



2021 BETH - WOOD ALL STAR POLICIES

I. Beth - Wood All Star Teams

Following regular Season play, the *Beth - Wood Baseball League (B - W)*, participates in numerous friendship as well as competitive All Star Tournaments throughout the State of Connecticut in their respective age groups. The *B - W* also participates in Babe Ruth League sanctioned District & State Tournaments, which is a specific requirement of our Charters. The All Star season begins mid-June and lasts until the last week in July / early August.

B - W will once again field competitive All Star "A" Teams (herein to be called **District Teams**) for Boys 9's / 10's (10U) and 11's / 12's (12U), not separate Teams as we have formed in previous years ; the existence of each Team at each age group is solely dependent upon the availability of both Players and Managers / Coaches.

The *B - W* will also form less competitive and restrictive All Star traveling "B" Teams (herein to be called **Tournament Teams**) for Players 9 - 10 (10U) and 11 - 12 (12U) years old, which has proven to be extremely successful (again as long as there are enough Players for form these **Tournament Teams**). These Teams will only be formed based on the availability of both Players and Managers / Coaches. These Teams would have the opportunity to play in the Cal Ripken Summer Xtreme League as well as other local Friendship Tournaments in the surrounding area to give those Players not selected for their respective All Star District Teams noted above or can not make the commitment required for the District Teams a chance to play competitive baseball in the summer but more importantly to have fun and stay involved in the game. The Manager of each Team would also be able to select those Tournaments in which they wish to participate in.



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The **B - W** will also field Traveling Team(s) for Players who participated in the Rookies Program that are baseball 8 - year olds in a statewide Friendship Tournament that **Beth - Wood Baseball** has been hosting the past several years ; this Tournament has grown in popularity among other Cal Ripken Towns in the State of CT and we expect it to continue for several more (in 2019 we had 20 Teams participate, one of our largest fields ever). All 8's would be voluntarily invited to participate, as long as they can make the commitment that they will miss **no more than 1 week (or not more than 3 games)** of Tournament play due to vacation or otherwise as noted in said Policies, as that would prohibit them from participating in the Single Elimination Tournament and disqualify them from playing on these Teams.

II. Selection of All Star Managers

The **B - W** Executive Board is responsible for accepting nominations from those Managers / Coaches within their respective League Divisions who wish to become Managers for specific **B - W** All Star Teams. Managers and / or Coaches within the **B - W** or others wishing to be a Manager of an All Star Team must submit a letter of interest together with the applicable Nomination form to the **B - W** President **no later than Thursday (April 8, 2021)** for consideration. A meeting could be held led by the **Beth - Wood Player - Agent** with all of the Minors and Majors Managers / Coaches the week prior to the selection of All Star Team Managers to review these Policies with them and carefully explain the guidelines set forth under these Policies for All Star Play. At this time, a Manager and / or Coach may also want to express his / her interest in managing the 9 / 10 (10U) or 11 / 12 (12U) **Tournament** Teams as well.

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II. Selection of All Star Managers, cont.

From the Nomination forms, the **B - W** Executive Board will then select the Managers of the All Star Teams based upon the respective Manager's / Coach's Team record, his / her length of service within the **B - W** and if said Manager / Coach has previously managed and / or coached **B - W** All Star Teams in past years. More importantly, the **B - W** Executive Board wants to ensure that each Manager who is selected will properly represent the League in all the Tournaments they play in, not only to obtain invitations to return the following year but more importantly be a positive influence in leading their respective All Star Teams. The **B - W** Executive Board plans to make their selection of All Star Managers on or about **April 18, 2021** ; by selecting them early on, this will allow those Managers to start planning ahead accordingly as well as to start play in a Saturday & Sunday Travel League during the months of April and May.

