

# Crystal Lake Babe Ruth Baseball

January, 2010  
Volume 4, Issue 1



## Important Dates:

Registration	Feb 6 & 13
Manager Orientation	March 11
New Player Try-outs	March 14
13TT & 14TT Try-outs	March 21
Parent Night	April 6
<b>CLBR turns 50!</b>	<b>April 22</b>
15TT Try-outs	April 25
Picture Night	April 28
First Aid Clinic	TBD

Check online calendar at:  
[www.clbr.org](http://www.clbr.org)

**Sponsorship  
Opportunities  
Available**

See Page 2

## Baseball 2010 Starts RIGHT NOW!

While we're still a few months away from the first pitch, the 2010 Summer Baseball season is underway! There's a lot of work to get done before that first pitch and it all starts with **registration** on **February 6 and 13, 2010** from 9am until noon at Main Beach. Players aged 13 – 18 can sign-up for CL Babe Ruth Prep, Major, and Senior Leagues. This season CL Babe Ruth will be celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> baseball season.

Inside you will find everything you need to know about our different age divisions, registration dates for the 2010 baseball season, Babe Ruth Tournament teams and opportunities on how you and your family can become involved with

CLBR this summer. [All forms can be downloaded at www.CLBR.org.](http://www.CLBR.org)

CLBR's unique format of mixing different age levels allows varsity high school and college players to join with first year teammates in a fun-filled, learning environment. Our program has more high school players than any other local program and is the only one available to these age groups that gives an opportunity to all players of every skill level. All of our programs and leagues stress fun and learning above winning and losing to create lasting memories and friendships that will last the player and their family a lifetime.

## Year Round Programs Offered

Since its beginning in 1960, Crystal Lake Babe Ruth has grown from a 5 team summer recreational league to a year round program with over 50 teams and 700 players.

We now offer three levels of competition for players 13 to 18 years of age. The **Prep League** is a great transitional, instructional league only for 13 year old players to let them get used to a larger field and new rules. The **Major League** helps prepare players for the high school level. The **Senior League** allows players to continue their careers in a league setting into their college years.

**Fall Ball** has been very popular as it gives players a chance to continue playing games almost until the snow flies. We even offer **Winter Workouts** to help players stay in shape and develop their skills in the off-season.

CLBR also has higher-level **Tournament Teams** for the 13, 14, 15 and 18-year-old age groups. These teams offer the most skilled players a place to showcase and improve their skills at some of the best tournaments in the country.

## Crystal Lake Babe Ruth Celebrates 50<sup>th</sup> Season

CL Babe Ruth is planning a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration – this 2010 spring season will be our 50<sup>th</sup> baseball season. We will be celebrating our golden anniversary in different ways throughout the season. Have any favorite CL Babe Ruth stories or updates on alumni – send information to [news@clbr.org](mailto:news@clbr.org).

## Lippold Park Improvements for 2010

*To volunteer time or  
donate materials for  
our improvement  
projects,  
Call Jim Taege  
847-997-8861*

What will be new at Lippold Park this year? Crystal Lake Babe Ruth is constantly working at keeping the Mickey Sund Complex at Lippold Park as the best fields in McHenry County. We are also hoping to break ground very soon on a new concession/restroom facility. This building will be 24' x 72' and contain a Health Dept fully approved concession stand, handicap accessible washrooms and a field maintenance storage area.

As you can imagine this project is a huge undertaking for the league and requires assistance from the entire league. We are looking for donations of materials, time and money. Please contact Jim Taege – [JTAEGE@CLBR.ORG](mailto:JTAEGE@CLBR.ORG) for inquiries.

We will also have several other noticeable projects that will improve the playing experience as well as the safety of the fields.

Crystal Lake Babe Ruth and the Crystal Lake Park District are committed to making Lippold Park a better, safer, and more enjoyable experience for all players and fans. This involves a large amount of time and \$\$ from local companies, families, volunteers, and others.

All field improvement projects are funded directly by the league. If you can assist or volunteer please contact any board member.

