



BRANCHBURG BASEBALL CLUB

P.O. Box 5173 North Branch, NJ 08876

www.branchburgbaseball.com

2017 Travel Baseball Tryouts

Age Eligibility Chart

Age Group	Field	Earliest Birth Date	Latest Birth Date
8U	46' mound; 60' bases	May 1, 2008*	April 30, 2009
9U	46' mound; 60' bases	May 1, 2007	April 30, 2008
10U	46' mound; 60' bases	May 1, 2006	April 30, 2007
11U	50' mound; 70' bases	May 1, 2005	April 30, 2006
12U	50' mound; 70' bases	May 1, 2004	April 30, 2005
13U	60' mound; 90' bases	May 1, 2003	April 30, 2004
14U	60' mound; 90' bases	May 1, 2002	April 30, 2003
15/16U	60' mound; 90' bases	May 1, 2000	April 30, 2002

* Players who will reach 7 years of age between May 1, 2017 and April 30, 2018 are welcome and encouraged to attend tryouts with the age-eligible 8U players.



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Where:..... White Oak Park
235 Baird Road
Branchburg, NJ

13U and 14U

When: Sunday, September 25, 2016 (see times below)

Age Group	Birth Date Range	Time	Duration	Activities	Location
13U	May 1, 2003 to April 30, 2004	2:00pm	90 minutes	Fielding, Hitting, Pitching, Catching	Field 17
14U	May 1, 2002 to April 30, 2003	4:00pm	90 minutes	Fielding, Hitting, Pitching, Catching	Field 17
15/16U	May 1, 2000 to April 30, 2002	There will not be tryouts for the 15/16U team at this time.			

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

8U, 9U, 10U, 11U, 12U

When: Saturday, October 1, 2016 (see times below)

Age Group	Birth Date Range	Time	Duration	Activities	Location
8U	May 1, 2008 to April 30, 2009	1:00pm	90 minutes	Fielding, Hitting, Pitching, Catching	Field 1
9U	May 1, 2007 to April 30, 2008	1:00pm	90 minutes	Fielding, Hitting, Pitching, Catching	Field 2
10U	May 1, 2006 to April 30, 2007	3:00pm	90 minutes	Fielding, Hitting, Pitching, Catching	Field 1
11U	May 1, 2005 to April 30, 2006	3:00pm	90 minutes	Fielding, Hitting, Pitching, Catching	Field 2
12U	May 1 2004 to April 30i, 2005	5:00pm	90 minutes	Fielding, Hitting, Pitching, Catching	Field 2

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

Note that the duration of the tryouts may be adjusted depending on the number of prospective players in each age group.

MAKE-UP & INCLEMENT WEATHER SESSIONS

When: Sunday, October 2, 2016 (Times and Fields TBD)

NOTE: We will also consider adding a weeknight session for those players who absolutely cannot attend these tryout dates.



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Frequently Asked Questions

What Should My Child Bring to Tryouts?

- Bat
- Glove
- Batting Helmet
- Rubber Cleats; Metal Spikes (13U, 14U, 15/16U only)
- 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 2017 BBC Travel Baseball tryouts via the BBC website. 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 2017 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 2017 Recreation season to be eligible to play BBC Travel Baseball in 2017.

Players are eligible to participate in the lowest age group for which their birth date qualifies (refer to the Age Eligibility Chart above).

Players in the 9U, 10U, 11U, 12U, 13U, and 14U age groups are permitted to try out for one level above their age group (e.g., a player born May 2, 2006 may try out for the 11U team). To be selected to the roster of the next-level team a below-age-level player must be among the top six (6) players in terms of overall score in the objective/skills portion of the tryout process.

A player who attends tryouts for a team above his/her age level, and is not selected for the roster of said team, will have an opportunity to be considered for the team at his/her age level.

Previous participation in the BBC Travel Program is not a pre-requisite for participation in the 2017 Travel program. Having played on a 2016 BBC Travel team does not entitle a player to be on the same 2017 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 Gold team eligibility. Even if the difference is a day or two, the lines are clearly drawn.

One exception is the 8U age group. Seven year olds (born between May 1, 2009 and April 30, 2010) who have a strong desire to play competitive summer baseball and have demonstrated advanced skills for their age are encouraged to register for and participate in the tryouts. Acceptance to play will be based on need to complete a roster, but even if not selected, this will provide the experience of having been through a “tryout” and make the player that much more comfortable with the process going forward. These same players will be 8U eligible in 2018.

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. A player trying out for the team that is one age level above his/her birth date age level is competing for a roster spot on the next-level team. (Players who try out for a next-level team and are not selected for the next-level roster may be offered a roster spot on their age-level team.)

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 request for applications for the managers of the BBC Gold travel teams was sent to membership on Saturday, August 27. The application is located on the BBC website. Completed applications for all candidates are due no later than September 17, 2016.

The managers of the Gold teams for 2017 will be selected and announced following the player tryouts.

Is There a Cost Associated with Travel Tryouts?

The BBC is covering the cost of the tryouts. 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 2017. As a frame of reference the 2016 cost was \$135 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 2017. This will be announced sometime in early 2017, as will the dates for the uniform sizing sessions. As a frame of reference a complete uniform in 2016 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.

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 was distributed to membership (and is posted on the BBC website) on August 27.

The specific criteria will likely be slightly 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.



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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 2016 Gold team. In such a situation the Board will likely make the adjustment and add that player to the 2017 Gold team. If said player is not one of the top Gold players from 2016, it is unlikely that player will be added to the 2017 Gold team (possible, but unlikely). The tryouts are extremely important and not attending will seriously jeopardize the opportunity to play on a 2017 Gold team.

What is the Player/Family Commitment to Travel Baseball in 2017?

The 2017 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 practices and 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.).