good Neighbor Grant opportunities. If you do so and the BNBA receives the \$500 grant then we will refund you your child's registration fee
2. Provide a sponsor for your team. If your business or someone you know is willing to sponsor your team at the BNBA, you can receive your child's registration refunded after we receive the sponsorship payment. Cost of Sponsorship is \$350.00. Contact the office for more information on this opportunity.

Volunteer Coach Background Checks:

All coaches need to create a user account and register online. If you are a parent and have an account, you will still need to go through the Coach Registration process. Log into your account, then go to the proper league to the left and register as a Coach. In the following years, you can log in with your account information to register.

Online Coach Registration and Background Check Authorization is designed to help our league and youth sports officials implement and maintain a thorough background screening process and child abuse prevention program for all coaches and volunteers. By registering as a Coach your information will be sent through our background check process which is directed by Protect Youth Sports and EverySport.

Umpiring in the BNBA

Looking for a way to make some additional money. Umpiring in the BNBA is a great part time job for your high school or college student. We train the umpires and give them help by allowing them to work with more experienced umpires. Umpires make \$25.00 per game. Games last one and a half to two hours. Umpires can work one or two games a night. Games are played beginning at 530 pm or 745 pm on weeknights and at 10:00 am or 12:15 pm on Saturdays

The BNBA in cooperation with the BNOA (Bloomington Normal Officials Association) will be offering an introductory clinic for umpires

This FREE orientation session is for anyone who wants to umpire or learn more about it
This forum is open to men and women ages 13 and older.

The 2017 BNBA Umpire Clinic is scheduled for Sunday, April 30, at 3:00 pm at the Central Catholic High School. There will be umpiring skills demonstrations and we will begin the umpire scheduling process.

Watch for our next Newsletter early April

The BNBA Office is open at O'Neil Park in Bloomington according to the following schedule

The BNBA Office will be open Wednesday through Friday from 300 pm - 600 pm and Saturdays mornings from 1000 am - 100 pm from March 1st - March 16.

The office will be open 300 pm - 600 pm and Saturday mornings from 1000 am - 100 pm, March 20 - April 1,
The office will be open 1100 am - 600 pm Monday through Friday and Saturday 1000 am - 100 pm beginning April 3