

SUWANNEE

Parks & Recreation

Live Oak, FL



2014 Babe Ruth Program Information

Dear Baseball, Softball and Tee Ball Participants:

We thank you for registering your child to participate in our Babe Ruth Baseball, Softball & Tee Ball Program this year. We strive to make your family's experience an enjoyable one. We hope that your participation in our program will instill a passion for the game of baseball and softball in you and your child. Please review the information in this packet and feel free to contact us with any questions you may have. We can be reached by telephone between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, at (386) 362-3004.

Please note that practices will begin on Monday, March 10th and we will begin playing games on Saturday, April 12th. Games will conclude the first week of June.

We offer nine divisions of play in our Babe Ruth program:

BASEBALL		SOFTBALL	
Tee Ball (Coed)	5 & 6 year olds	8U Softball	7 & 8 year olds
Rookie Ball	7 & 8 year olds	10U Softball	9 & 10 year olds
Minor League	9 & 10 year olds	12U Softball	11 & 12 year olds
Major League	11 & 12 year olds	14U Softball	13 & 14 year olds
Senior League	13 to 15 year olds		

BASEBALL AGE CUTOFF: A player's age will be determined as of April 30th

SOFTBALL AGE CUTOFF: A player's age will be determined as of January 1st

IT STARTS IN PARKS

Coaching. Connecting. Community.



Coaches Meeting:

All coaches participating in the Babe Ruth program must attend the Coaches Meeting scheduled for Monday, March 3rd at 6:00 pm at the Passenger Depot located at 210 North Ohio Avenue. To get to the Passenger Depot, take Ohio Avenue (US 129) north from downtown, cross the railroad tracks and turn right on Haines Street. The parking lot will be on the right.

Player Drafts:

All Suwannee County Babe Ruth teams (with the exception of Tee Ball teams) will be formed through a player draft. Coaches' children will be drafted to the team their parent is coaching. Siblings in the same age division will be teamed together unless otherwise specified. Please arrive early to your scheduled player draft and have your child dressed ready to participate, including cleats, glove, and appropriate baseball/softball clothing. Player drafts are scheduled for the following dates and times:

Rookie 7 Year Olds: Friday, March 7th @ 6 pm, Field 2

- . *Players who will be 7 years old on or before April 30th*

Rookie 8 Year Olds: Thursday, March 6th @ 6 pm, Field 2

- . *Players who will be 8 years old on or before April 30th*

Minor League: Tuesday, March 4th @ 6 pm, Field 2

Major League: Tuesday, March 4th @ 6 pm, Field 3

Senior League: Monday, April 7th @ 6 pm, Field 1

8U Softball: Thursday, March 6th @ 6 pm, Field 5

10U Softball: Friday, March 7th @ 6 pm, Field 5

12U Softball: Saturday, March 8th @ 10 am, Field 4

14U Softball: Monday, April 7th @ 6 pm, Field 4

Your coach will contact you within 48 hours after your draft to inform you of your practice schedule.

Volunteers Needed!

Do you have a passion for baseball?

Do you enjoy coaching and working with children?

Do you want to make a difference in your community?

We depend on the support of our volunteers to make our programs successful.

Ask us about becoming a volunteer youth baseball/softball coach.

Sponsors Needed!

We rely upon the support of our community in order to continue providing high quality recreational opportunities for local children.

If you or someone you know is interested in sponsoring our Babe Ruth Baseball & Softball Program, please contact us.

Contact Us

Suwannee Parks & Recreation

1201 Silas Drive

Live Oak, FL 32064

(386) 362-3004

www.suwanneeparks.com

Tee Ball Teams:

Please note that there is no player draft for Tee Ball. Teams in this age division will be formed by Suwannee Parks & Recreation staff. Tee Ball players that participated last year may opt to return to the same team or be assigned to a different team. Please note that not all coaches from the previous year will be returning, so by returning to the same team you may not necessarily be with the same coach. We will attempt to balance Tee Ball teams by age and gender. Your Tee Ball coach will contact you by March 9th to inform you of your scheduled practice times.

Necessary Equipment:

All participants must furnish their own glove and practice uniform (baseball/softball pants, socks, cleats and cap). We encourage participants to provide their own batting helmet, but Suwannee Parks & Recreation will provide helmets if necessary. All participants that will be playing the catcher position are required to wear a protective cup. Players may wear cleats, but cleats must be made of rubber or plastic (Senior League and 14U Softball players are permitted to wear metal cleats).

