



**UXBRIDGE
YOUTH
BASEBALL
ASSOCIATION**

**REPRESENTATIVE
AND SELECT TEAM
MANUAL
2015**

"Good teams become great ones when the members trust each other enough to surrender the "me" for the "we". Phil Jackson

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1. Representative and Select Program Overview

1.1. Terminology and Abbreviation

UYBA – Uxbridge Youth Baseball Association
OBA – Ontario Baseball Association (Baseball Ontario)
YSBA – York Simcoe Baseball Association
SOBA – Select Ontario Baseball Association
REP – Representative Team

1.2 General

This handbook provides a framework from which UYBA Rep and Select coaches, athletes, and their parents can best work together for the benefit of the overall program. Although it is intended to be comprehensive in nature, there will inevitably be situations that occur, that are not outlined in this handbook. Coaches, athletes, and parents should always use good common sense in handling any situation.

Rep and Select players, coaches and parents are obligated to be knowledgeable and supportive of these policies and procedures.

UYBA shall function as an independent organization providing a Rep Division under the auspices of the Ontario Baseball Association (OBA) and Select Division under the auspices of the Select Ontario Baseball Association (SOBA). Rep and Select Teams game schedule and by-laws are dictated by York Simcoe Baseball Association which is an affiliate of Baseball Ontario, UYBA constitution and season by-laws whichever is more restrictive.

The official name for UYBA Rep and Select teams under this program shall be: **“Uxbridge Grizzlies”**.

The official logo of Uxbridge Grizzlies



1.3 Mission

The mission of the UYBA is to provide a Rep and Select baseball program that is safe, sound and develops the baseball skills of young athletes participating in this program.

The overall goal of the UYBA is to deliver a high quality and well run competitive baseball program for the residents of Uxbridge, that:

- Provides an equal opportunity for athletes to develop and implement their baseball skills.
- Creates an understanding of the proper definition of a team - *a collection of players united in the pursuit of a common objective, and of which each player is an integral member.*
- Have an enjoyable season.
- Provides experiences that balance fun, safety, individual athletic abilities and satisfaction based on team achievements.
- Builds character, self-esteem and personal confidence through performing as a team.
- Assists all players to enhance the skills and techniques of baseball.
- Develops and blends the particular skills of each individual into successful team play.
- Represent UYBA at attended events with honors.

1.4 Objective

- To promote competitive level sports, sportsmanship and winning attitude through the development of baseball in the Town of Uxbridge.
- To provide a safe environment in which all players have the right to play
- To protect and promote the mutual interest of its players.
- To manage and regulate Rep and Select divisions, their players, coaches, umpires and scheduling.
- To provide a high quality competitive baseball program, thus resulting in the maximum benefit for the teams, players, sponsors, and the interested public.
- To provide an athletic program that will enhance the physical fitness of its participants and provide an increased awareness of the importance of developing positive lifelong health habits.
- To promote the welfare of the players and their families in the Uxbridge Community by providing quality time in a team spirited, health, and competition focused environment.

1.5 Guiding Principles

The following guiding principles are to be used by coaches, players and parents in their approach to the Rep and Select commitments during the preparation for the season and season itself. The UYBA recognizes that baseball brings many challenges, both to the team and to individuals, and that any guidelines cannot anticipate all that might occur this season. With that in mind:

Try Your Best

The UYBA in turn will do its best to provide you with the environment, funding and opportunity to fulfill your baseball dreams. Remember to temper your expectations to avoid disappointment.

Have Fun

The reason we play, coach and watch youth baseball is to have fun! Sometimes the pressure and frustration of competition can overshadow the joy of the game. Therefore, the UYBA will make an intentional effort to incorporate the value of fun for everyone involved (players, coaches, parents and fans).

Treat Others with Respect and Display Good Sportsmanship

It is important to win games, but it is more important to play with sportsmanship. The UYBA will teach players how to play with integrity, honor and respect for their opponent and their own team. Furthermore, each player and coach will be held accountable for their sportsmanship on and off the field.

