



New Player / Family Information Spring 2019

Welcome to Novato Babe Ruth!

For over 50 years, NBR has provided a safe, competitive, and fun program for our local teens with the mission of developing lifelong habits of success for our players.

About the Spring Season

NCS High School rules prevent high school baseball players from joining Babe Ruth teams until after the High School Season ends; therefore, the Spring Babe Ruth Season (also known as Spring Ball) is broken into two parts: Pre-season and Regular Season.

Pre-season: After tryouts, a draft of new players is conducted to fill out the Spring Babe Ruth Teams (which are comprised of a combination of new players plus returning players, some of whom also play High School baseball). During the Pre-season, which usually spans from mid-March to mid-May, "Spring Training Teams" are formed. "Spring Training Teams" are comprised of a combination of non-High School players from two or more Spring Babe Ruth Teams. Pre-season play allows for skill development in a real game setting. Practice for the Spring Training Teams usually begins in mid-March. Your Team Manager will share the practice and game schedules with you, and this information will also be posted to the Novato Babe Ruth website and will be available via the SIPlay / TeamWall app.

Regular Season: The Spring Regular Season usually begins in mid-May (generally on Mother's Day). When the Regular Season begins, players return to their Spring Babe Ruth Teams, and play three games a week – one weekday game plus games on Saturday and Sunday, respectively. Spring Babe Ruth Teams are divided into American and National Leagues. Four teams from each League advance to the Playoffs at the end of June. We typically play a seventeen game Regular Season, plus Playoffs; weather, field conditions and other factors may impact the league schedule. Again, your Team Manager will share the practice and game schedules with you, and this information will also be posted to the Novato Babe Ruth website and will be available via the SI Play / TeamWall app.

The Spring 2019 Season will run from the week of March 24th through approximately June 30th, depending on weather and field conditions. The Pre-season will end on May 11th; the Regular Season will begin on May 12th. Practice and game schedules will be announced on or around March 24th.

Where to get information

There are five(5) main sources of information for players and their families:

1. **Our website** - www.novatobaberuth.org - is the most comprehensive and accessible source of league information.
2. **Email** - We send out email messages to our database whenever league-level information or updates need to be shared. The email messages will come from novatobaberuthinfo@gmail.com; please add this address to your Safe Sender list to ensure delivery. If you have not yet received email communications from NBR, please send an email to the address above with a request to be added to our database.

3. **Our Facebook page** - <https://www.facebook.com/NovatoBabeRuth/> - is a good source for league news, updates, and key information.
4. **SIPlay / TeamWALL** - The SIPlay / TeamWall app can be accessed via mobile devices once a season starts, using the SIPlay login credentials that were established when registering your player(s). It contains team-specific information such as rosters and game schedules. The app may be downloaded to any internet-ready device by going to <https://www.siplay.com/mobile-app>.
5. **Team Managers / Team Parents** - Team Managers and/or other designated representatives (such as a Team Parent) will share team-level information such as practice and Snack Shack staffing reminders during the season.

Volunteerism is key to the success of youth sports

NBR is a completely volunteer-run, non-profit organization, and we rely on player's families, the community, and local businesses to make our mission successful. You will be called upon to help in a number of ways during baseball season, which may include working in the snack shack, keeping the team or official scorebook, manning the scoreboard, field prep and closeout, fundraising, etc.

Additionally, we are currently or will soon be in need of Board Members for the following positions:

- Treasurer
- Fundraising
- Snack Shack Coordinator

If you are interested in learning more about the open Board positions, please download the *Board Member Job Descriptions PDF* from the Board Members page of our website, or contact us at novatobaberuthinfo@gmail.com.

Donations & Sponsorships

As a volunteer-run, non-profit organization, Novato Babe Ruth relies on donations, sponsors, and parents to keep the league running smoothly. Throughout the season you will have various opportunities to contribute to the success of the league, including player safety and fundraising.

Download the donation form, make a donation via our PayPal link, or get more information about donation and sponsorship opportunities by visiting our [League Donations page](#).

Also, please consider designating Novato Babe Ruth as your charity of choice in your Amazon Smile account. Learn more about Amazon Smile [here](#).

Team Photos & Program Books

Team photos will be taken by professional photographers sometime in May, when the Regular Season teams come together. Families will have an opportunity to purchase player and team photos from the photographer at this time. Purchased photos will be distributed by Team Managers when they become available.

Program books are generally available in mid-June. Again, they will be distributed by Team Managers when they become available.

A call for photos:

We would love to include photos you take throughout the season in our program book and/or on our website. If you have photos we should consider for inclusion, please send them via email to novatobaberuthinfo@gmail.com by April 30th.

Note: By submitting your photos, you are granting permission to Novato Babe Ruth to use them in any league materials.