It is also understood that even though someone may have managed an All Star team in the past does not necessarily grant them an automatic Manager's slot for another All Star Team in the future. Note that only a Manager will be selected for each All Star Team ; **NO** Coaches will be assigned to any Team, so the Manager will "draft" his Coaches from the pool of available and interested Coaches after the Players are selected. **ALL** Managers and Coaches who participate in All Stars **MUST** have a current **Background Check** performed through SportsEngine within the past two (2) years (on file with a **B - W** League Official), have taken / passed the **Abuse Prevention Training** Course on line (taken in unison with the new BG Check) within the past two (2) years as well as satisfactorily completed the on-line **Coaches Certification** course provided by Babe Ruth League, Inc. prior to the start of the regular Season, **without exception**.

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II. Selection of All Star Managers, cont.

Both the 10U and 12U 'District' Team try-outs have been scheduled to be held on Saturday, May 1st (12U will be on Acorn #1 and 10U on Acorn #2). The try - out / selection process would be carried out by the All Star Team Manager and the impartial **Beth - Wood** Board Members, who will observe and fairly rate all of the participants and work closely with the Team Manager to make the final selections for their Teams. The Minors Managers / Coaches who do not have a child trying out for the 12U Team will help facilitate the 12U Try Outs (and the Majors Managers / Coaches will then help facilitate the 10U Try Outs).

Once the All Star **District** Team roster is filled (must be a minimum of 12 Players), we strongly recommend that if it appears there might not be enough Players to field a **Tournament** Team in a specific age Division, that the Manager pick possibly up to 1 - 2 additional Players to round out his / her 14 man Roster, in order to give those Players an opportunity to play summer baseball. It is also to be made clear that a Manager may NOT bring up any other Player to participate on his / her All Star **District** Team who did not try-out for that Team.

To become an All Star Manager is a huge commitment that requires the Team Manager's complete dedication for the entire duration of the number of Tournaments their respective Team is scheduled to participate in that year, as determined by the **Beth - Wood** Executive Board (this may change from year to year based upon the Tournaments available).

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III. Selection of All Star Players

Managers and / or Coaches will **NO** longer nominate Players from their Teams for the respective All Star **District** Teams. As adopted by the *Beth - Wood Board of Directors*, **ALL** Players will be given an opportunity to voluntarily try out for their respective All Star **District** Teams, as long as they are willing to commit for the entire All Star season. Note that the try outs will be **mandatory** {unless otherwise excused in advance due to illness or injury} and held on a specific day to be clearly indicated on the Schedule. That means a commitment to this Team with **no more than a week** off during the entire All Star Season (period from mid June through the first week in August) ; the Team Manager will have the sole discretion of allowing time off for family events (i.e., a Wedding, family reunion, etc.), injury or the like.

NOTE : All Star try outs have been scheduled to be held on Saturday morning, May 1st (RAIN DATE Sunday, May 2nd) at both Acorn Hill fields from 9:00 until 12:00 Noon (will no longer be held during a week night) - 12U will be on Acorn # 1 and 10U will be on Acorn #2. This will give every Player who wishes to participate on either of the 10U or 12U District All Star Teams an equal opportunity with sufficient time to participate in this try out. Try outs for both Teams will be standardized so **ALL** Players will be carefully evaluated running through the exact same drills.

In addition, to be eligible to participate on the 10U and / or 12U District Teams, Players **MUST COMMIT AND NOT** be away during the time frame the District Tournament is normally scheduled {**June 18th thru 27th** or so} and for the State Tournament {**July 2nd thru July 12th** or so}.



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III. Selection of All Star Players, cont.

To be eligible to participate in All Stars, Players who wish to try out can NOT miss more than 25% of the League scheduled games (unless there is an injury or illness, for which you will need to produce a doctor's note). Any Player who fails to meet this specific requirement will not be allowed to participate.

If a Player is unable to commit (i.e., they are going on vacation for a week), then he / she would only be eligible to participate on the **B - W All Star Tournament** Teams accordingly, which will have minimal restrictions on time missed due to camp or vacations. Note that should the number of Players wishing to participate on the **Tournament** Team exceed 13 - 14 per Team, try outs might then have to be held as we must limit the number of Players on this roster(s).