Team Focus

A team is only successful when each member puts the needs of the team first. We will consistently teach the value of team so that each player knows that "we are better together."

Never Criticize the Umpires and/or Other Officials

Be aware not to use a harsh tone with the umpires, conveners, or other league and tournament officials. For the most part, they are doing their best and even if their best is not up to your expectations, harsh criticism never causes them to correct their mistake. Please remember you are representing your teammates, the UYBA and your community.

Be Positive

Whether it is during the drive home with your son/daughter, during the team meeting after a crucial loss or in addressing a conflict with an umpire, opponent, or coach / parent, attempt to stay positive and provide constructive feedback.

Winning Attitude

Winning Attitude should be a Cardinal Rule for all our coaches and players and is something one is not to take lightly, because the game of baseball touches the heart and the mind. Without putting your heart into it, how can you win? Attitude is to practice and practice until winning becomes habit. The one game score is merely a temporary halt until our next game. There have been many good and potentially great baseball players that give up the game because of influences beyond their control. Coaches intimidating and shaming a player for mishaps is against all rules.

1.6 Code of Conduct

UYBA Rep and Select program Code of Conduct policy is governed by the following rules: Uxbridge Youth Baseball Association supports equal opportunity and prohibits discriminatory practices. Members are expected to conduct themselves at all times in a manner consistent with the values of UYBA, YSBA, SOBA and OBA Baseball. Members engaging in any of the following behavior may be subject to sanctions enforced by the UYBA and YSBA Discipline and Ethics committee.

- (a) Not complying with the rules, regulations or policies of UYBA, YSBA, SOBA and OBA as adopted and amended from time to time.
- (b) Deliberately disregarding the Rules of Baseball as amended from time to time.
- (c) Verbally or physically abusing an opponent, players, officials, umpires, spectators, or sponsors.
- (d) Showing disrespect to officials, including the use of foul language and obscene or offensive gestures.
- (e) Abusing playing equipment or playing area.
- (f) Failing to comply with the conditions of entry of an event including any rules regarding to eligibility or advertising.
- (g) Using tobacco, alcohol and drugs on or near a field at any UYBA, YSBA, OBA or SOBA sanctioned competition.

The UYBA, YSBA, SOBA and OBA Code of Conduct shall govern all disciplinary matters to the extent that it conflicts with or augments the Code of Conduct of any Association.

It is the goal of the Uxbridge Youth Baseball Association to provide a safe and secure environment for our players, umpires and coaches, free of any demeaning or abusive behaviour, verbal or otherwise, on the part of spectators at the sport events our teams are attending.

Rude behaviour ruins the game for everyone. *"As adults, we have a responsibility to protect our young people from any abusive, damaging behaviour and provide them with a safe environment in which to develop their skills and build their self-confidence."* **Please set a good example.** Encourage the fans of your team to be supportive and positive. Have realistic expectations for both our players, coaches and umpires. Commitment, teamwork, making friends, and gaining self-confidence are the important skills we are trying to teach.

In the event any unfortunate incidents should arise concerning a coach, umpire or player we request that you allow at least 24 hours cool-off period according to UYBA Code of Conduct procedure. After the 24 hour cool-off period contact the Team Manager to deal with the issue. Team Manager will use all available resources to solve the issue at the team level. If unsuccessful at the team level the Team Manager will follow the procedure as described in UYBA Conduct & Discipline policy.

For full description of UYBA Code of Conduct and Conduct & Discipline Policy please visit www.uyba.ca on Association Library page. These documents are applicable to all members of UYBA.

1.6.1 Ethics of Conduct

Tobacco Products

No tobacco products are to be used **on or near** the playing field by any players, coaches, team managers or team trainers in uniform or as applicable by the existing city or municipality by-laws where the event is taking place.

Alcohol Products

No alcohol products are to be consumed immediately before or during and after **any** game by coaches, team managers, team trainers or players in uniform. No alcohol products are permitted at or near the park at **any time**. Violations will mean **immediate** ejection from the game and the park as well as further discipline by UYBA.

