



# LINCOLN YOUTH BASEBALL

lincolnyouthbaseballsoftball.com

8/30/19

**TO:** Lincoln Youth Baseball families

**REGARDING:** 2020 Season

After receiving the feedback from the 2019 spring baseball season and reviewing the trend of dwindling HS freshman baseball players. The LYB organization has discussed and finalized some improvements for the upcoming 2020 baseball season. We believe these changes will help keep kids playing baseball longer and enhance the experience for each age group and type of player. Please see below table of changes for the upcoming season and review the additional page for further information on the changes:

| Level                                       | Grade(s)  | 2019 Season  | 2020 Season   |
|---|-----------|--|---|
| T-Ball                                      |           | League: Cal Ripken<br>12 Teams & 105 Players                     | League: Cal Ripken<br><b>Teams can practice 45 minutes before games (games are twice a week).</b>   |
| A Ball                                      | 1st       | League: Cal Ripken<br>5 Teams & 47 Players                       | League: Cal Ripken<br>Teams TBD   |
| AA Ball                                     | 2nd       | League: Cal Ripken<br>6 Teams & 57 Players                       | League: Cal Ripken<br><b>Adding Jugs pitching machines and replacing "slinger" pitching machines</b>  |
| AAA Ball                                    | 3rd / 4th | League: Cal Ripken<br>6 Teams & 69 Players                       | League: Cal Ripken<br>Teams: TBD<br><b>Planning for 16 league games<br/>Potential All-Star team* after league play &amp; league tournament team(s)*</b> |
| Minors (9U / 10U)                           |           | League: Westside JBO<br>Tournaments: 3-5<br>3 Teams & 37 Players | <b>League: Cal Ripken<br/>1 Team: 10U Select*<br/>Tournaments*: 5-8</b>   |
| JBO Juniors / Cal Ripken Majors (11U / 12U) | 5th / 6th | League: Westside JBO<br>4 Teams & 47 Players<br>Tournaments: 3-5 | <b>League: Cal Ripken<br/>2 Teams: 11U* / 12U* Select<br/>Tournaments*: 6-8</b>   |
|   |           |  | <b>League: Cal Ripken<br/>Interlock** for league play in Cal Ripken league<br/>2-4 Teams<br/>Tournaments*: TBD</b>                                      |
| JBO Seniors / Babe Ruth (13U / 14U)         | 7th / 8th | League: Westside JBO<br>3 Teams & 44 Players<br>Tournaments: 1-5 | League: Westside JBO / PIL<br>2-4 Teams<br>Tournaments*: TBD<br><b>Babe Ruth State Tournament TBD</b>   |

\*Additional fees may apply for tournaments and additional apparel costs. Cal Ripken State Tournament allows multiple teams for one level to enter the state tournament.

\*\*Interlocking is defined as scheduled league games against other Leagues. We will play against teams in our league and potentially interlock with other local Cal Ripken Leagues, West Linn, Lakeridge, Newberg, etc. Scheduling will depend on number of teams at this level. Season will end first week of June.



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## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### Why are we making these league changes?

- We want to provide an alternative to competitive JBO baseball at the minor and junior level.
- We also want to provide a more flexible competitive landscape.
- Other area league's are seeing success following this model and we have worked with Cal Ripken successfully in the past. The Cal Ripken league offers more flexible rosters when compared to JBO. This ultimately allows us to move players to an appropriate level of competition and allows families more flexibility in their other plans.
- Our minor level AAA program will see more players come back from JBO and new playing opportunities in 2020. The players that played JBO in 2019 and do not make the 2020 10U Select team will still be organized into league teams and be playing tournaments by utilizing players from more than just their AAA team and still play 16 AAA games.

### What are the Cal Ripken Select teams?

- These teams would be filled with players at a competition level similar to JBO Federal. We're hoping to enhance the federal experience by adding the following items:
  - More tournaments and likely tournaments with nicer facilities.
  - We will leverage the local league (LYB league) kids who want to play competitive baseball for a weekend to allow us to play in more tournaments.
  - Practices would start January 1<sup>st</sup> and we will likely rent out indoor facilities. Additional training opportunities will have a cost associated with them. This overall cost will be much less than joining a club team.
  - More information on the Select program will be coming in September, including evaluation time and place

### T-Ball level

- One mid-week night game and one Saturday game. Approximately a 12 game season, which will begin in mid April.
- No practices after first two weeks.
- Teams can practice 45 minutes before games.