As **Beth - Wood Baseball** will again be offering the opportunity for 8 - year olds (who played in the 2021 Minors program) and 10 - year olds (who played in the 2021 Majors program) to tryout and participate in the Minors and Majors Divisions respectively this year, for those 8 - year olds who are fortunate to have been selected based on their ability to participate in the Minors, they will now have the option to either try out for the 10U District All Star Team or the 8's Travel (their choice but they can only opt to try out for one).

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III. Selection of All Star Players, cont.

Also, for the 10-years olds who are fortunate to have been selected to participate in the Majors during the Spring, they will also have the option to either try out for the 12U **District** All Star Team or the 10U **District** All Star Team (their choice but they once again only opt to try out for one - they can NOT first try out for the 12U Team and if they do not make it, then try out for the 10U Team). If they do not make either Team, they will then automatically be eligible to play on either the 10U or 12U **Tournament** Team accordingly.

Our Board recognizes this policy change provides the competitive opportunity some Players and Parents have desired and qualify for but decisions should be made carefully to ensure success for the Player at a level that best matches their ability for future success.

The respective All Star Manager (together with 2 impartial members of the **B - W** Board) will hold mandatory try-outs, where each Player would be carefully observed and evaluated (**refer to above - Try Outs will be held on Saturday, May 1st**). Following try-outs, under the close guidance of these **B - W** Board members, the respective Managers and impartial Board Members would then make the final selections for these Teams accordingly.

In addition, once a Player has been formally selected to participate on a specific All Star Team (i.e., the 10U **District** Team), he / she must stay with that Team for the entire duration of that All Star season. They will **NOT** be allowed to move up to assist another Team (i.e., the 12U Team if they happen to be short a Player).



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III. Selection of All Star Players, cont.

It is also to be understood that by agreeing to participate in All Stars, the respective Players agree and recognize that they may not play in every game or play a specific amount of innings during each game. It is at the sole discretion of the Team Manager to decide who does and does not play during any given game and where and when they will play. The **B - W** recognizes the importance of trying to have all Players participate in every game but also recognizes that during certain game situations or Tournaments, the Manager has the option to play his best Players to win that specific game.

Being nominated to become an All Star Player is an honor all by itself, even though a Player(s) may not be chosen as a member of that specific All Star District Team he / she tried out for.

In addition, if a Player is selected for that specific traveling District Team, then that Player is fully committed to play with that Team for the entire All Star summer season. This is a **commitment** that must be made to that Team or else the system as established is no longer valid. Should that Player opt to back out (i.e., to play on another traveling or another type of Team or chose not to play at all) despite these warnings, then there is no other recourse for the **B - W** but to bar that Player from participating on a **B - W** All Star Team the following year in 2022 (including the possibility of the regular Season as well).

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III. Selection of All Star Players, cont.

For 8-year old All Star Team, only those 8 - year olds who participated in the Rookies Division would be eligible and given first preference to participate on this Team (also including those 8's who opted to play up in the Minors). All 8's would be invited to participate, as long as they can make the commitment that they will miss **no more than 1 week (or not more than 3 games)** of Tournament play due to vacation or otherwise as noted in said Policies, as that would prohibit them from participating in the Single Elimination Tournament and disqualify them from playing on these Teams. If necessary to fill Team Rosters, specific 7's could also be invited to participate as well.

IV. Costs

It is understood that all Players who are successful in being chosen to participate on an All Star Team will be required to split the actual costs incurred by that specific Team. This includes costs for the All Star uniform, umpire costs, baseballs, equipment and various Tournament entry fees.

Once the respective All Star Teams have been formed and finalized, **Beth - Wood** will send out Invoices to each of the parents of Players on those Teams, so Tournament Fees / Uniforms / Umpires / etc. can be immediately paid by the **B - W** accordingly. These Fees shall be as follows :

District Teams	\$ 300.00 / Player
Tournament Teams	\$ 225.00 / Player
8's Travel Team	\$ 175.00 / Player

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IV. Costs

The respective Team Managers shall also be responsible for contacting the **B - W** President / Treasurer at least a week or so in advance when Tournament Fees are required to be sent out to avoid any last minute problems and shall forward a copy of their respective Tournament entry form clearly identifying said cost for verification as well for the League's records.