

# OYO Travel Softball Policies | Full-Time Travel

Last Revised	August 13, 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, Full-Time Travel will be noted as <b>FTT</b> .															
Selection of Coach	<p>A. <b>Full-Time Travel</b> – It is the responsibility of the Travel Softball Commissioner to obtain applications for Head Coach. The Commissioner shall send out notice of Head Coach Applications no later than June 23, and all applications for vacant positions must be received by June 30. At that time, the Commissioner shall send all applications for vacant head coach positions to the Executive Board for review.</p> <p>The Executive Board shall make their selection no later than July 1. The Executive Board, at their discretion, may interview potential candidates. The Executive Board shall also receive input from the Travel Softball Commissioner. After the selection is made by the Executive Board, it is up to the Travel Softball Commissioner to notify all applicants of the Executive Board’s decision.</p> <p>B. <b>Full-Time Travel Head Coach Term</b> – The selection of the Head Coach is for the next calendar year’s team, where there is a vacancy. Once a head coach is named, they will move forward annually with the team into the next annual season unless either (1) executive board votes to accept applications for the respective age group or (2) the head coach submits his/her resignation.</p>															
Mentoring New Coaches	The Travel Softball Commissioner shall be available to mentor any new FTT head coach. 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 full-time travel shall be determined by the Executive Board in conjunction with the Travel Softball Commissioner.</p> <p>The FTT tryout dates shall be established no later than July 1 and shall be listed on OYO’s website. FTT teams shall conduct a minimum of two open tryout dates.</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 FTT coaches may market their respective tryouts.</p> <p>C. <b>Method of Tryout</b> – The head coach is responsible for the method of tryout.</p>															



- 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 Softball Commissioner and Vice President of Travel Softball, for approval. In the case of FTT teams, they may select an OYO Rec League player, but that player must not have already been drafted by/assigned to a OYO Rec League team.
- F. **Additional Tryouts** – If a FTT team cuts a player at the official tryout, and then, at a later date, elects to add a player(s), that team must conduct an open tryout to add additional players, unless otherwise approved by the Travel Softball Commissioner, Vice President of Travel Softball, and OYO President. The team must give at least one week's notice and post the tryout on the OYO website. All other tryout specifications shall be followed.
- G. **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.
- H. **Charging Tryout Fee for Full Time Tryouts** – FTT teams may charge individual players for tryouts if the fee is applied as follows:
- a. If player is selected and accepts, the tryout fee is applied toward team fee
  - b. If player is not selected, the tryout fee is refunded
  - c. If player is offered a roster spot but declines, then the tryout fee may be retained by the team and deposited into the team's account
- I. **Team Roster to OYO** – All FTT 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 Softball Commissioner in a timely manner.
- J. **Team Acceptance Letters and Payments** – 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 Softball Commissioner to all coaches before each new season of full-time tryouts. FTT coaches are only permitted to customize the section pertaining to team fee and payment schedule.



<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 10U 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 12U team will not go forward as either a 12U or 14U team and has equipment leftover at the end of the 14U season, those items should be submitted to the OYO equipment committee.</p>
<p>Travel Team Finances</p>	<p>All FTT 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 10U season is complete are to be used by the 10U or 12U team the next year, whichever is most predominantly featured among the team’s player composition. 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 softball fund, respectively, to be used at the discretion of the Travel Softball Commissioner. For example, if a 12U team will not go forward as a 14U team and has funds left over at the end of the 12U season, those funds are given to the OYO travel softball fund. In addition, OYO FTT 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 Rec Travel team shall be used for the benefit of the 8U or 10U Rec Travel team and not any 10U FTT team. This same rule applies to any age group that represents the earliest age group for full-time travel.</p> <p>FTT teams are to be fully self-funded. No contributions will be provided by OYO. In addition, all FTT teams will be responsible for an OYO fee for each player on its roster as of October 1. The fee schedule is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>\$900 per team</b> – 10U, 12U, 14U, 16U, 18U FTT Red Storm</li><li>• All fees will be automatically transferred on October 1 by the OYO Treasurer, unless otherwise approved by the OYO Travel Softball Commissioner and Vice President of Travel Softball</li></ul> <p>Teams will not be awarded any field space for the current year starting November 1 if there is an outstanding balance in the team fees being paid.</p> <p>All FTT 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 J</i>.</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>



Fundraising/Sponsorships	<p>FTT teams are encouraged to raise funds to offset expenses and control costs.</p> <p>FTT sponsorships are acceptable and teams may establish independent sponsorship packages so long as no commitments are being made on behalf of OYO. If any package involves OYO recognition, e.g. website listings, signage displayed, etc., then the FTT team’s sponsorship packages and terms must receive OYO Executive Board approval.</p> <p>For example, in 2021, FTT teams shall not solicit any support from OYO sponsors in 2019 and 2020 until after they commit to the rec league in 2021.</p> <p>It is acceptable for a sponsorship previously tied to a player in our rec league one season to follow the player to a FTT team the following season.</p> <p>All FTT 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>• FTT teams are permitted to hold one on-site fundraiser, of which the OYO Executive Board approves, during both the spring and fall ball seasons (two total per calendar year). The activity at Veterans Memorial Park must start and complete on the same calendar day.</li> <li>• This excludes any fundraisers that a FTT may conduct as part of its own Storm Smash summer tournaments.</li> </ul>
Establishment of New Team	<p>OYO will host one FTT travel team per age group. If the Travel Committee recommends the establishment of an additional new team, then the entire Board of Directors shall vote on the establishment of that new team.</p>
Tournaments	<p>The details of the FTT tournaments (OYO Storm Smash), shall be the responsibility of the various FTT coaches with consultation from the Travel Softball Tournament Chairperson, Vice President of Travel Softball and Travel Softball Commissioner.</p>
Age Eligibility	<p>Only age-appropriate players shall participate in the initial tryout for any FTT team. In the event a particular age group does not secure enough interest from players in its age group 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>For example, an 12U FTT coach should only consider 11- and 12-year-olds for its team. If only nine kids participated and all made the team, then the 12U coaches may select more 11- and 12-year olds as well as 10-year-olds. If all initial prospective players are selected, but the team is still short of a desired number of players, then tryouts are not required for these additional selections but are not discouraged either.</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 FTT prospective player is cut at the time of tryouts, an additional tryout must be scheduled, announced and conducted.</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 Softball 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 Softball Commissioner shall then notify OYO’s Vice President of Travel Softball immediately. The Vice President of Travel Softball 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>
<p>Scheduling</p>	<p>All FTT teams must submit their most up-to-date schedule to the OYO Scheduling Chair by March 1 each season to ensure field assignments are reserved.</p> <p>All FTT teams will be allocated one weeknight and one Sunday field assignment at OYO each season from March through July. If space is available after Fall Ball schedule is released, FTT teams may schedule activities accordingly.</p> <p>If any FTT 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 Softball Commissioner, Vice President of Travel Softball, Travel Baseball Commissioner and Vice President of Travel Baseball</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 Full-Time Travel:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– All batting cages and fields reserved and assigned for RT</li> <li>– David Manlove Memorial Tournament</li> <li>– OYO All-Star Games</li> <li>– OYO Rec League Tournament</li> <li>– Bill Sturm Memorial Tournament</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

