



BRANCHBURG BASEBALL CLUB

P.O. Box 5173 North Branch, NJ 08876

www.branchburgbaseball.com

2016 Travel Baseball Tryouts

Age Eligibility Chart

| Age Group | Earliest Birth Date | Latest Birth Date |
|------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 8U | May 1, 2007 | April 30, 2009 |
| 9U | May 1, 2006 | April 30, 2007 |
| 10U | May 1, 2005 | April 30, 2006 |
| 11U | May 1, 2004 | April 30, 2005 |
| 12U | May 1, 2003 | April 30, 2004 |
| 13U | May 1, 2002 | April 30, 2003 |
| 14U | May 1, 2001 | April 30, 2002 |



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**Where:.....Jack Cust Baseball Academy (Diamond Nation Bubble)
129 River Road
Flemington, NJ**

8U, 9U, 10U, 11U

When: Saturday, November 14, 2015 (see times below)

| Age Group | Birth Date Range | Time | Duration | Activities | Location |
|-----------|-------------------------------|--------|------------|---------------------------------------|----------|
| 8U | May 1, 2007 to April 30, 2008 | 4:00pm | 90 minutes | Fielding, Hitting, Pitching, Catching | Field 2 |
| 9U | May 1, 2006 to April 30, 2007 | 5:30pm | 90 minutes | Fielding, Hitting, Pitching, Catching | Field 2 |
| 10U | May 1, 2005 to April 30, 2006 | 4:00pm | 90 minutes | Fielding, Hitting, Pitching, Catching | Field 1 |
| 11U | May 1, 2004 to April 30, 2005 | 5:30pm | 90 minutes | Fielding, Hitting, Pitching, Catching | Field 1 |

* Please be ready to take the field at least 15 minutes prior to your group's scheduled start time.

12U, 13U, 14U

When: Sunday, November 15, 2015 (see times below)

| Age Group | Birth Date Range | Time | Duration | Activities | Location |
|-----------|-------------------------------|---|------------|---------------------------------------|----------|
| 12U | May 1, 2003 to April 30, 2004 | 4:00pm | 90 minutes | Fielding, Hitting, Pitching, Catching | Field 2 |
| 13U | May 1, 2002 to April 30, 2003 | 4:00pm | 90 minutes | Fielding, Hitting, Pitching, Catching | Field 1 |
| 14U | May 1, 2001 to April 30, 2002 | NO TRYOUTS WILL BE HELD FOR 14U. | | | |

* Please be ready to take the field at least 15 minutes prior to your group's scheduled start time.

Make-Up Session

A make-up session is available for those players who are unable to attend their scheduled tryout. There is no penalty for attending the make-up session as opposed to the initial session. Players need not stay for the entire session; once they have completed all drills and have been fully evaluated they are free to leave.

| Age Group | Location | Date | Time | Duration | Activities |
|-----------|--|---------------------------|--------|------------|---------------------------------------|
| All | Jack Cust Baseball Academy (Diamond Nation Bubble) | Monday, November 16, 2015 | 6:30pm | 90 minutes | Fielding, Hitting, Pitching, Catching |



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Frequently Asked Questions

What Should My Child Bring to Tryouts?

- Bat
- Glove
- Batting Helmet
- Sneakers/Turf Shoes (not cleats)
- Water or Sports Drink

* **Do not wear any clothing from prior BBC Travel teams from any season.**

Is My Child Eligible to Try Out?

In order to tryout, all players MUST be registered for the 2016 In-Town Baseball program prior to the tryouts. Click [here](#) or visit our website (www.branchburgbaseball.com) to register (look under "Registration").

Participation in the Travel Tryouts is mandatory for all players who wish to be placed on a 2016 BBC Travel team. No player will be placed on a BBC Gold team without attending the tryouts unless the Board of Directors is advised in advance of the tryouts and grants permission (injury, etc.). Permission will come from the BBC President.

Players must register and actively participate in at least 50% of the BBC 2016 In-Town season to be eligible to play BBC Travel Baseball in 2016.

Players are eligible to participate in the lowest age group for which their birth date qualifies (refer to the Age Eligibility Chart below). No player may participate in a different age group unless there are rare circumstances and the BBC Board of Directors has evaluated and approved the request. No younger player will take the place of an age-eligible candidate on any BBC Travel team.

Previous participation in the BBC Travel Program is not a pre-requisite for participation in the 2016 Travel program. Having played on a 2015 BBC Travel team does not entitle a player to be on the same 2016 BBC Travel team.



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Are There Multiple Teams for Each Age Group?

For each age group, 8U through 14U, the BBC will support one team. (This support is subject to certain conditions, such as having enough players and being able to rely upon a qualified manager and qualified assistant coaches.)

If there are enough players to form a second team at a particular level the BBC will make every effort to support such a team, subject to similar conditions as the original team at that age level.