Practices:

Practices are scheduled to begin on Monday, March 10th. Teams will typically practice two to three times per week until games start. Practice schedules will be posted at the Concession Stand. Check with your coach to confirm your practice dates, times and locations. Senior League and 14U Softball will begin practices in April.

Games:

Games are scheduled to begin on Saturday, April 12th. Teams will typically play one to two games per week. Games will be played at the First Federal Sportsplex in Live Oak. Games will also be played in neighboring leagues including but not limited to Branford, Fort White, Jasper, Madison, Mayo and Perry. There is a \$1.00 admission fee to all games.

Player Drafts:

Rookie Ball – 8 Year Old Draft

For all Rookie Ball participants who are 8 years of age, or who turn 8 before May 1st:

Thursday, March 6th – 6 pm, Field 2

Rookie Ball – 7 Year Old Draft

For all Rookie Ball participants who are 7 years of age, or who turn 7 before May 1st:

Friday, March 7th – 6 pm, Field 2

Minor League Draft

Tuesday, March 4th – 6 pm, Field 2

Major League Draft

Tuesday, March 4th – 6 pm, Field 3

Senior League Draft

Monday, April 7th – 6 pm, Field 1

8U Softball Draft

Thursday, March 6th – 6 pm, Field 5

10U Softball Draft

Friday, March 7th – 6 pm, Field 5

12U Softball Draft

Saturday, March 8th – 10 am, Field 4

14U Softball Draft

Monday, April 7th – 6 pm, Field 4

Contact Us

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Game Schedules:

Game schedules will be available starting April 7th and will be posted under the "Schedules" link on our web site, www.suwanneeparks.com. Hard copies of game schedules will also be distributed to participants once they are available. Please note that Senior League and 14U Softball games will not begin until May.

Uniforms:

All participants will receive a team uniform as part of their registration fee. Team uniforms consist of a jersey, pants, cap and socks. Please do not practice in your team uniform! Uniforms will be available the week before your first scheduled game.

Team and Individual Pictures:

Team and individual pictures are tentatively scheduled for Saturday, April 26th. Pictures will be taken in the Rotary Centennial Pavilion, which is the concrete block, screened pavilion located on the southeast corner of the First Federal Sportsplex. Picture packets and schedules will be distributed the week before picture day. Check with your coach or at the Concession Stand for picture schedules.

Trophies:

All players in the Tee Ball, Rookie Ball and 8U Softball divisions will receive a personalized trophy at the conclusion of the season. Trophies for all other age divisions will be awarded to the teams that finish in first and second place in the playoff tournament.

Inclement Weather Information:

Stay connected during inclement weather by joining RainedOut™ to receive updates on weather related cancellations and delays. Simply text SPRBASEBALL to 84483 to begin receiving text message updates (standard text messaging rates may apply) or visit www.rainedout.com to sign up for email alerts.

2014 SHS Varsity Baseball Schedule

Tues. 2/11 - @ Lafayette – 7:00 pm
Thurs. 2/13 - @ Union – 7:00 pm
Tues. 2/18 – vs. Santa Fe – 6:00 pm
Thurs. 2/20 - @ Hamilton – 7:00 pm
Tues. 2/25 - @ Columbia – 7:00 pm
Thurs. 2/27 – vs. Bradford – 6:00 pm
Tues. 3/4 - @ Madison – 7:00 pm
Fri. 3/7 - @ Wakulla – 7:00 pm
Tues. 3/11 – vs. Columbia – 7:00 pm
Fri. 3/14 – vs. Rickards – 7:00 pm
Sat. 3/15 - @ Fernandina – 1:00 pm
Tues. 3/18 – vs. Hamilton – 7:00 pm
Thurs. 3/20 – vs. Lafayette – 1:45pm
Sat. 3/22 – vs. Hollywood – 11:00am
Mon. 3/24 – vs. Buchholz – 4:30 pm
Thurs. 3/27 - @ Rickards – 6:00 pm
Fri. 3/28 – vs. Yulee – 6:00 pm
Mon. 3/31 – vs. Madison – 7:00 pm
Tues. 4/08 - @ Santa Fe – 7:00 pm
Fri. 4/11 – vs. Wakulla – 7:00 pm
Mon. 4/14 – vs. Union – 7:00 pm
Tues. 4/15 - @ Yulee – 7:00 pm
Thurs. 4/17 - @ Bradford – 6:00 pm

GO BULLDOGS!