Drugs and Narcotics

Coaches, team managers, team trainers or players in uniform **must not** be under influence of any type of drugs or narcotics. Violations will mean **immediate** ejection from the game and the park as well as further discipline by UYBA.

EXAMPLES OF MINOR INFRACTIONS

- (a) A single incident of disrespectful, offensive, abusive, racist or sexist comments or behavior directed towards others, including but not limited to peers, opponents, athletes, coaches, officials, administrators, spectators and sponsors.
- (b) Unsportsmanlike conduct such as angry outbursts or arguing.
- (c) Noncompliance with the rules and regulations under which UYBA, YSBA, SOBA and OBA events are conducted.

EXAMPLES OF MAJOR INFRACTIONS

- (a) Repeated incidents or disrespectful, offensive, abusive, racist, or sexist, comments or behavior directed towards others, including but not limited to peers, opponents, athletes, coaches, officials, administrators, spectators and sponsors.
- (b) Playing under an assumed name, falsifying an affidavit or roster, or giving false information to tournament officials.
- (c) Knowingly participating while ineligible.
- (d) Knowingly competing with or against players who have been disqualified.
- (e) Repeated unsportsmanlike conduct such as angry outbursts or arguing.
- (f) Activities or behavior which interfere with a competition or with any athlete's preparation for a competition.
- (g) Pranks, jokes or other activities which endanger the safety of others.
- (h) Deliberate disregard for the rules and regulations under which UYBA, YSBA, OBA, SOBA or Baseball Canada events are conducted.
- (k) Any use of illicit drugs and narcotics.
- (l) Use of banned performance enhancing drugs or methods.
- (m) Any physical contact with an umpire or other game official.

EXAMPLES OF INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR

- Shouting any demeaning, rude or abusive comments at a player, coach or umpire.
- Intimidating or threatening a player, coach or umpire.
- Directing sarcastic remarks towards a player, coach or umpire.
- Harassing an umpire over his/her calls behind the plate or on the bases.
- Using foul language that disrupts the environment of the game for participants and fans.
- Making loud comments or reacting in a manner that undermines the decisions and authority of a coach or umpire.
- Internet abuse or slander IE: Facebook, MSN etc...
- Gathering in cliques to criticize a coach or umpire in order to undermine their authority.
- Engaging in verbal or physical conflicts with other parents or fans.

2. Team Management

The Uxbridge Youth Baseball Association Rep and Select program is only as good as our coaches and managers. No other single factor has a greater affect on our young players. For that reason, we strive to recruit and select the best coaches we can.

2.1 Objectives

There is no perfect process for identifying coaches. However, UYBA strongly believes that the process should be open to all interested people, not just a smaller set with "connections" . We also want to set up our program so that we not only bring in new coaches, but distribute the best coaches across all the leagues and teams – not just within in one age group or set of teams.

2.2 Rep and Select Coaches' Eligibility

All Head Coach, Assistants Coaches, Trainers and the Team Managers **must** submit a current **Police Record Check including Vulnerable Sector Screening** before the beginning of the season. Failure to comply will result in removal from the team.

For Uxbridge residents Police Record Checks are available for a small fee from the Durham Regional Police Service for volunteer positions. To request a letter from the Uxbridge Youth Baseball Association confirming the volunteer position please email president@uyba.ca with a subject line "Police Record Check Letter".

All coaches must agree to abide by all rules, regulations & policies as prescribed by the UYBA, YSBA, SOBA, OBA and Baseball Canada.

