NKCA Baseball League

From Their Hands to Yours, Since 1945

For more than 80 years, NKCA Baseball has been built on more than the game itself. It has been built by generations of players, coaches, families, and volunteers who have made this league part of their lives and their community.

As we look ahead to the **2027 Spring Season**, we're not just preparing for another year of baseball. We're continuing a tradition that began in 1945 and building something that will last for generations to come.

Think about the 7U players stepping onto the field today. In 2045, as NKCA celebrates its 100th anniversary, those same players will be 25 years old. Some may return to the very fields where they grew up, this time as coaches, mentors, and parents, helping a new generation of young athletes discover the same love for the game.

That's what makes NKCA special. The faces may change, the players may grow up, and the game may evolve, but the tradition, friendships, and sense of community remain. They will do this on the best-maintained, age-appropriate fields in Kansas City.

We're proud of where we've been, excited about where we're going, and committed to making sure the next generation has something just as special to call their own.

NKCA Baseball remains committed to delivering an exceptional youth baseball experience built on tradition, opportunity, sportsmanship, and respect. We believe the best baseball environments are created when players, coaches, parents, and spectators lead by example, respect the game, and treat everyone on the field with dignity. Competition should be passionate, but respect is never optional. Our commitment is to develop not only better baseball players, but better teammates, leaders, and members of our community.

NKCA Baseball has all levels of play for those 4 years old to 19 years old, introduction to competitive to ultra competitive. From TBall 6U, Coach Pitch 6U, Machine Pitch 6U to 8U, to Kid Pitch 9U-14U.



NKCA will continue to make the 2027 season memorable by celebrating the milestones, accomplishments, and special moments that make youth baseball so meaningful. Through initiatives like our **First Home Run Interviews (**featuring **Henry Hull on our YouTube Channel)**, we want to recognize the achievements, capture the excitement, and create lasting memories that players and families will cherish long after the season ends.

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Spring Scheduling

- After the preseason **Tournament**, the **Spring Opening Day will be 4/26/2027**, wrapping the season up with our **league's post-season tournament 6/25-6/28**.
- With our **TBall program** having gone through a significant change through the hard work of our **TBall Coordinator Wes Holloway**, we feel we have dialed in on giving a fun experience and high-level development for their age. Using smaller rosters is creating more reps in the infield and allowing players to increase the number of at bats.
- **Coach Pitch** will have a 10 games season, playing primarily on Saturdays with a few weeknights mixed in.
- **6U-8U Machine Pitch** will play 12 games along with a post-season tournament.
- **9U-14U Kid Pitch** will play 14 games along with a post-season tournament.
- **Federal League**
    - **Spring High School Divisions** - This league is designed for high school students that were not able to or opted not to play for their high school but would like to play a schedule that mirrors that of their high school season. 10 games will be played with some potential interleague with other organizations with similar programs.
    - **Summer High School Divisions –** This league will play a 16-game schedule with a post-season tournament. Their season will begin the 1st full week of June.
- The league will play throughout the week and weekends. Teams are allowed to let us know of schedule exceptions by the use of the conflict form which is found under the Online Forms tab on our website (**due by coaches only no later than 3/25/27**). Please be mindful to only provide us with the dates/days that there are conflicts or when you cannot play.
- **DH Options –** There are some instances where teams are looking for two games in one evening. We will plan to allow for some of this type of scheduling but teams need to understand a few things…
    - The opponent(s) may not be the same but the team would have two games that evening.
    - There are only so many slots depending on age groups and field availability. A conflict form needs to be submitted indicating the request.
    - Teams need to avoid looking to play on a specific day of the week. Weeknight DH's may mean playing on any weeknight, Monday through Thursday.

Registration – Will Open 12/01/2026 for teams and players.

- Coach / Team / Player registration (click on a link to complete registration)
    - **Coach** – This is step one for the coaches who intend to coach teams this Spring. For additional coaching information click **HERE** to access the Manager Checklist.
    - **Team** – Step two is setting up your team (**Team Registration will close on 4/1/27**)
    - **Player** – Step three is to begin having your players register and pay for the season under your team.
        - **Player Fee**
        - **Age group date range requirements**
    - **These steps need to be complete, with a full/paid roster, before a schedule can be made for your team.**

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9U American Division

- There continues to be a great deal of interest in lifting a few developmental restrictions for teams who tend to play tournaments. This will happen for our American division. The restrictions that will be lifted and the rules that will be in effect are dropped 3rd strike, leading off, and stealing home. All other 9U divisions will play with the league's current 9U special rules.

Looking for a team? As you may know, teams in our program come to us with complete rosters. From time to time there is a team that needs a player and a player that needs a team. Teams are considered to be their own entity/organization. With that said, there are a few options for you...

- Take a peek at our **Teams Needing Kids** tab on our website. There you will find teams who have posted their player needs. We encourage families to work this option as it allows you to ensure the team your player would be going to fit the needs of your family. Different things are important from family to family. For example, for some families practice night is important, others the coaches teaching style is important, etc.
- If option 1 does not work out, you can register your player without a team. In the registration process, it will ask if your player is on a team. When you answer that question with a no, it will funnel your players information to our league rep who will begin to assist if finding a team for your player.
- Another option would be to consider being a coach. We will likely have a large handful of players that are in your situation where they are looking for a team.

Tryout Listing Requests

- In the event that you coached/managed a team in the previous spring season and have committed to playing with NKCA Baseball in the fall, you can submit a request for the league to **post a tryout listing**.

Game Baseballs – NKCA Baseball will be using the X4 (aka P454) modern baseball for kid pitch and the CPM9 for machine pitch developed by ProNine. Here is the breakdown and how it will impact your age group…

- 6U TBall and Coach Pitch, will use the ProNine LVL05
- 6U MP to 8U MP will use the blue stitched CPM9 modern baseball
- 9U to 14U will use the ProNine P454 modern baseball
- Until high school baseball converts to using the modern baseball, High School divisions will have the option to use the ProNine OLA or the ProNine X4 (aka P454)
- All baseballs can be purchased on the NKCA Store tab found on our website. Teams will provide game balls for regular season play as well as post-season tournament play. T-ball and Coach Pitch will not need to purchase their game balls. Once purchased, print your receipt and contact the League Director for pick up.
- NKCA purchases these baseballs in bulk and may no longer have our stamp on the ball. As a result, the cost of a dozen baseballs is much less than at a retail store.
- For convenience, we will have plenty of baseballs at our coaches conference for teams to purchase (cash or checks only please).

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DICK's

- DICK's continues to support and sponsor NKCA Baseball through their discounts and donations. Shopping coupons will be available before the event and sent out to members and posted on the home page of the website. NKCA Annual Open House (Liberty and Zona Rosa) will be announced at a later day but is typically held mid February.
- All players must register on-line, there is not a requirement to show up to either of these locations. Attending the open house is more for players who have not yet found a team, have additional questions, or need to be pointed in the right direction.
- DICK's is always receiving new product based on the season and will offer a few special shopping days on the following days specifically for NKCA Baseball League members
    - All members are more than welcome to participate in the special savings DICK's Sporting Goods has offered.
    - Coupons – will be available at a later date, sent to members and posted on our home page.

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