Conshy Travel Guidelines

Now that our travel program is up and running, to more standardize the process and set expectations going forward the following are proposed:

Expectations on When Teams are Chosen

- A tryout shall be conducted each autumn during Fall Ball for the following year's travel team for 8u, 9u, 10u, 11u and 12u.
  - The only exception is the 7u team which will have a tryout in April for the travel season from the end of rec to the beginning of August of that year.
  - All autumn tryouts should take place over the same two-day period. Players not available due to injury, travel, sickness, etc. are eligible for the two roster spots chosen by the coach.
  - The players chosen will be part of the travel and district teams and will be on the team from the date teams are formed in the fall until the fall tryout of the next calendar year. At that point all teams are dissolved and repicked.

- A second smaller tryout will be held at the end of the rec regular season for teams participating in the district Cal Ripken tournaments. This tryout is scored by the coaches of the travel team for which the players are trying out.
  - Coaches add additional players up to the limit for Cal Ripken tournament rules.
  - For example, if the coaches wanted to add another pitcher or if there was a player that improved during rec that they felt would be of value to the team, this would be the time to add them.
  - Players on the travel team will not lose their spot for the district team due to the additional players being added.
  - Players participating in districts have no guarantee of any playing time, which the parents and player should be made aware of going into the tryout.

Expectations on How a Team Will be Chosen

- The main autumn tryout will be scored by coaches (either from CBSL or from agreed upon coaches from outside CBSL) that have no affiliation with the team being selected. For example, coaches from the 11u and 12u teams could conduct the tryout for the 8u

team. No coach with a player trying out will be involved with the scoring but can help administer or run the tryout.

- Scoring to be done on a 1-20 (1 being poor, 20 being exceptional) scale to help limit ties in player evaluation scoring when calculating.

- At the conclusion of each Spring rec season, head coaches will complete an evaluation of the players on their team. These evaluations will be part of the total player evaluation score used to determine the players making the travel team when determining the overall player score.
  - If there is a player whose only season participating in CBSL is the Fall rec season immediately before tryouts, their Fall rec coach will be asked to submit a score to be used.
  - If there was a player who has previously participated in a CBSL rec season but was injured for the season that would be used for their evaluation score and did not play at least 60% of the games, the player may opt to use their tryout score for the full weight of determining their evaluation score.

- Tryout scores will be combined with rec evaluation scores (weighted at 70% rec evaluation score, 30% tryout score) to determine the total scores of each player trying out for the travel teams. The eligible players with the top 10 scores will be on the team, provided they are available during travel season.

- The coach of the travel team will then have the ability to add up to 3 additional players at the coach's discretion from any eligible age-appropriate players.
  - This will allow for the coach to choose players to round out the team at positions of need. For example, if there was only one pitcher rated in the top 10, the coach could add two additional pitchers. If there was no catcher, the coach could add a catcher, etc.
  - It also allows a limited way to add a player to the team who missed the tryout or a player who, in the coach's discretion, is a quality player but had a poor tryout for whatever reason.

- The second smaller tryout for district teams will be run by the coaches of the team for which the player is trying out. The coach does not have to add anyone but can add up to the Cal Ripken tournament limit at their discretion for district games and practices only.

- Players who make a travel or district team have no guarantee of a spot on the team for future years, as being on the team roster in a one-year commitment. The teams are chosen with a completely fresh slate each year.

- If after tryouts are completed and teams are formed, a specific age group does not have enough players, they can pull from any eligible players to complete their roster. For example, if a 10u team does not have enough players to complete their team, they can pull in any 9 that did not make the 9u "A" team (in this example, if the 9 year old makes the 9u, that is the team they would be required to play on. If they decline the invitation to play on the 9u "A" team, they are ineligible to play on the 10u team).

Expectations on How the Coach Will be Chosen

- The coach of the travel team must be chosen from parent / guardian coaches of the top 10 scoring players from the total evaluations and tryout aggregate score.
  - This should limit the scenario where a player makes the team because his parent is the coach, as the player would already be on the team before the coach is picked.

- If there is more than one coach who volunteers to be the head coach, the coach is chosen from those volunteering coaches by a vote of the board of the league.

- The head coach may choose their assistant coaches in whichever manner and at any number that they choose.

- Coaches who are chosen to coach the travel or district team have no guarantee of coaching the team for future years, as being the coach is a one-year commitment. The coaches are chosen each year from the eligible pool based on who scores in the top ten at tryouts.