The BBC will consider teams at the 7U and 15U/16U levels if the interest exists among Club members.

There is no guarantee that there will be one or more team(s) at each age level.

My Child Misses the Cutoff Date for His/Her Age Group – Is There Any Leniency Available?

The age groups posted are those into which players are slotted for team eligibility. Even if the difference is a day or two, the lines are clearly drawn.

One possible exception is the 8U age group. If there are some 8U-eligible players who are not selected for the 8U Gold team, but not enough players to comprise a second 8U roster (i.e., an 8U “Blue” team), those players who are 7U eligible (born between May 1, 2008 and April 30, 2009) will be considered to complete the 8U Blue roster. These same players will be 8U eligible in 2017. The Travel Committee will announce whether they would like to have 7-year-old players participate in the 8U tryouts. If these 7-year-old players are not asked to try out with the 8-year-old players, the methods by which 7-year-old players are added to the 8U Blue roster will be announced after the 8U Gold team has been announced.

Can My Child Specify the Team He/She Would Like to Join?

Each player who attends the tryout is competing for a roster spot on the Gold team at his or her age level.

If a player is selected for the Gold team he/she is expected to play on the Gold team.



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When Are the Travel Managers Selected?

The managers of the Gold teams for 2016 are as follows:

- 9 Gold: Matt Ponpipom
- 10 Gold: Jason Keller
- 11 Gold: Bill Willard
- 12 Gold: Rich Muratore
- 13 Gold: Bob Ebner
- 14 Gold: John Pinckert

The request for applications for the managers of the 8U Gold Team and any Blue travel teams will be sent to the membership following the travel tryouts. Those selected to manage these teams will be notified in late December 2015.

Is There a Cost Associated with Travel Tryouts?

The BBC is covering the cost of the tryouts at Diamond Nation. Families will not be charged for the tryout.

What is the Cost to Play Travel Baseball?

The overall cost to play travel baseball varies by team. Each travel team fee is comprised of three components:

- **Base Travel Fee:** Each player in the Branchburg Baseball Club Travel Program must pay to the BBC Treasurer a base travel fee. This includes Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth registration, insurance, equipment, baseballs, field maintenance supplies, and payment for Snack Shak workers during the BBC summer tournaments. We do not have the exact amount for 2016. As a frame of reference the 2015 cost was \$185 per player.
- **Tournament Fee:** Each travel team is permitted to set its own schedule for tournament play throughout the travel season (subject to BBC Board of Directors approval). All teams participate in the Branchburg Tournament and most Gold teams participate in the Cal Ripken / Babe Ruth District Tournament. For each additional tournament in which your player's team will participate the entrance fee is evenly split among the players on the roster. These fees are paid directly to the team manager.
- **Uniform Cost:** The *Uniforms, Equipment, and Awards Committee* will determine the specific uniform pieces and the overall cost of uniforms for 2016. This will be announced sometime in early 2016, as will the dates for the uniform sizing sessions. As a frame of reference a complete uniform in 2015 carried a cost of approximately \$140. This includes pants, game jersey, practice shirt, socks, belt, and hat. Additional items are available a la carte as well.



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What Criteria Will Be Used to Evaluate Players?

The specific criteria and the process to be used to evaluate players and to form the teams will be distributed to all registered players prior to the tryouts.

The specific criteria will likely be different for each age group.

All scores and evaluation notes will be kept by the Board in strict confidence and will not be distributed to anybody.

What Can Be Done if a Player is Injured for the Tryouts?

In the rare event of an injury keeping a player from attending the tryout, the Board of Directors and the Travel Committee will evaluate whether the injured player should be placed on a Gold or Blue team. To be specific, the Board of Directors and Travel Committee will evaluate the candidacy of an injured player when said player is clearly a top player from a 2015 Gold team. In such a situation the Board will likely make the adjustment and add that player to the 2016 Gold team. If said player is not one of the top Gold players from 2015, it is unlikely that player will be added to the 2016 Gold team (possible, but unlikely). The tryouts are extremely important and not attending will seriously jeopardize the opportunity to play on a 2016 Gold team.

What is the Player/Family Commitment to Travel Baseball in 2016?

The 2016 BBC Travel season will run about June 11 – July 31. Some teams elect to play in a Spring league and/or in a Memorial Day Tournament. Most teams can expect to play approximately 25 games between June 11 – July 31. Some teams will play more and others a few less. Gold teams will participate in a league, District 10 Tournament, Branchburg Tournament, and possibly a few outside tournaments (up to the Manager). Blue teams will participate in a league, Branchburg Tournament, and possibly an outside tournament or two (up to the Manager). Travel fees will be dictated by each team's schedule.

The Travel season is a competitive baseball experience and each team relies upon all of its players to attend all games. This is a requirement of each player and family. There are frequent schedule changes due to weather and league/tournament date changes. Parents and players need to be able to adapt to frequent changes (dates/times/locations/etc.).