



# Palm Beach Gardens Baseball

## Spring 2023 Information Guide

### Field Location

Gardens Park  
4301 Burns Road  
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

### Managers

- Each manager will be allowed to request their 1<sup>st</sup> assistant coach.
- Managers Meeting: January 12, 2023

### Evaluations

- January 13-14, 2023
- Evaluations give the coaches the opportunity to see all players conduct some basic baseball skills. It provides the coaches insight into each player's abilities and it helps to ensure that all teams are drafted with players at all skill levels.

### Team Drafts

- January 16-18, 2023
- Location: Online Draft
- Any coach that has a child playing in the Spring season, this player will be automatically added to their team. Also, for any siblings that play in the same age group, they will be drafted to the same team unless a parent request otherwise.
- To enhance parity amongst teams, one team will not be allowed to have a disproportionate number of travel players on their roster.
- With over 500 players in the Spring season the league cannot accept any other request.

## Team Information

- After the notification of what team each child will be playing on, the coach will be communicating with all parents to introduce themselves and provide additional information regarding the practice schedule and expectations for the season.

## Team Practice

- Team practices will start the week of January 20, 2023.
- Each team will be assigned 2 practices a week.
- Once games start, field space permitting, the league will assign 1 practice a week.

## Opening Day

- Games will start on February 11, 2023
- This is a fun event to enjoy Excellent Food, Fun Inflatables, Chinese Raffle, Silent Auction, and of course Great Baseball Games!!!

## Games and Scheduling

- For all age groups, games will start the second week of February.
- The official game schedule will be emailed to each parent via Sports Connect and loaded into Game Changer Team Manager prior to the first week of games. With approximately 500 players, the scheduling process takes some time and review before the final schedule is posted.
- Divisions: **Subject to change**
  - T-Ball:** Monday, Friday at 5:15 pm and Saturday Mornings (never Friday AND Saturday)
  - Rookie:** Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday at 5:15 pm and alternating Saturday Mornings
  - Minor:** Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday at 7 pm and alternating Saturday morning/ early afternoons
  - Majors:** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday at 7 pm
  - Senior:** Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday 7 pm and Saturdays

## Uniforms & Equipment

- Each player will receive a jersey and hat, you will be responsible for the pants and socks. The pants and socks color will be determined once you are placed on a team.
- Players will need cleats, a baseball glove and a helmet with a facemask.

## Season Updates and Communication

- All communication from the league is through Sports Connect email.
- You can also download the Game Changer Team Manager app on your Apple or Android device. Use your Sports Connect login and password. This will give you mobile access to your child's team roster, practice schedule, game schedule, etc.

## Weather Notifications and Make Up Games

- We will email and text parents if we have any rain outs, please note the City of Palm Beach Gardens makes the decisions on field closures.
- You can download the Rainout Line app on your Apple or Android device to get notified of field closures as they happen. This is an application utilized by the City of

Palm Beach Gardens to communicate field closures and will allow you to be notified at the same time as the league. The league will also send out notifications via email and social media.

- We will usually not make the decision until close to 5 pm as we do our best to get the games played.
- If a game is rained out, the Board will attempt to reschedule it to be played at a later date.

## **Tee Ball Division: Little Tee Ball & Competitive**

### ***PROGRAM DESCRIPTION***

#### **Little Tee Ball Division**

The Little Tee Ball Division will consist of fun games and drills which are designed for the beginner player. The program will be overseen by professional baseball coaches with the expertise needed to teach and reinforce proper fundamentals. Parents of athletes in this program are strongly encouraged to volunteer to coach to help our professional trainers execute these drills, so please volunteer! Parent coaches will learn a lot as well!

#### ***Program Structure***

Athletes will be assigned to teams that will work together through drills and games to develop fundamental skills. Training sessions will take place on Mondays and Fridays on the Miracle Fields (turf fields on the East side of the park) and run for 1 hour. Monday sessions will be Skills and Drills, and Friday sessions will be games.

#### ***Program Objectives/Goals***

The core purpose of the Little Tee Ball Program is to teach players the basic fundamentals of baseball. Before moving to the Competitive Division, players should be able to:

- Throw and catch consistently
- Know where the bases are
- Understand where positions are on the field.
- Understand the basic rules of the game (how to make an out, 3 outs per side, etc.)

#### **Competitive Division**

The Competitive Division has been created so more advanced players can learn to compete in competitive games. This division will play by the Official Cal Ripken Baseball Rules. The purpose is to better prepare players for the speed and style of play they will

encounter as they move up into the Rookie Division (Machine Pitch). Games will be 6 innings or a maximum of 90 minutes, whichever comes first.

### ***Program Structure***

Teams will be formed by draft. Players will have more hands-on instruction and get the maximum number of innings played so that players can gain the most experience during the course of the season. This division will encourage a very aggressive style of play. Teams will meet on Mondays and Fridays or Saturdays for practices and games.

### ***Program Objectives/Goals***

The core purpose of the Competitive Division is to build upon the base fundamentals that athletes have already begun to master. Areas of focus will be on:

- Defensive movement off the ball (what to do when the ball is NOT hit to you)
- Base running, recognizing when to run
- The importance of outfield play
- Situational baseball, getting the lead runner

**THERE WILL BE AN EVALUATION FOR ALL 5 YEAR OLD COMPETITIVE PARTICIPANTS.**

Please email us if you have any questions or concerns at: [info@pbqbaseball.com](mailto:info@pbqbaseball.com)