

# OYO Travel Baseball Policies | Rec Travel

Last Revised	March 31, 2023															
Sections	<p>These policies provide guidelines and stipulations for the following criteria:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="488 415 1523 583"> <tr> <td>Teams Offered</td> <td>Travel Team Equipment</td> <td>Tournaments</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Terminology</td> <td>Travel Team Finances</td> <td>Age Eligibility</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Selection of Coach</td> <td>Fundraising/Sponsorships</td> <td>Ejections</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mentoring New Coaches</td> <td>Establishment of New Team</td> <td>Scheduling</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tryouts</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Teams Offered	Travel Team Equipment	Tournaments	Terminology	Travel Team Finances	Age Eligibility	Selection of Coach	Fundraising/Sponsorships	Ejections	Mentoring New Coaches	Establishment of New Team	Scheduling	Tryouts		
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Terminology	In this document, Recreational (or Rec) Travel will be noted as <b>RT</b> .															
Selection of Coach	<p>A. <b>Recreational Travel</b> – The Travel Baseball Commissioner shall obtain applicants for Head Coach. The Travel Baseball Commissioner shall send out notice of Head Coach Application no later than November 1 and all applications must be received by November 25. At that time, the Commissioners shall send all applications to the Executive Board for review.</p> <p>The Executive Board shall make their selection in their December meeting. The Executive Board, at their discretion, may interview potential candidates. The Executive Board shall also receive input from the Travel Baseball Commissioner. After the selection is made by the Executive Board, it is up to the Travel Baseball Commissioner to notify all applicants of the Executive Board’s decision.</p>															
Mentoring New Coaches	The Travel Baseball Commissioner shall be available to mentor any new head coach to RT. This includes meeting with the new head coach on a consistent basis and offering friendly advice.															
Tryouts	<p>A. <b>Date of Tryouts</b> – The date of tryouts for rec travel shall be determined by the Executive Board in conjunction with the Travel Baseball Commissioner and Vice President of Travel Baseball.</p> <p>The RT tryout dates shall be established no later than March 15 and shall be listed on OYO’s website. The league shall schedule three tryout dates for each age group that do not conflict with any rec league activities. The first two tryout dates listed are official tryout dates, and the third listed is as a rain date, if needed in the event either the first or second tryout is canceled. If the first tryout is canceled due to poor weather or field conditions and a second tryout is at risk for similar conditions, then the OYO Exec Board should support the RT program by assisting with securing an indoor facility and providing reasonable financial support to offset rental costs.</p> <p>B. <b>Tryout Communications</b> – After initial email from OYO Executive Board announcing travel program, including tryout schedule and individual coaches, all individual RT coaches may market their respective tryouts. RT Coaches must communicate with <b>all</b> eligible players in their respective age groups. List of eligible players in our database will be provided to coaches by executive board members before each tryout period.</p>															



- C. **Method of Tryout** – The head coach is responsible for the method of tryout.
- D. **Team Selection** – The selection of the team and announcement of those selections are up to the Head Coach. The Head Coach can either individually contact each potential player to let them know that they have either been selected or not or can post the roster on the website. If the Head Coach chooses that option, he or she must make themselves available for explanation by all potential players.
- E. **Roster Defections** – In the event a team loses a player to departure or injury and seeks to select a replacement, the head coach must submit a replacement strategy to the Travel Baseball Commissioner and Vice President of Travel Baseball, for approval.
- F. **Additional Tryouts** – In RT, if an age group has enough interest to form a team (typically 11 players or more) during the published tryout period, then additional tryouts will not be scheduled. The RT coach must select from the players who participated in the tryouts.
- G. **Rec Travel Tryout Timeframe** – No RT Tryouts shall be conducted prior to all OYO Rec League teams being published, nor before the first published date of spring practice. Once rec team rosters are announced, the league shall distribute a leaguwide email announcing all travel coaches and scheduled tryout details, including date, time and location.
- H. **Tryout Eligibility, based on Fees** – To participate in travel tryouts, the player’s OYO Rec League registration fees must be paid in full. The OYO Treasurer should run a report of all players not paid in full prior to the tryouts and submit it to the OYO Vice President of Travel Baseball to review against list of selected players. Any player who received a scholarship grant to participate in the OYO Rec League for the current season is not eligible to be selected or participate on a RT team, unless all scholarship funds from the current season are reimbursed to OYO.
- I. **Tryout Eligibility, based on Division Participation** – To be eligible for selection to a travel team, a prospective player must participate in a tryout for the eligible age group.
- J. **Declining Team Offer** – If a player is offered a roster spot on a travel team and declines, then the player foregoes participation in any travel activity for that season.
- K. **Team Selection Review** – All final RT team rosters are subject to review by the OYO Travel Baseball Commissioner and/or Vice President of Travel Baseball. If the OYO representative identifies the team has selected an ineligible player, the player must be removed from all team activities effective immediately and the head coach shall notify the player’s family. To replace the player, refer to *Section E*.
- L. **Charging Tryout Fee for Rec Travel Tryouts** – RT teams may never charge a player to participate in a rec travel tryout. This is part of the league fee a player pays to participate in the OYO Rec League.
- M. **Team Roster to OYO** – All RT coaches must submit a full roster, including player name, jersey number, date of birth, parent names, parent emails and parent phone numbers, within 30 days of final roster being announced. Team’s coach is responsible for communicating any changes to roster to Travel Baseball Commissioner in a timely manner.