Rep and Select Head Coach

- Must be Regionally Trained or higher (see mandatory requirements for current season at www.ontariobaseball.com)
- Must submit properly filled out UYBA Coaches Application Form available at www.uyba.ca including valid Police Record Check
- Must agree to abide by all rules, regulations & policies as prescribed by the Uxbridge Youth Baseball Association, York Simcoe Baseball Association, Select Ontario Baseball Association, Baseball Ontario and Baseball Canada

Rep and Select Assistant Coach

- Must be Initiation Trained or higher (see mandatory requirements for current season at www.ontariobaseball.com)
- Must submit properly filled out UYBA Coaches Application Form available at www.uyba.ca incl. valid Police Record Check
- Must agree to abide by all rules, regulations & policies as prescribed by the Uxbridge Youth Baseball Association, York Simcoe Baseball Association, Select Ontario Baseball Association, Baseball Ontario and Baseball Canada

Team Manager

- Appointed by the Head Coach
- Main role is a communication liaison between coaches and parents
- Responsible for timely communication with UYBA VP Rep/Select or his/her assistant whether direct or via electronic means
- Must have valid Police Record Check
- Must agree to abide by all rules, regulations & policies as prescribed by the Uxbridge Youth Baseball Association, York Simcoe Baseball Association, Select Ontario Baseball Association, Baseball Ontario and Baseball Canada
- Responsible for team administration tasks including financial management of the team

Team Trainer

- Could be one of the coaches, Team Manager, player and/or player guardian
- Must be certified in First Aid for Baseball as required by YSBA and OBA
- Must have valid Police Record Check
- Must be listed on the official YSBA team roster
- For complete certification process details and acceptable equivalency of this certification please visit www.yorksimcoebaseball.com

2.3. Coaches' Ethics

- (a) **Integrity** – The coach must act with integrity and honesty in performing all duties owed to the baseball players, the sport, other members of the coaching profession, and the public.
- (b) **Competence** – The coach must strive to be well prepared and current in order that all duties in their level of baseball are fulfilled with competence.
 - i) Attend appropriate coaching clinics.
 - ii) Plan out practice sessions.
 - iii) Prepare game strategies and proper line up/batting order based on performance

- (c) **Athlete's Interest** – The coach must act in the best interest of the baseball player's development as a whole person. All players are entitled to equal amounts of instruction and support. Coaches are encouraged to teach players all positions on the field by giving opportunities for them to play in all positions from time to time as deemed appropriate by the coach.
- (d) **Respect for the Rules** – The coach must accept the letter and spirit of the rules that govern the UYBA. The accepted UYBA rules are covered by Baseball Canada's "The Official Rules of Baseball". The UYBA Rep and Select program is also governed by specific YSBA Rep and Select rules, OBA Rulebook, SOBA by-laws and the local UYBA rules.
- (e) **Respect for the Umpires** – The coach must accept the role of umpire in providing judgment to ensure that games are conducted fairly and according to existing, season applicable rules. When approaching an umpire, the following guidelines should be followed:
 - i) *Why* – if a coach believes that a decision is based on an incorrect interpretation of the rules, he can appeal the decision. Judgment calls by an umpire are not to be disputed.
 - ii) *When* – A coach must appeal the decision immediately with the umpire who made the call. That umpire has the right to discuss the situation with another umpire or umpires, and has the right to change his decision, but the final call is up to the umpire who made the original call.
 - iii) *How* – A coach must approach the umpire immediately, and in a polite fashion. Discussions are to be brief and play is to resume quickly. Baseball rules allow a coach who disagrees with a call to protest the game, however, during league play, protests will not be considered.
- (f) **Responsibilities to Other Coaches** – The conduct of coaches towards each other must be characterized by courtesy, good faith, and respect.
- (g) **Personal Conduct** – The coach must maintain the highest standards of personal conduct, and support the principles of fair play.

Coaches are expected to be familiar with and to follow Uxbridge Youth Baseball Code of Conduct. In the event of a conflict situation caused by inappropriate conduct of parents while attending an event, Coaching staff is expected to intervene (even at the cost of stopping the game) and stop the inappropriate behavior following the applicable guidelines of the UYBA Code of Conduct.

In the event that an alleged offence by a member of coaching staff or player is so serious as to possibly endanger the safety of others or has resulted in an investigation by a police force, the alleged offender may be immediately removed from further participation in this program, pending an investigation of the offence.

