

# Crystal Lake Babe Ruth Baseball

January, 2011



## Important Dates:

Registration	Feb 5 & 12
Manager Orientation	March 10
New Player Try-outs	March 13
13TT & 14TT Tryouts	March 20
Parent Night	April 12
First Aid Clinic	April 14
15TT Try-outs	April 17
Picture Night	April 20

Check online calendar at:

[www.clbr.org](http://www.clbr.org)

## Sponsorship Opportunities

Available

See Page 2

**Player Fees for Summer League to remain at 2010 levels!**

## Baseball 2011 Starts RIGHT NOW!

**Please note this year's registration will be held at two different locations. This is different from past years due to space limitations.**

We are still a few months away from the first pitch, but the 2011 Summer Baseball season is underway! There's a lot of work to get done before that first pitch and it all starts with registration. The first session will be held on **February 5 at Main Beach** from 9am until noon. The second session will be held on **February 12 at Park Place** from 9am until noon.

Inside you will find everything you need to know about our different divisions, registration dates for the 2011 baseball season, Babe Ruth Tournament teams, tryout dates, and opportunities on how you and your family can become involved with CLBR this summer. All registration 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 memories and friendships that will last the player and their family a lifetime.

See page 6 for additional information.

## 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 nearly 40 teams and over 500 players.

The CLBR offers three levels of competition for players 13 to 18 years of age. The **Prep League** is a great transitional program for 13 year old players only and allows players to get used to a larger field and new rules. The **Major League** is for players 13 to 15 years old and played on a full sized diamond. The **Senior League** is for players 16 to 18 years old.

**Fall Ball** has been very popular as it gives players a chance to continue playing games almost until the snow flies. Additionally, the CLBR offers a **Winter Workout** program to help players stay in shape and develop their skills in the off-season.

The CLBR also has **Tournament Teams** for the 13, 14, and 15, and 18U -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.

## New Bat Rules for 2011

For players using high school style bats which are (-3) in length-weight ratio bats must have a BESR stamp printed on the bat. **Composite barrel bats must be on the NFHS approved list.** Currently the only composite barrel (-3) bats that are approved are Demarini CF4, DeMarini Vendetta, Combat B1AB2, Combat B2AB1, Louisville Slugger/TPX Dynasty, Louisville Slugger/TPX Triton. All other wood bats, metal/aluminum bats, and bats that are composite in the handle only are legal. A complete list of Composite barrel bats that are legal can be found here <http://www.nfhs.org/content.aspx?id=4155>

For players using non-high school style bats, which are lower than a (-3) length-weight ratio, all composite barreled bats are illegal. All metal/aluminum and bats that are composite in the handle only are legal. A complete list of ALL legal non-high school style bats can be found here:

[http://www.baberuthleague.org/images/2011BRLApprovedNonWoodBatList.pdf?utm\\_source=streamsend&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=13247109&utm\\_campaign=Composite%20Bats](http://www.baberuthleague.org/images/2011BRLApprovedNonWoodBatList.pdf?utm_source=streamsend&utm_medium=email&utm_content=13247109&utm_campaign=Composite%20Bats)

Both high school (-3) style bats and non-high schools style bats are allowed to be used in any division of our league (Prep, Major, Senior) and long as the pass the guidelines above.

## Sponsorship Opportunities for 2011

**Teams:** 26 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)

## Sprit Wear Available for 2011

Spirit Wear for Sale: CLBR will be taking orders for t-shirts, sweatshirts, pullovers and more! Order forms and samples will be available during registration, try outs & Parent Night. All orders will be due by Picture Night, April 20<sup>th</sup>. Items will be delivered in early May. For information or questions, contact Mary Wanic at [mwanic@clbr.org](mailto:mwanic@clbr.org).

