



Hillsborough Youth Athletic Association  
PO Box 577 Hillsborough NC 27278  
www.hyaasbaseball.org  
919.732.4454

## **HYAA All-Star Program**

### **HYAA All-Star Team Philosophy**

The Hillsborough Youth Athletic Association (HYAA) All-Star Team program is designed as a supplement to the HYAA recreation baseball and softball programs. This program was created to provide a higher level of competition beyond the recreational program for talented and motivated HYAA players who are willing to make a greater commitment to the improvement of their skills in a team focused environment.

The primary focus of All-Star Baseball/Softball is on player development and education with particular emphasis on developing position-specific skills. The All-Star program addresses more than just a player's athletic ability. All of the additional skills necessary to truly play the game will also be developed: professionalism, maturity, independence and responsibility. By nurturing the growth and development of HYAA players, we hope they will build the foundation to play baseball or softball competitively at the middle school and high school levels.

The All-Star Teams Committee shall have the responsibility of administering All-Star Baseball/Softball and all All-Star teams are subject to oversight and control by the HYAA Board of Directors.

### **Player Expectations**

Parents and players should note the following obligations before committing to join an All-Star team:

- The HYAA All-Star Team program is designed as a supplement to HYAA's baseball and softball recreation programs. Any child who wishes to play All-Star baseball or softball must play in the HYAA recreational league. Failure to attend recreation games could result in removal from the All-Star team.
- Although it is expected that families will have other obligations and periodically take vacations, parents should consider that tournaments begin in spring and may run through the end of July. Practices can be no more than twice a week during regular season and no less than 2 times a week or more than 4 times a week following the end of regular season.
- It is expected that any player on an All-Star team will attempt to make most, if not all, practices or games, and will supply advance notice to the coach if unable to make a practice or game. Although coaches will determine distribution of playing time, it is common practice that playing time is influenced by a player's attendance at practices and games.
- A player in the HYAA All-Star program may not play on another baseball or softball team that is not affiliated with HYAA. If that commitment cannot be made, the player should not try out for the HYAA All-Star program.
- In tournament and All-Star games an attempt will be made to play all players in the field and at bat. A continuous batting order must be used in games where allowed. Playing time is earned and decided upon by the coach. Amount of play will vary from player to player, as even playing time is not required.
- If a team is short of rostered players for a game or tournament the head coach is allowed to call up players from another team with that coaches' approval, as long as the total number of players does not exceed the available defensive positions, and that players' team does not have a practice or game scheduled. A player pitch team may not call up a non-player pitch team's player.



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## **Parent Expectations**

HYAA believes the experience for the players, coaches and parents will be enhanced with an open dialogue among all individuals. The HYAA Parent Code of Ethics also applies during the All-Star baseball/softball season. Parents should know that because teams in the All-Star program play in a more competitive environment, equal playing time is not guaranteed for all players. Decisions about playing time are made by the coaches. Coaches are expected to provide opportunities for development for all players. If parents or players have concerns or questions about the coaching decisions, they are encouraged to discuss them openly with the coach. If concerns still remain, parents are free to contact the All-Star Team Committee to discuss them. If issues are yet unresolved, the baseball/softball commissioner can be contacted. For contact information, see the HYAA web site. If a problem is not addressed to the parents' satisfaction, the commissioner will notify the HYAA President.

## **Costs**

The player fees will include player & coach uniforms, and tournament fees. Upon acceptance of a roster spot, the non-refundable player fee must be paid before the player will be allowed to participate in practices or tournaments. Financial aid is not available; however, teams will receive free field usage, team insurance and have the option to use HYAA approved fundraisers to offset expenses. Should teams choose to play additional tournaments they will be responsible for the associated costs above the pre-set player fee. At the end of the playing season, if the balance of the team account is \$5 or less per player then the money will be donated to general HYAA account. If the balance is more than \$5 per player a check will be written to the team treasurer who will distribute funds equally to players.