- (h) **Perspective on the Game** – Coaches must teach their players to play fairly and show respect for the rules, officials, and opponents.
- (i) **Equipment** – The coach must ensure their equipment and the ball field is in good repair so that the risk of injury is minimized. This includes, but is not limited to the following:

- i) Check catcher's shin pads to ensure straps are in good condition
- ii) Check for potholes in the field
- iii) Check the backstop for holes or wires that are sticking out.

Note: Any defects in team equipment and/or field condition must be reported to Equipment Committee Chair at equipment@uyba.ca

Coaches who violate the code of conduct will be held accountable by the UYBA and YSBA Disciplinary and Ethics Committee.

Coaches and/or team managers are responsible for the conduct of their players.

2.4. Selection Process

2.4.1 Coaches Application

The application process starts and Coaches applications are accepted starting in month of August.

Interested candidates must submit Coaches Application form found on UYBA web site: www.uyba.ca on Association Library Page.

2.4.2 Feedback from Parents - Coaches evaluation

Evaluations are conducted in August via an Evaluation survey sent out to every parent of an Uxbridge Youth Baseball Association member in good standing. This process is confidential.

Any feedback is welcome and appreciated at any time during the season. It should be send to president@uyba.ca or vprep@uyba.ca

2.4.3 Criteria Used in Selection Process

The attributes and skills the coach will be rated on include but are not limited to the following:

- Baseball knowledge.
- Ability to respectfully and effectively communicate with players and parents.
- Ability to focus on teamwork and the development of all players equally.
- Ability to teach using a positive, constructive approach.
- Ability to enhance the self-esteem of all players.
- Ability to effectively work with Assistant Coaches to increase the team's probability of success.
- Desire to have fun and generate enthusiasm from the players.
- Providing a positive environment for the players.
- Most importantly – Coaches who want to coach because it provides an opportunity to teach the players about baseball and life skills without regard for winning or personal gratification.

2.4.4 Interview Process

A Coaches Selection Committee will be formed by UYBA Board of Directors to administer this process. This committee will be formed with respect of preventing any potential conflict of interest throughout the process.

The interview process will take place no later than end of August - early in September.

Final Selection of Coaches and confirmation of the coaching positions will be announced early in September prior to Rep tryouts.

3. Financial Management

3.1. General

Team Managers are responsible for financial management of the team.

Team Managers will together, with Team Coaching staff draft Team Season Initial Budget using the Team Budget Form available on Association Library page. Upon Team Initial Budget completion the form must be submitted for approval to the VP Rep and Select at vprep@uyba.ca. Once approved by the VP Rep, the budget shall be distributed to parents and/or the players on the team roster.

UYBA conducts payments for a team's upcoming season expenses through banking accounts that are set for each team individually. These accounts are set up to protect both the Uxbridge Youth Baseball Association and Team Management staff.

All money collected or distributed for a team must run through these accounts exclusively. No other bank accounts previously used by teams outside of UYBA are permitted.

Prior to fundraising or collecting money a budget must be presented to the VP Rep and approved by the Board. Budgets do not need to be professionally produced but must include all details outlined in the Budget Form.

Please do not accept cash. If someone has no other option, ensure a receipt is provided to protect a payee.

Teams will provide parents with financial statement at the conclusion of the season. If a parent requests a copy at anytime during the season one shall be made available.

At the end of the season Team Managers will provide the VP Rep a Season Final Financial statement.

At the end of the season The Team Bank Accounts must have a balance of \$5.00 to cover the account fees. If no further plans are in place in terms of usage - the funds must be refunded back to parents.

3.2 Account Details

All deposit Cheques shall payable to Uxbridge (name of division) Rep. Example "payable to Uxbridge Mosquito Rep".

The funds can be deposited at any Scotia Bank Branch (be sure to specify your team account number)

The funds can be taken out via cheque or debit card and all cheques must have **two** signatures. As of the 2015 season both signing authorities will be issued a bank card with online viewing access that will allow you to print monthly statements and track your funds.

All team accounts are viewable by signing authorities on the main UYBA account.

