

Frequently Asked Questions

How can I get involved with the SVBSA?

Come to meetings that are held the second Sunday of the month except July. Summer meetings, April through September, are usually held at the Lions Shelter near field #4 in Cranberry Community Park. During the winter they move indoors, usually at the Cranberry Municipal Building. Please check our [website](#) for meeting times, dates, and locations.

What determines the age groupings for baseball and softball?

Ages for baseball and their league assignment are determined by their age on April 30 of the current year and/or their grade in school. A player may "play up" a league based on their age provided that they are in the grade commonly associated with the next age group. Please contact SVBSA.registrar@gmail.com if your player falls into this particular situation to assist with registration.

For softball the SVBSA follows the Amateur Softball Association (ASA)/USA guidelines. These state that a player's age on August 31 determines which division that player will be eligible to play in the following year. The association also allows players to request to play in an older division based on school grade. For instance, a player aged 10 on August 31 but in 5th grade at the start of the Spring season may request to play in the 12u division. Requests to play in a higher age group are subject to approval. For fall ball, the Association recommends that players register in the age group the player is eligible in the following Spring.

Age and grade cutoffs can be found [on our website](#).

Do I need to provide a birth certificate?

First time players may be asked for a birth certificate. However, players who choose to play on the tournament teams (all stars) will be asked to provide the manager a copy of their birth certificate. Remember, falsification of players' ages or addresses are grounds for expulsion from the SVBSA.

I'm not a resident of Cranberry Township, is my child eligible to play in the SVBSA?

There will be a \$10 additional fee for those players with a zip code outside of 16066 as mandated by Cranberry Township. Per the SVBSA By-Laws any player not residing in Cranberry Township is subject to board approval before being eligible to participate in the SVBSA. Players are subject to approval each year once their registration is complete.

My child is advanced for their age, can they play up into a higher league? If not, why?

The age guidelines set forth by the SVBSA are as described above.

Children do have the opportunity to play up to an upper league as a call up. For example; if a child is 10 years old, they can have the opportunity to play up to the next level of the league when a team from the upper league does not have enough players to field a team for any given game. This is true for any league where children are 8 years or older.

When does practice begin and how long is the season?

Practices start for most age groups during mid to late March. PONY and older age groups will start at the end of April/first week of June due to high school baseball participation rules. T-Ball usually starts practices in early April and the season finishes by the end of June. The season for most of the age groups starts around mid April and runs to around the middle of June. In house baseball leagues will have playoffs with championship games played in mid June.

Where do different baseball age groups play?

- Shetland: Graham Park, Cranberry Park
- Pinto: Cranberry Park
- Mustang: Cranberry Park
- Bronco: Cranberry Park
- Pony: Graham Park
- Colt/Legion/Palomino: Home games at Graham Park, the rest at the opposing team's field.

Where do different softball age groups play?

- 6u and 8u Slow: Graham Park, Cranberry Park. Possible travel to neighboring communities for away games.
- All other Slow Pitch and Fast Pitch: Part of Greater Pittsburgh Girls Softball League (GPGSL). Home games at Cranberry Park or Graham Park, rest at the opposing team's field.

What is fall ball?

Fall ball is an opportunity for girls and boys ages 8 to 17 to play additional baseball and softball during the months of August, September and October. The main emphasis of fall ball is as an instructional

league. Children are given the opportunity to play in the age group they will be moving to in the following spring. Some travel is involved. Signups start in late July/early August.

When do tournaments begin?

For Baseball: Evaluations for tournament teams will be in early April. You will be asked to register should you want your child to be evaluated for tournament teams. Teams are picked by the end of April and practices start early May. The tournament season usually runs from mid June through the beginning of August.

What is the relationship between the SVBSA and Cranberry Twp?

The SVBSA is an independent youth sports organization that is run strictly by volunteers. There is no connection with the township as far as the day-to-day operations of the organization. All board members, team managers, coaches and workers and managers in the concession stand as well as individuals who work on the fields are volunteers.