## **All-Star Team Manager Selection**

All-Star baseball and softball team managers are considered ambassadors of HYAA and are expected to conduct themselves accordingly.

The role of an All-Star team manager extends beyond on-field responsibilities and involves a significant investment of time and effort. Candidates must be willing and able to perform all responsibilities of the job and make an honest evaluation of their availability, work schedule and personal commitments prior to assuming the role.

Candidates are required to have fulfilled the requirements of the Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth Coaching Certification program meeting the "Minimum Standards for Volunteer Coaches Safety Orientation and Training Skills Programs" (N.J.A.C. 5:52). Candidates for Team Managers must also have prior HYAA team coaching experience.

Selection of an All-Star team manager will consider many criteria including, but not limited to, baseball/softball knowledge, coaching techniques, communication and organizational skills, past experiences in HYAA as well as any other youth sports organizations, and youth sports philosophy. Team managers will be chosen after the All-Star teams are selected. The All-Star Teams Committee will choose the individual perceived to be the best overall coach, teacher, role model and leader of HYAA's youth. Each head coach will then choose two assistant coaches and submit those assistant coaches to the All-Star Teams Committee for ratification.

The term of the All-Star team manager shall be the season for which the team has been developed. Coaching an All-Star team in a prior year does not guarantee a coaching position in the current year. Individuals who wish to



be considered must submit an All-Star coach application form to the All-Star Teams Committee. The All-Star Teams Committee may also designate additional candidates as may be required to develop a team within a particular age group. Coaches must be able to meet the time and travel requirements for practices and tournaments as well as following the playing requirements as listed in player requirements section.

The All-Star Team Committee will select All-Star baseball and softball team managers in accordance with the process outlined above and may replace an All-Star team manager at any time for reasons of misconduct or repeated failure to adhere to the objectives of HYAA.

At or near the conclusion of each All-Star baseball and softball season, evaluation forms for the All-Star coaches will be distributed to a parent or guardian of each All-Star team player by a member of the HYAA Board of Directors. A board member will organize the evaluations and provide a report to the HYAA Board of Directors along with all noteworthy comments from the parents. These evaluations help the organization identify areas that worked well for the players and areas that need improvement.

### **All-Star Team Player Selection**

Only players who participate in the HYAA spring recreational baseball or softball program are eligible to participate in the All-Star Team program for the given calendar year. The players selected for All-Star teams are chosen via a tryout in which a player's skills are evaluated in the areas of hitting, fielding, throwing, and running. Tryouts will be held in March.

Eligibility requirements as stipulated by Cal Ripken League, Inc. shall apply to All-Star team player selections. The player's age for team participation is as of April 30 of the respective year. Players must participate in their age group. This is to ensure the most players in an age group are given an opportunity to play and also to field competitive teams. 7U players as of April 30 during the current year may try out for an 8U team if there is no 7U team, but they must try out and play on the 8U team the following year. These 7-year-olds may not move up to the 9U team when they are 8-year-olds.

It is the objective of the HYAA All-Star Team program to provide an open and fair environment for All-Star team selection. Tryouts are scheduled to enable a fair selection process to occur which will develop teams with the most competitive participants.

All-Star team selections will be made based primarily on performance at the tryouts. Playing on an HYAA AllStar team in a prior year does not guarantee selection for an All-Star team in the present year. There are a limited number of roster slots on each team (11-15), which means not all candidates will be chosen for an AllStar team. 8 roster slots will be selected to the team based on criteria with the remaining roster slots selected by the head coach.

All players will be given a score based upon the league rubric with the following criteria:

- Infield grounders - fielding form (25%)
- Fly balls - catching form (25%)





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|--------------------------------------|--|
| Home Phone:                          |  |
| Mobile Phone:                        |  |
| Email address:                       |  |
| Alternate email address:             |  |
|                                      |  |
| Player Date of Birth:                |  |
| Player School Grade:                 |  |
| Team (6U,7U,8U,9U, 10U,<br>11U, 12U) |  |