Monthly statements for all team accounts must be printed from the accounts online banking account and are only available for a 4 month period. Managers are reminded to print statements on a monthly basis to avoid issues when reconciling the account at the end of the season.

There are fees on each account. Please bundle your deposits to help keep fees low. The \$2.50 monthly fee will be covered by the league with a yearly \$30 deposit, this will cover October to September time period. Please ensure there is a balance remaining at the end of the season to cover the monthly fee. Any additional fees are the responsibility of the team.

3.3 Bank Details

The bank branch is the Scotia Bank Ashley Place.

1 Douglas Road

Uxbridge, ON L9P 1M6

Branch 95612

905-852-6138

Contact: David Franklin

3.4 How to set up a team account

- Two people to be signing authorities on the team account. Preferably one parent and one coach, but the only restriction is the two people may not be from the same family.
- Forward their name, address, email and phone number to vprep@uyba.ca so a letter can be drafted to be brought into the bank. Then the two signing authorities must attend the branch together to open the account. Two pieces of ID must be provided to the bank. After submitting this information the team will be provided with an account number for your team.

Please provide the above details as soon as possible but no later than the second week of January.

Do not visit the bank without coordinating with UYBA VP Rep, the bank will not allow you to be added to the account unless we have provided a letter with your information.

4. Tryouts

- Tryout Fee is \$20.00 per player payable online or by cheque payable to Uxbridge Youth Baseball Association dated the first day of tryouts.
- NO CASH WILL BE ACCEPTED.
- No player will be allowed on the field unless Tryout Fee is paid.
- Your cashed cheque will act as your official receipt.

Pre-registration is required for all players through our online registration system. Tryout Fee may be paid via Visa, MasterCard, Online Debit or cheque made payable to Uxbridge Youth Baseball Association at the first tryout date.

4.1 Tryout Principles and Structure

Tryouts for Rep teams and Select workouts will take place after the completion of the season. The schedule for Rep tryouts and Select workouts, including rain out dates (if applicable), will be available at the UYBA web site www.uyba.ca.

Tryouts will be administered by pre-selected coaches and independent evaluators under the direction of the Rep Committee. All coaches/evaluators are respected members of UYBA and know how to assess skill performance. A standard evaluation process is used across all divisions for consistency and fairness in the player selection process, recognizing that it may vary at the Midget vs. Mosquito levels.

All players are expected to attend a minimum of **2 tryout sessions** to have the best opportunity to demonstrate their ability and be placed at the level most appropriate for them.

Season Rep Team rosters will be picked during this tryout series. However, it is the coach's discretion if they allow a spring tryout for new residents and/or local players.

Select Team tryouts and rosters will be completed in the Spring.

4.2 **Players Selection and Eligibility**

The evaluation includes direct observation of demonstrated skill, estimate of future development potential, perceived dedication to the program and other such factors. Evaluators will be also looking for player discipline and listening skills. Candidates are encouraged to sit/stand quietly. Their attention and attitude will be noted.

Rep tryouts are open to any resident of UYBA boundaries as defined by OBA. Any candidates at Peewee and younger who want to try out for a UYBA Rep team and residing outside of defined residency boundaries must provide a proof of release from their home association.

Please refer to YSBA by-laws about player's releases and players eligibility at <http://www.yorksimcoebaseball.com> .

Table 1: Residents of the below mentioned towns do not need releases for tryouts and to be on the UYBA Rep Team roster.

Members Towns
UXBRIDGE
GOODWOOD
GREENBANK
LEASKDALE
SANDFORD
SUNDERLAND
UDORA

For Select player eligibility please refer to YSBA Select by-laws at www.select.yorksimcoebaseball.com/

4.3 **Tryouts Absence Provision Rule**

If a player who was on the team roster during previous season becomes injured and is unable to attend tryouts for the next year's team due to injury, he/she will automatically be placed on next year's team roster if:

- a) A Doctor's note is produced stating that the player is not capable of trying out due to injury or if there is a valid reason for absence at the tryout submitted to the Coach in Charge of the tryouts in writing due to circumstances other than injury

- b) The player has proved the performance required to be on the team as determined by the existing coach and his/her assistants. Determination will be based on prior year's tryout ratings, team stats from the prior season, as well as, overall assessment by the coaching staff.