## Sponsorship Opportunities for 2010

- ▶ **Teams:** 29 summer teams in three divisions.
- ▶ **Banners:** Advertise your business on the outfield fence.
- ▶ **Score Board Banners:** Multi-year sponsorships available.
- ▶ **Donations:** Donate time, supplies or money.

Contact any board member below or check our website [www.clbr.org](http://www.clbr.org)

## Babe Ruth 2009 Board of Directors

President	Jim Sabo	<a href="mailto:jsabo@clbr.org">jsabo@clbr.org</a>	Player Agent	Marc Sabo	<a href="mailto:msabo@clbr.org">msabo@clbr.org</a>
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Board Member	Anthony Juliano	<a href="mailto:ajuliano@clbr.org">ajuliano@clbr.org</a>			

Additional board member contact information is available on the CLBR website.

## Playing Options for 13 Year Olds

13 year old players graduating from one of the many Crystal Lake Little Leagues will find themselves with many choices in Babe Ruth. You can play in the 13 yr old only **Prep League** that will help transition them to the Major League field sizes and rule. You can register and play in the **Major League** where you'll be competing with 14 and 15

year olds. You can even choose to do **both** (discounted fees are available if you play both leagues). Finally, if you really crave competition and want to test your skills against the best, you can tryout for the 13 year old **Tournament Team**. Plenty of reasons for every 13 year old to be playing baseball in the summer of 2010!



## Prep League, 13 Year Olds Only

- ❖ For 13 year old players only
- ❖ Played on a field with 80 foot bases and 54 foot mound
- ❖ Plays a full league schedule (last season 18 games)
- ❖ Games begin in mid May and continues through the end of July
- ❖ Features an end of season double elimination playoff to determine the City Champion.
- ❖ Major League Baseball playing rules, most notable are leadoffs, steals, balks, pitching limitations, and guaranteed playing time.

## Major League, Ages 13, 14, and 15

- ❖ Consists of players 13 to 15. (usually has one to three 13 year olds per team)
- ❖ Returning players in the Major League return to the same team to help build tradition and lasting friendships.
- ❖ League rules closely monitor the age breakdown per team to help keep competitive balance within the League
- ❖ Pitching limitations and guaranteed playing time for all players
- ❖ Continuous batting order
- ❖ Played on a Major League size field with 90 foot bases and 60' 6" mound
- ❖ Features games played at beautiful and historic Veteran Acres
- ❖ Features night games at Lippold Park (Still the only place in Crystal Lake with a full size lighted baseball field)
- ❖ Games begin at the end of May to accommodate any players on local High School teams.
- ❖ Double elimination tournament at the end of the regular season

## Senior League, Ages 16, 17, and 18

- ❖ Rosters consist of 14 or 15 players aged 16, 17, and 18
- ❖ Continuous batting order
- ❖ Consistent weekly schedule to accommodate working players
- ❖ Games begin at the end of May to accommodate any players on local High School teams

### Did You Know?

There were 29 summer and 24 fall teams that allowed over 700 players to participate in CLBR baseball for 2009.

## Tournament Teams for ages 13, 14, 15 and 18

- ❖ High-level tournament team at the 18, 15, 14, and 13 year old age groups
- ❖ Players go through a tryout and only the best Babe Ruth players are invited to play
- ❖ Tryouts dates will be announced at registration and will be held for all 3 tournament teams in the spring with all roster spots open. All players must try-out.
- ❖ Teams in the past have traveled to tournaments in Rockford, Chicago, Quad Cities, Indianapolis, Detroit, Orlando, along with many local tournaments.
- ❖ Teams play an additional 15-30 games including various tournaments
- ❖ The team members and sponsors raise funds for the Tournament teams. No League funds are used to support these teams.
- ❖ Players continue to play on their in-house team to share the tournament team training and experience with the rest of the League.



