## **Madison Youth Baseball Program Narrative 2021**

AGES: 4 - 5 T-Ball
6 - 8 Rookies
9 -10 Minors
11-12 Majors
13-15 Jr. Babe

**REGULAR SEASON:** March 1<sup>st</sup> – May 31<sup>st</sup> (Dates may vary depending on school calendar or national crises)

**FEE:** \$50 T-Ball

\$60 Rookies, Minors, Majors

\$100 Jr. Babe

(Fee includes mesh hat and jersey)

The Madison Youth Baseball Program is a recreational program open to all children in Madison County. It operates under the Babe Ruth, Inc. guidelines. Evaluations for proper player placement are generally held the first Saturday in March of each year. Teams are drafted the day after, then notified by the coach of their placement within 48 hours thereafter. Generally two practices per week are held prior to the start of games, which begin about 3-4 weeks later, with one practice per week after games start. The games for Minors and Majors are played one weekday evening and on Saturday afternoon. Rookie games are Friday evenings and Saturday afternoon, and T-Ball games are generally Saturday morning or afternoon. The Jr. Babe team plays in a rotating circuit with surrounding counties, with game schedule determined each spring. Players in all leagues need to have their own baseball pants (grey or white), glove, helmet, cleats, and bat (with USA Baseball Stamp for all but Jr. Babe, that must be Bbcor certified, or if a USABaseball bat, no more than -5 drop). The League does have a limited inventory of donated equipment available, as well as catcher's gear for each team.

POST-SEASON ALL STAR TEAMS: All players have an opportunity to be evaluated during the regular season for selection onto the All Star's team in their age group. These are competitive teams that play in the Virginia Babe Ruth District V Tournament with the goal of advancing to the State Tournament and beyond. The All Star season generally begins after Memorial Day, but no later than June 1st. Player evaluation for All Star's teams includes, but is not limited to, ability/skill, attitude, sportsmanship, teamwork skills, listening skills, and ability to be coached. All Star's player selection is conducted at the end of the regular season. The Baseball Board selects the Manager of each All Star team, who then selects his assistant coaches. The team manager and the assistant coaches he chooses (also approved by the Board) selects players for their respective All Star team and presents them to the Board. The Baseball Board approves all final All Star rosters.

The current Commissioner for the Madison Youth Baseball Program is Becky Hurt. The league is governed by a Board of Directors of up to 12 members. More detailed information about the Madison Youth Baseball Program can be found in the *Coaches & Managers Handbook*.