Important Note: Such player must be pre-approved by UYBA VP Rep in order to hold reserved spot on the team roster.

5. Registration

All players participating in UYBA Rep and Select must sign the UYBA Youth Player Contract before attending Winter workouts. Rep/Select Deposit Fee are mandatory payments prior Winter workouts starting in December.

6. Rep and Select Season Details

6.1 General

Season preparation usually starts in January and runs through April. The start dates vary per team.

The Rep season starts the first week of May and is concluded with York Simcoe Baseball Year End Championship in mid August followed by the Baseball Ontario Championship on or before Labour Day weekend. (divisionspecific)

The Select season starts usually the last weekend in May and concludes with York Simcoe Baseball Year End Select Championship and SOBA Provincial Championship on Labour Day weekend.

6.2 Uniforms and Equipment

There is absolutely no changing nor modification of the UYBA Rep or Select uniforms by the team coaches, parents or players.

Complete UYBA baseball uniform for the UYBA shall consist of:

- White $\frac{3}{4}$ Sleeve practice shirts with black sleeves with numbers
- Orange Home jerseys (with proper numbers),
- Black baseball hat
- White baseball pants with black stripes

Not provided through UYBA:

- Baseball helmets (as of 2015 season, the mandatory color is Black)
- Baseball cleats
- Baseball bat
- Protective cup
- Black belt

Note: No uniforms will be handed out until ALL player Rep and Select season fees are paid in full.

Each Rep/Select Team will be provided with the following equipment by UYBA and shall budget \$200 to contribute to this equipment.

- 2 dozen practice balls
- 2 dozen waffle balls
- 3 dozen game balls
- 1 set of catchers gear
- 1 First Aid Kit
- 1 set of practice bases

At the end of the season each team shall return the above noted equipment. It is understood that some balls may go missing but no less than 2 dozen used/new game balls, 20 practice balls and 20 waffle balls must be returned and the balance, if any, are the responsibility of the team to replace.

Any equipment purchased by the team from the approved budget shall remain the property of the UYBA and made available for use by the following years team in the same division.

6.3 Umpires and Diamond Scheduling

Umpires and diamonds scheduling must be coordinated by Rep and Select teams through the UYBA Umpire in Chief based on home played scheduled games.

6.4 Important Dates

Rep/Select Divisions

EVENT	DATE
UYBA Coaches Application for the upcoming season	No later than mid August
UYBA Coaches Application interview	End of August - early September
Final Selection and confirmation of Coaching Positions	Early Sept - Prior Rep Tryouts
YSBA Rep Awards Nominations	No later than September 30 of the current season
Tryouts	Early Sept - Mid October
Team Budget submitted for approval	Mid January
Completion of setting up a team account	End of January
Team Uniform Orders Must Be submitted	End of February
All Rep/Select season fees must be paid	February 15
Rep Team Registration	No later than February 15

Season Team Equipment Request	End of March of the current season
Final Team Rosters submitted to YSBA	No later than June 30

6.5 Safety/Emergency Procedures/Injury Prevention

Safety is Top Priority / Assumed Risk

Providing a safe environment for practice and competition is a priority of the UYBA for everyone involved in its baseball programs. Every step is taken to ensure the safety and well being of all participants. However, athletes and their parents must be aware that certain risks of injury are inherent in athletic participation. Accidents ranging from minor to severe may occur.

Emergency Procedures

For health related emergencies, parents should be notified as soon as possible. The Head Coach and / or an Assistant Coach should inform the athlete's parents as soon as possible, as to the type of injury, the extent of the injury, what has been done to treat the injury, and whether further medical attention is necessary. It is important to always err on the side of caution. If an athlete has been taken to a doctor or hospital, parents should be informed of the exact location and phone number. The purpose of the emergency medical form is so that emergency treatment can begin, if necessary, until parents arrive. All UYBA participants must have a completed and signed copy of the approved medical information form on file with their Head Coach in order to participate in any UYBA sanctioned activity. Your cooperation in completing signing and returning all forms will be much appreciated. The form is available on the UYBA website under Association Library.