	<p>N. <b>Team Acceptance Letters and Payments</b> – All parents of players who accept a roster spot will need to sign a parent/player acceptance agreement that specifies team fee, payment schedule, code of conduct adherence, and no refund policy. This will be an official, consistent agreement issued by the Travel Baseball Commissioner to all coaches before each new season of full-time tryouts. RT coaches are only permitted to customize the section pertaining to team fee and payment schedule.</p>
<p>Travel Team Equipment</p>	<p>Equipment purchased by and maintained for each travel team belongs to the team. Any team-specific equipment left at the end of the season will carry over to the next year. For example, catcher’s gear, helmets, bat, balls, etc. left over after 9U season is complete are to be used by the 10U team the next year. That is the case even if there is a new coach the following year.</p> <p>If there is no team the next year, then all equipment shall be donated to the league to be used at the discretion of the equipment committee. For example, if a 14U team will not go forward as a 15U team and has equipment leftover at the end of the 14U season, those items should be submitted to the OYO equipment committee.</p> <p>Any equipment used by 8U RT team shall be used for the benefit of the 9U RT team and not the 9U Full-Time Travel team. This same rule applies to any age group that represents the earliest age group for full-time travel.</p> <p>For RT teams, OYO offers a courtesy team equipment bag. Such equipment may be used by the RT team for the duration of its season.</p>
<p>Travel Team Finances</p>	<p>All RT teams must conduct all their banking matters at the same financial institution as the league. Each team should have two individuals listed on the account, one being the head coach and one being the team’s assigned treasurer, to provide proper oversight and checks-and-balances.</p> <p>Finances for each travel team belong to the team. Any funds left at the end of the season will carry over to the next year. For example, funds left over after 9U season is complete are to be used by the 10U team the next year. That is the case even if there is a new coach the following year. Players’ families are not eligible for any level of reimbursement or refund should there be a surplus at the end of the season.</p> <p>If there is no team the next year, then any funds left over shall go back to the general travel baseball fund, respectively, to be used at the discretion of the Travel Baseball Commissioner. For example, if a 14U team will not go forward as a 15U team and has funds left over at the end of the 14U season, those funds are given to the OYO travel baseball fund. In addition, OYO RT players are not entitled to receive a refund of prior fees paid, regardless of their circumstances.</p> <p>Any monies left over from any 8U RT team shall be used for the benefit of the 9U RT team and not any 9U Full-Time Travel team. This same rule applies to any age group that represents the earliest age group for full-time travel.</p> <p>RT teams are also mostly self-funded. The OYO Executive Board will support all RT teams with a start-up fee in the amount of \$300. The amount should be reviewed and confirmed by the Executive Board annually. These funds will be transferred to the team’s account after the team roster has been released and approved by the Travel Baseball Commissioner and Vice President of Travel Baseball.</p>



