



Frequently asked questions about Sunday Ball

What is Sunday baseball? It is a baseball league that was created to provide house players an opportunity to play 10 extra games against other towns during the baseball season. Many of the players in the league will become all-star players in July representing their house league in tournaments.

Is the Sunday league a full-time travel league? No, Chicagoland Sunday baseball is only for house league players only. Full-time travel teams are not allowed into the league. There are other leagues in Chicago that are better for your team if you want to play full-time travel.

When does the season start and end? The 2023 season starts the weekend of April 16th and ends the weekend of June 18th. This allows all players to participate in their in-house tournament games.

How are the games scheduled? Chicagoland Sunday Baseball will organize all the teams into multiple divisions and regions. You will receive your initial schedule at the scheduling meeting that will occur in late March. At the meeting, you will have the opportunity to make any edits to the game dates/times/location if your opponent is okay with the proposed changes. Once you are done making any edits to your schedule, we will post the master schedule on our website www.clsunball.com. The meeting will last less under 1 hour and it is mandatory that every team have one representative at the meeting.

What is the cost? There is a \$200 team fee payable to Chicagoland Sunday Baseball. This is needed to hold your spot so that your team is included in the scheduling. The home teams coordinate and pays for the umpires. Excluding your uniform, the cost per player (registration fee and umpires) is under \$30. It is a great deal to play some extra baseball.

What do teams do for uniforms? Many leagues use their July travel uniforms in order to keep the costs affordable. Other leagues use a t-shirt with their town's name on it and their league's hats. You can spend around \$30 on your team's uniform if you want to keep it simple.

How do the rosters work? We encourage each team to have 13 or 14 players on the team. Chicagoland Sunday baseball does not monitor the rosters. If you are short players you can take any player from your house league to play on the team. Additionally, some teams carry 15 players and rotate the roster. This allows a family to miss a game or two if there are other family activities going on for the day. Most teams order a couple extra shirts so they can substitute players.

What rules does the league follow? Chicagoland Sunday baseball follows Pony rules. We feel this allows 11 and 12-year olds to develop their pitching skills and base running skills. Most teams and umpires will work with young players to develop their pitching and base running skills.

Where do I play my games? You will have to host 5 games at your field and the other 5 away games will be at other town's fields.

Where are the teams in the league from? The 2022 season had over 250 teams play in the league in the spring. This included over 50 girl softball teams. East boundaries are northwest Indiana, South boundaries are Kankakee, West boundaries are Minooka and the North boundaries are the O'Hare airport area.

What do teams do on Mothers Day, Fathers Day and Memorial Day weekend? That is up to the two teams playing. Last Memorial Day we had 150 teams from our league play in our tournament. If you do not play in the tournament you will have a regular league game on Memorial Day weekend that can be rescheduled if needed.

How is the league structured? Boys: There are 8 levels. There are 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14-year-old levels. The levels are the same as the July tournaments. Girls: There are four levels for the girls, 8U, 10U, 12U and 14U.

Can I play more than 10 games? Yes you can! Many teams add extra games to their season by playing double headers or scheduling extra games at the scheduling meeting. Many towns are also keeping Wednesday nights open and play additional part-time games during the week. The extra games you pick up will **NOT** count toward the regular season standings.

What is the Memorial Day tournament? The tournament is a way for you to play in a competitive tournament with your team. The tournament is played in eight towns and the winner of pool play from each town moves on to the semi-finals and championship on Monday. In 2022 over 150 teams played in the tournament. You must enter early for the tournament as there are not enough spots for all the teams wanting to join. It is first come first serve for the tournament. There is an extra \$400 tournament fee that pays for the umpires, trophies, game balls and the donation to each host town.

What are the advantages of Sunday baseball?

- Boys and girls love to play at other towns and to represent their house league.
- It is a good way to get many of your July players playing together before the travel season.
- Keep better players in your house league. Sunday baseball, League play and July tournaments will give your better players 40 to 45 games at a fraction of the cost of full-time travel.
- Play baseball at a higher competitive level so that your child continues to develop.

- Chicagoland Sunday baseball also runs a fall league. In 2022 we had over 70 teams in our fall ball league. The Fall Ball season runs from the end of August to mid October.

What is the next step? Each league needs to determine how they will select their team and how many teams will be playing from their league. Be sure to coordinate Chicagoland Sunday Baseball with your league officials and officers. Contact me at 708-296-4585 (after 6:00 p.m.) or e-mail us at chicagosunball@yahoo.com for more information.