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Important Bat Information:

Tee Ball, Rookie Ball, Minor League, Major League:

The bat may not exceed 33" in length, and the bat barrel may not exceed 2 ¼" in diameter. Only 2 ¼" barrel non-wood bats marked BPF 1.15 will be allowed. Wood bats are allowed.

Senior League:

The bat may not exceed 34" in length, and the bat barrel may not exceed 2 5/8" in diameter. All aluminum/alloy barrel bats and all composite handle (only) aluminum/alloy barrel bats are allowed. Only composite barrel bats certified and marked BBCOR .50 will be allowed. Wood barrel bats conforming to the specifications of Official Baseball Rule 1.10 are allowed.

Softball Division:

The bat shall not be more than 34" in length, and not more than 2 ¼" in diameter at its largest part. The bat shall not weigh more than 38 ounces. The bat shall be marked "OFFICIAL SOFTBALL" or "OFFICIAL FASTPITCH" by the manufacturer.

Non-Compliant Bats:

Louisville Slugger TPX Dynasty -12, (black/red/grey)

Louisville Slugger TPX Dynasty Model YB12D (black/red/grey)

Marucci CAT-52 33-inch model

Marucci CAT-52 34-inch model

Mattingly Sports, Inc., Balistk (Model - BTKYB, blue)

Nike Bat Model #Aero CX2-BTO636 (light grey)

Nike Bat Model #Aero CX2-BTO573 (dark grey)

Nike Bat Model #Aero CX2-BTO598 (blue)

Reebok Vector-TLS 33-inch model

Babe Ruth League Softball has been advised that Louisville Slugger is recalling the entire current line of the OneX fastpitch softball bat (all lengths and weights) from the market. Effective immediately and until notified otherwise, these bats are no longer approved for play.

2014 SHS Varsity Softball Schedule

Tues. 2/4 – vs. Fort White – 6 pm
Fri. 2/7 - @ PK Yonge – 6 pm
Tues. 2/11 - @ Madison – 5pm/7pm
Fri. 2/14 – vs. Santa Fe – 5pm/7pm
Tues. 2/18 – vs. Union – 5pm/7pm
Thurs. 2/20 - @ Fort White – 6 pm
Fri. 2/21 - @ Columbia – 5pm/7pm
Tues. 2/25 - @ Rickards – 5pm/7pm
Thur. 2/27 – vs. Wakulla – 5pm/7pm
Tues. 3/4 – vs. Madison – 5pm/7pm
Fri. 3/7 – Santa Fe Tourney - TBA
Sat. 3/8 – Santa Fe Tourney - TBA
Tues. 3/11 - @ Wakulla – 5pm/7pm
Fri. 3/14 – Bell Tourney – TBA
Sat. 3/15 – Bell Tourney – TBA
Tues. 3/18 – vs. PK Yonge – 6 pm
Thurs. 3/20 – vs. Mayo – 1:45/3:00
Fri. 3/21 - @ Union – 5pm/7pm
Thurs. 3/27 – vs. Rickards – 6 pm
Tues. 4/8 - @ Lafayette – 5pm/7pm
Thurs. 4/10 – vs. Columbia – 7 pm
Fri. 4/11 - @ Santa Fe – 5pm/7pm

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All Star Information:

The Suwannee County Babe Ruth League will hold open tryouts for All Star teams. All players registered in the Babe Ruth Program are eligible to try out for their respective All Star team. All Star teams will practice on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays. Tryout dates are as follows:

Wednesday, April 30th:

8U Softball – 6:00 pm, Field 2

10U Softball – 6:00 pm, Field 4

12U Softball – 6:00 pm, Field 5

Wednesday, May 7th:

Rookie Ball – 6:00 pm – Field 4

Minor League – 6:00 pm – Field 2

Major League – 6:00 pm – Field 3

Senior League and 14U Softball All Star tryouts – TBA

Participants selected to join an All Star team will be responsible for covering the cost of their team uniform as well as travel to and from tournament sites and any necessary accommodations.

Florida Babe Ruth All Star Tournaments

Rookie Qualifier

Dates: June 19-22

Location: Lake City

Softball District Tournament

Dates: June 12-15

Location: TBA

Baseball District Tournament

Dates: June 26-29

Location: TBA

Rookie State Tournament

Dates: July 2-6

Location: Palm Beach Gardens

10U Baseball State Tournament

Dates: July 9-13

Location: Lake City

12U Baseball State Tournament

Dates: July 9-13

Location: Live Oak

15U Baseball State Tournament

Dates: July 16-20

Location: Tallahassee

Softball State Tournament (all ages)

Dates: June 26-30

Location: Alachua

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