Injury Prevention

In an effort to provide a safe environment for all players, coaches, parents and spectators, please ensure the following injury prevention steps are followed by all participants.

1. Be conscious of injury prevention by creating a safe environment for practices and games. Document all injuries when they occur using the approved incident report form available on the UYBA website under Association Library.
2. All protective equipment should be in good order and worn for all practices, as well as games.
The 1st and 3rd Base field coaches at all levels are encouraged to wear approved protective helmets with or without ear flaps in all league and/or tournament games whether local, provincial or international.
3. Warm up thoroughly before every practice and game.
4. Players should inform coaches when they are tired. That is the time when injuries are most likely to occur.
5. Personal equipment (T-shirts, socks, supporters, etc.) should be clean. Skin infections start with dirty equipment.
6. Never indulge in horseplay. You expose both your teammates and yourself to injury.
7. Learn the fundamentals of baseball. Players who know how to play are less likely to be injured.

8. Injuries can often be prevented by alert play.

6.6 Insurance

UYBA season membership fees include players and coaches insurance as required under OBA policy purchased by UYBA.

If the team (Rep or Select) is planning to attend a tournament outside of province or outside of Canada it is the team responsibility to purchase an additional insurance for the trip. The Out of province insurance application is available at www.baseballontario.com under Special Programs/Insurance/Travel Insurance.

If an insured player/coach sustains an injury it must be reported to Baseball Ontario within 30 days.

To report such case use the forms available at www.baseballontario.com under Special Programs/Insurance:

- OBA Incident Report
- Insurance Claim Form

7. Parent Roles and Responsibilities

7.1 Support and Encouragement

Parental support is integral to the success of the team and maintaining a fun, positive experience for all players, coaches and fans. Parents are asked to be supportive of their players and their coaches in multiple ways:

- Expressing only positive cheers and words of encouragement during games and practices
- Trusting that your coaches are making decisions that are best for the team
- Practicing with your child on their own time, using your coaches' suggestions to work on improving individual skills
- Assisting your child with consistent at-home physical strength training.

7.2 Conflicts and Concerns

Rep and Select team games and practices can get very intense, but at no time will criticism, arguments or yelling at coaching staff, umpires, players or opposing fans be tolerated. If a parent's conduct crosses the line with the above requirements, you will be asked to disengage and leave the scene immediately with no repercussions to you or your player. If you choose to stay engaged, you and your child will suffer revocation of team privileges as determined by your coaching staff.

Parents are encouraged to bring their questions, concerns and general feedback to the Team Manager within the following guidelines:

- Do not bring up negative issues immediately before, after or between games. Please provide adequate time for game-time emotions to calm as described in sections 1.6 and 1.6.1

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- Request to speak with the Team Manager privately. Do not make negative comments in front of players or other parents.
- Consider solutions to the concerns you have. In addition to sharing your concerns, please provide the Team Manager and coaching staff with your ideas of how things may be improved.

Appendix and References:

- UYBA Player Medical Information Form - Available on UYBA web Site under Association Library
- UYBA Rep and Select Coach Application - Available on UYBA Web Site under Association Library
- Emergency Action Plan - Arena Diamonds - Available on UYBA Web Site under Association Library
- Emergency Action Plan – Uxpool Diamond - Available on UYBA Web site under Association Library
- Emergency Action Plan – Bonner Fields - Available on UYBA Web site under Association Library
- Pitch Count Sheet - Available on UYBA Web site under Association Library
- YSBA By-laws - Available on UYBA Web site under Association Library
- YSBA/TBA/EOBA Interlock rules – Available on UYBA Web site under Association Library
- Select/Rep Sponsorship Packages – Available on UYBA Web site under Association Library
- Sponsorship form - Available on UYBA Web site under Association Library