## Fall Leagues, 3 age levels: 12, 12-14, and High-School

- ❖ Fall Leagues begin in late-August and continue through mid-October
- ❖ Prep League is for 12-year-olds, plays on a mid-size field and includes instructional clinics
- ❖ Major League is for 14, 13, and 12-year old players on a full size field and features night games
- ❖ Senior High School League is a wood bat league

## Winter Workouts

- ❖ Winter Workout is a 3-4 month long program that focuses on many aspects of the game
- ❖ Hitting, pitching, throwing, and base running are stressed in a variety of practices and clinics
- ❖ Workouts begin in November and continue until High School tryouts in March
- ❖ Practices run 1 to 3 times a week and the schedule can be worked around other sports and family obligations
- ❖ We utilize indoor facilities such as Crystal Lake Central High School's field house, Prairie Ridge High School and Player's Choice Academy locations in both Lake in the Hills and Huntley.

## Babe Ruth Age Chart

USA Baseball, the governing body over all of amateur baseball, dictates the date that determines a player's age for the 2010 season. A player's **league age** will be determined by his/her age on May 1, 2010. See the chart below to determine your 2010 baseball age.

Match month (top line) and box with year of birth--League age indicated at right												
MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	AGE
1996	1996	1996	1996	1996	1996	1996	1996	1997	1997	1997	1997	13
1995	1995	1995	1995	1995	1995	1995	1995	1996	1996	1996	1996	14
1994	1994	1994	1994	1994	1994	1994	1994	1995	1995	1995	1995	15
1993	1993	1993	1993	1993	1993	1993	1993	1994	1994	1994	1994	16
1992	1992	1992	1992	1992	1992	1992	1992	1993	1993	1993	1993	17
1991	1991	1991	1991	1991	1991	1991	1991	1992	1992	1992	1992	18
1990	1990	1990	1990	1990	1990	1990	1990	1991	1991	1991	1991	19

**Prep League** 13 year old / **Major League** 13-15 year old / **Senior League** 16-18 year old

## CLBR Registration 2010

Crystal Lake Babe Ruth serves players from 13 to 18 years of age (see 2010 CLBR Age Chart inside.) Our boundaries include all of McHenry County!

Here are some reminders to help you with our summer league registration:

- ❖ You must register on one of these dates; **there is no mail-in or on-line registration.**
- ❖ Registration for ALL levels of CLBR.
- ❖ Feb 6 and 13, 9am to 12 noon
- ❖ Held at Main Beach at 300 Lake Shore Drive in Crystal Lake.
- ❖ Forms can be downloaded and filled out before registration.
- ❖ All new players to Babe Ruth will need to bring a birth certificate to verify their age.
- ❖ The 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday and early morning are the least crowded times.

On registration day **all players** will need to fill out the following: **registration form, emergency medical form, volunteer form, uniform size form and a code of conduct form.** All forms can be downloaded from our website – [www.clbr.org](http://www.clbr.org).

Some of the information you will need in order to complete the registration process is emergency contact numbers, doctors' names and phone numbers, e-mail addresses, and uniform sizes.

All 13 year olds and new players to the Major League will receive information about tryouts at registration. Tryouts for the 2010 season will be held on March 14 at Crystal Lake Central HS field house.

If you are unable to attend one of the registration days, please call League Player Agent Marc Sabo (815-356-RUTH) to make other arrangements. A late fee of \$25 may be charged for late registration.

**Saturday  
February 6th  
and 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Main Beach  
300 Lake Shore Drive  
Crystal Lake**

**9am until 12 noon**

### 2010 Registration Fees (per player)\*

<b>Prep League** (13 yr old)</b>	<b>\$200</b>
<b>Major League (13-15 yr old)</b>	<b>\$200</b>
<b>13 yr Prep &amp; Major League</b>	<b>\$360</b>
<b>Senior League (16-18 yr old)</b>	<b>\$220</b>

\* If additional players from the same family register, they will receive \$15 off registration.

\*\* Prep league fee includes each player getting their own new batting helmet

\*\*\*\*\* The League will accept MasterCard, VISA, and Discover cards for registration \*\*\*\*\*  
 \*\*\*\*\* All transactions must be done on the day of registration. \*\*\*\*\*  
 \*\*\*\*\* There will be a \$5 administrative fee for use of the card. \*\*\*\*\*



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Look Inside!  
Important News!

## Crystal Lake Babe Ruth Baseball

### **Summer League Registration**

**February 6 and 13, 2010**

Prep (13), Major (13, 14, 15), and Senior (16-18) Leagues