	<p>All RT head coaches must develop and a preliminary detailed budget at time of announcing team fees. This budget must accompany the player/parent acceptance agreement outlined in <i>Tryouts, Section N</i>.</p> <p>Any player who received a scholarship to participate in the OYO Rec League is not eligible to tryout for, be selected or participate on a RT team, unless all scholarship funds are reimbursed.</p> <p>Every player, including children of any coach, must pay their full travel team fee to be in good standing with the team.</p>
<p>Fundraising/Sponsorships</p>	<p>RT teams are encouraged to raise funds to offset expenses and control costs.</p> <p>RT sponsorships are acceptable so long as they follow the pricing structure set forth by the Travel Baseball Commissioner and Vice President of Travel Baseball and approved by the OYO Executive Board. All companies that sponsored OYO Rec League teams during the previous two seasons are to be considered off-limits and will be listed in the league’s Do Not Call list.</p> <p>For example, in 2021, RT teams shall not solicit any support from OYO sponsors in 2019 or 2020 until after they commit to the rec league in 2021.</p> <p>No sponsorship recruitment for rec travel teams shall be conducted until <b>after</b> the team roster is officially released. At this time, the aforementioned Do Not Call list will be provided to each team’s head coach.</p> <p>In addition, all RT teams must use the same sponsorship packages/forms, which will be developed in tandem by the OYO Travel Committee and OYO Ways and Means Committee. That said, it is acceptable for a sponsorship previously tied to a player in our rec league one season to follow the player to a RT team the following season.</p> <p>All RT teams are permitted to conduct as many different fundraising activities as their respective teams can support. However, OYO has limited how many of these fundraisers can take place at OYO Veterans Memorial Park, while OYO rec league teams are participating. The terms of these exclusive onsite fundraisers are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RT teams are permitted hold one on-site fundraiser, of which the OYO Executive Board pre-approves, during the spring season. The activity at Veterans Memorial Park must start and complete on the same calendar day.</li> </ul>
<p>Establishment of New Team</p>	<p>OYO will host one RT team per age group. If there is a minimum of 22 players, who participate in the <u>rec travel</u> tryouts for a specific age group, then a proposal may be submitted to the OYO Travel Baseball Committee within three days of when the first team was announced. No additional tryouts may be conducted for a second team. If the Travel Baseball Committee recommends the establishment of that new team, then the entire Executive Committee shall vote on the establishment of that new team. The second team then must be formed within seven days or all efforts to form a second team will be suspended.</p>



<p>Tournaments</p>	<p>The various details of the rec. tournaments, (David Manlove Memorial Tournament and Bill Sturm Memorial Tournament) shall be the responsibility of the Travel Baseball Tournament Chairperson with consultation from the Vice President of Travel Baseball and Travel Baseball Commissioner.</p> <p>All participating RT teams will pay the tournament entry fee to participate in the annual David Manlove Memorial Tournament. RT teams will not be charged a fee to participate in the annual Bill Sturm Memorial Tournament in exchange for team recruitment, park preparation, field maintenance and staffing information table during the tournament.</p>
<p>Age Eligibility</p>	<p>Only age-appropriate players shall participate in the initial tryout for any RT team. In the event a particular age group does not secure enough interest from players in its age during its published tryouts, the team may either select players in its age group or one age younger without conducting a supplemental tryout inviting players from younger age group(s) to participate.</p> <p>Based on the aforementioned example, a team is not required to select all nine players who attend a tryout either. Per <i>Tryouts, Section F</i>, if even one RT prospective player is cut at the time of tryouts, an additional tryout must be scheduled, announced and conducted.</p> <p>When a player is approved to play up to a new division (e.g. an eight-year-old player in Minor), then they may also tryout for the rec travel team tied to the respective division and/or age group. In other words, they are not mandated to play “down” into the lower division (e.g. Rookie) for rec travel. This policy only applies to a player playing up in a division – and on the youngest team in that division when teams are split by age. Therefore, in this scenario, an eight- or nine-year-old baseball player would not be eligible to tryout for/participate on a 10U RT Bombers team.</p>
<p>Ejections</p>	<p>If any player, coach, parent or other spectator affiliated with an OYO travel team is ejected from a game, then it is the responsibility of the team’s head coach to notify the Travel Baseball Commissioner. This may be reported as follows based on the setting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Standard Game/Doubleheader:</b> within 24 hours</li> <li>• <b>Tournament:</b> by noon the Monday following the tournament; that said, all host-site rules regarding ejections must be followed, including if the head coach must follow an ejected player, fan or assistant coach</li> </ul> <p>The Travel Baseball Commissioner shall then notify OYO’s Vice President of Travel Baseball immediately. The Vice President of Travel Baseball shall notify the Executive Board, who will then review the matter in accordance to the OYO Code of Conduct policy and determine what punishment is warranted.</p>



Scheduling	<p>All RT teams will be allocated one Sunday field assignment at OYO each season from April through July.</p> <p>If any RT coach wishes to request additional travel-specific field assignments, then the coach must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(1) receive permission from the head coach of the travel assigned to the field on the designated day and time</li><li>(2) receive permission from the OYO Scheduler to ensure additional assignments have not been previously made</li><li>(3) secure approval from the Travel Baseball Commissioner, Vice President of Travel Baseball, Travel Softball Commissioner and Vice President of Travel Softball.</li></ol> <p>All travel teams must adhere to select black-out dates to ensure all respective OYO Rec League and Travel activities can be honored. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>No Activity for Rec Travel:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- All batting cages and fields reserved and assigned for FTT</li><li>- Bomber Bash</li><li>- Storm Smash</li><li>- OYO Rec League Tournament</li></ul></li></ul>
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