## Volunteers Needed

In addition to our funding needs, CLBR relies on volunteers to accomplish the many tasks it takes to run the league. Volunteers are needed for field days, cook outs, Chamber of Commerce Mixer, selling raffle tickets & offer cards, plus more. Among the greatest challenges is manning the concession stands and working on the 5 fields. Although the fields are on park district land, it's the responsibility of the CLBR to maintain them. This year we are hoping to have the concession stand open during most games, which will require many volunteers. If you are interested in helping please fill out the volunteer form at registration. If you have any questions please contact board member Justin Banaszynski at [jbanaszynski@clbr.org](mailto:jbanaszynski@clbr.org).

## 2011 CLBR Board of Directors

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## Playing Options for 13 Year Olds

First year players in the CLBR who are 13 years old will have a number of playing options. They may participate in the **Prep League, designed for 13 year olds only** to help them transition to the Major League field sizes and rules. They may instead play in the **Major League** where they will play

with 14 and 15 year olds, or they may choose to do **both** (discounted fees are available if you play both leagues). Additionally, for those whose competitive abilities allow, they may tryout for the 13 year old **Tournament Team**.



## Prep League, 13 Year Olds Only

- ❖ For 13 year old players only
- ❖ All players must tryout
- ❖ 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.
- ❖ Each player receives a new batting helmet as part of registration.

## 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.
- ❖ New players ages 13, 14 and 15 and graduating Prep players **must tryout**.
- ❖ 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

### In-House Tryouts

For:

Incoming 13 year olds, 14 and 15 year olds new to the program and graduating Prep players

#### **Must Tryout**

On

March 13, 2011  
11:30am to 7pm

At

Prairie Ridge  
High School

Time slots will be provided at registration

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

- ❖ High-level tournament team at the 15, 14, and 13 year old age groups
- ❖ Players go through a tryout and only the best Babe Ruth players are invited to play
- ❖ Tryout information will be available at registration. All players must tryout.
- ❖ 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.

Tournament Team  
Tryouts  
13 and 14 year olds

March 20, 2011  
2pm to 6pm

Prairie Ridge  
High School

15 year old Tryouts on  
April 17

## 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 2011 season. A player's **league age** will be determined by his/her age on May 1, 2011. See the chart below to determine your 2011 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
1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1997	1998	1998	1998	1998	13
1996	1996	1996	1996	1996	1996	1996	1996	1997	1997	1997	1997	14
1995	1995	1995	1995	1995	1995	1995	1995	1995	1996	1996	1996	15
1994	1994	1994	1994	1994	1994	1994	1994	1994	1995	1995	1995	16
1993	1993	1993	1993	1993	1993	1993	1993	1993	1994	1994	1994	17
1992	1992	1992	1992	1992	1992	1992	1992	1992	1993	1993	1993	18
1991	1991	1991	1991	1991	1991	1991	1991	1991	1992	1992	1992	19

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

## Saturday February 5th

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

**9am until 12 noon**

## Saturday February 12th

**Park Place**  
**406 Woodstock Ave**  
**Crystal Lake**

**9am until 12 noon**

## CLBR Registration 2011

Crystal Lake Babe Ruth serves players from 13 to 18 years of age (see 2011 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 5 held at Main Beach at 300 Lake Shore Drive in Crystal Lake.
- ❖ Feb 12 held at Park Place at 406 Woodstock Avenue 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 13 and 14 year olds will be held on March 13 at Prairie Ridge HS from 11:30am to 7pm. Tournament team (13's and 14's) tryouts will be held on March 20 at Prairie Ridge HS from 2 to 6 pm.

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.

## 2011 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.

\*\* Each Prep league player receives their own new batting helmet as part of registration.

The League will accept MasterCard, VISA, and Discover cards for registration.  
All card transactions must be done on the day of registration.  
There will be a \$5 administrative fee for use of the card.  
A late fee of \$25 may be assessed for registration after February 12, 2011



Babe Ruth League, Inc.  
P.O. Box 1960  
Crystal Lake, IL 60039-1960

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Return Service Requested

Look Inside!  
Important News!

## Crystal Lake Babe Ruth Baseball

### **Summer League Registration**

**February 5 and 12, 2011**

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