Eligibility Expectations

- All players starting in the Conshohocken travel program in 2026 or later must play their designated Cal Ripken ages.
  - Existing players who are playing up an age have the right to try out for the team that they would be progressing to. As with anything else, no roster spots are guaranteed.
  - Existing players who are eligible to play up due to being grandfathered in who do not make the team they have played up on can try out for the team that aligns with their correct Cal Ripken age.
  - Existing players who are eligible to play up due to being grandfathered in who choose to revert to their correct Cal Ripken age, lose the right to play up in future seasons.

- Existing players who are grandfathered in and choose to tryout to play up, need to be in the top 10 evaluation scores of the team they are attempting to play up on to be permitted to play up. Players may only play up on an "A" team.
- For 7u, 6 year olds are permitted to try out for the 7u team, provided all other eligibility requirements are met, but if the player continues the following year to try out for a travel team, they must try out for the 7u team again to age correct to their Cal Ripken designated age.

- All players trying out for the travel or district team must have at least one rec season of Spring or Fall rec participation in the calendar year preceding the Fall tryout.
  - In the event that a travel team does not have enough eligible players tryout, this requirement can be waived to complete a roster.
  - To try out for the 7u travel team in April a player must be playing in the pitching machine division for the spring in which the tryout takes place.
  - A player whose first season is the Fall rec season that started immediately before the Fall tryout is eligible to try out for the travel program provided they attended at least 60% of the games in that season. If the season is not complete before the tryout, the player must have played in 60% of the rec team games played up until the tryout date.

- Players trying out for a travel team must not have commitments that would preclude them from participating in more than one June or July tournament, unless approved by the head coach.

Expectations on Season

- The travel team season will be for one year from the time of the autumn tryout, until the tryout the next autumn.

- All travel teams are required to play in the Conshohocken travel tournaments held by CBSL, even if it conflicts with other tournaments.

- Each travel season will pause at the end of July, with August being a designated break for the players.
  - If a team advances in districts and is still playing, they may certainly continue into or through August.
  - If the 12u travel team chooses to go to a destination tournament, they can schedule it in August, if they so choose.

- General guidelines below:

Age Group	Game Count	Tournament Count	Summer Practice	Technical/Pitching Level
7U	15–20	2–4	1 day/week	Machine Pitch Only
8U	20–25	3–4	1–2 days/week	Transition: Machine to Player Pitch*
9U	20–25	3–4	2 days/week	Full Player Pitch
10U	25–30	3–4	2–3 days/week	Full Player Pitch
11U	25–30	3–4	2–3 days/week	Full Player Pitch
12U	25–30	3–4	2–3 days/week	Full Player Pitch
**Note: 8U teams are required to enter at least one Player Pitch tournament to bridge the developmental gap.*				

- Each team will have practices and scrimmages at the coach's discretion.

General Expectations

- In the event that a travel team needs an additional player for a tournament due to players on their team being unavailable, the travel coach can call up (or down, if a player is playing up an age) a player from the travel team at the age below them.
  - The player and coach calling up the player must mutually agree on the player participating. For example, if a coach calls up a player, the player can decline the invitation.
  - Once the player is done with the specific game or tournament, the player reverts back to their age-appropriate team.
  - If there is a scheduling conflict, the player must play for their age-appropriate team as opposed to the team calling them up.
  - If no travel team players are available to be called up or down, the team needing a player can invite a non-travel rostered player to participate for that game or

tournament.

- The coach of the travel team may impose discipline due to attitude or actions. The discipline can be anything from limiting playing time to requesting a 1:1 meeting with the parents or guardians of the player to asking the travel director to remove the player from the travel team.
  - If in the agreed upon opinion of the head coach and the travel director a player's actions (i.e. not their play on the field) warrants removal from the team, the player can be removed and replaced. This should be rare and must be communicated in person to the player's parents or guardians clearly as to why the action is unacceptable and warrants removal.

- Nothing for a travel team should be scheduled past the date of the next autumn tryout, as the team and coaches are subject to change annually.

- Teams from 8u through 12u are expected to participate in their district tournament.

- If after all teams are formed there are enough additional players and coaches to form a "B-team" at a specific age, they can be formed at the board's discretion.
  - Players on the "B-team" are eligible to try out for the district team spots on the travel team that aligns with their Cal Ripken age.
  - Age mixing is permitted for "B-teams", if needed to complete a roster.

- Teams from 8u through 12u will have time allotted for their winter workouts at the league's discretion.

- The price of the winter workouts, tournaments, jerseys, district tournaments, etc. will be paid upon accepting the invitation to participate on the travel team. Accommodation can certainly be arranged if necessary.

- Playing time is earned and not guaranteed.