

Date proposed: Wednesday January 17th 2024

Policy

Amendment to Policy: Start of play in 2024

A player shall play in his/her age bracket if there is a team to play on unless exceptional status is applied for and approved by the TMBI board. Application must be made by way of written request by time lines laid out in procedure to the President of TMBI and signed by the parent(s)/legal guardian(s) of the player. If any of the criteria in the procedure is not met, the President can deny the request without board approval.

In general, TMBI does not support player playing above their age group or age series. An exception to the rule will come into play for player seeking a higher level of competition providing there is no TMBI T1 team at their age group and the following procedure has been met. Exceptional status does not guarantee the applicant a spot on the roster he / she is applying for.

Procedure

Amendment to Procedure: Start of play in 2024

- 1.1 – Parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of the player must submit in writing by July 15th of the year prior (current calendar year) to which they would like the child to be granted exceptional status.
 - 1.1.1 – Assuming the July meeting has not happened upon receiving the application, the application will be reviewed by the board at the July meeting. If the July meeting and the application was submitted on or before July 15th an emergency meeting will be called to review the request.
 - 1.1.2 – In either case noted in 1.1.1, the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of the applicant may be asked to attend the meeting to present their case.
 - 1.1.3 – In the event that the applicant does not reside in the Tillsonburg area prior to the deadline, an application and special circumstance tryouts may be awarded providing the applicant provides proof of residency acquisition.
Eg: utility bill, lease agreement (something with a date and address)
- 1.2 – Applications can only be requested for a player to tryout one birth year or a maximum of two birth years if TMBI is not fielding a team one year older.

Example: a current 10U applicant would be applying to move up to 12U for the next baseball season. If a 12U team is not being fielded that applicant could apply to tryout for 13U for the next baseball season.

- 1.3 – Under no circumstances will a 9U (or younger) player be granted exceptional status.
- 1.4 – Playing with friends and / or family is not a reasonable reason to request for exceptional status
- 1.5 – If TMBI will be fielding a T1 team at the applicants age division then movement will not be granted

2.1 - Exceptions will be reviewed based on exceptional baseball ability compared to others in that age group and to analyze what is best for the player's development considering their safety both physically and emotionally.

2.2 – Exceptional status will be determined by three non biased evaluators chosen by the current TMBI board. Evaluators will asses the applicant in a minimum of two games, one of which the applicant will AP for the next highest age division rep team.

3.1.1 – If exceptional status is granted the applicant must still tryout for the team he or she has been deemed exceptional to play on. Exceptional status does NOT guarantee the player a position on the higher age group team. If the coach of the higher age group team does not feel the player will not be a good fit on the team, then said player is to return to his / her own age group.

3.1.2 – If exceptional status is granted the applicant MUST still try out for his / her own age groups team.

3.2 – If exceptional status is granted and the applicant is successful in making the team at the higher age division, said player must still follow pitching guidelines set out by OBA rule RP2.11C

3.3 – If exceptional status is NOT granted the applicant must return to try out for his or her own age group

3.4 – If exceptional status is granted it is applicable for the next baseball season only. If the applicant is successful and wishes to continue playing up, they must reapply for each season they would like to be considered.

Date Approved: Wednesday January 17th 2024

TMBI President: Chris Lee