

Braves Baseball Club Junior Team Allocation Policy

Junior Grades: LL, IL & U16 Girls – Team Allocation

Draft-Based Team Formation

- Teams in these junior grades are formed as players register, by the registrar.

Allocation Considerations

- Team requests, friend requests, and any special comments (including requests not to be placed with a specific coach or player) are carefully and considered.
- We endeavour to balance teams by distributing player abilities evenly, while maintaining friendship groupings (whenever feasible).
- The club also evaluates the availability of coaching resources among parents, to avoid teams lacking support or conversely having unequal numbers of coaches.

Team Colours & Team Logistics

- Whenever possible, teams are assigned consistent colours to help with situations including playing up, transportation, and coordination among coaches for training, pitching etc. Examples: LL Gold and IL Gold.

Final Allocation Meeting

- Once registrations close, the panel which consists of Junior VP, Junior Development Coordinator and Registrar, convene to finalize teams.

Senior Junior Grades: JL, SL & BL – Allocation Approach

Post-Registration

- Following the close of registrations, the Club will schedule preseason and tryout sessions. Details will be emailed to registered families and published through the Club's social media platforms.
- The Club may amend the timing, format, number or structure of preseason and tryout sessions where reasonably required.

Attendance and Availability

Expectations

- Attendance at preseason and tryout sessions is strongly encouraged. A player will remain eligible for consideration if they are unable to attend one or more sessions; however, where attendance is limited or unavailable, the selection

panel will make its decision based on the information reasonably available to it. This may include previous playing history, known player information and other relevant supporting information, but the Club cannot guarantee that sufficient information will be available to support placement in a Division One team.

- The Club is not required to arrange an individual or alternative tryout for a player who is unable to attend a scheduled session.

Team compositions

Selection process

- Team allocations are determined by the Club through a structured assessment and selection process. Players will be assessed using criteria relevant to the applicable age group and level of competition.
- Assessment may include, but is not limited to, demonstrated hitting, fielding, base running, throwing, pitching (where applicable), game awareness, athleticism, attitude, coachability and overall ability to contribute at the relevant level of competition.
- Assessments are conducted by a group of appropriately appointed coaches and Club representatives. Individual assessments and selection discussions are confidential and will not be publicly disclosed.
- The Club is not required to provide individual assessment scores, rankings, comparisons with other players, detailed selection notes or reasons for individual team placement decisions.
- Players will not be guaranteed placement with a particular coach, teammate or group of friends for division one teams.
- Tryout performance is an important component of the selection process but is not the sole factor considered. Where relevant, the selection panel may also consider reliable information available to the Club, including previous teams and divisions, playing experience, representative experience, association or development pathways, available performance information, known player information, and player welfare considerations.
- Siblings will be assessed independently. Placement together in a division one team is not guaranteed and will occur where each player's individual assessment and the overall requirements of the relevant teams support that outcome.
- Selection decisions are based on the selection panel's overall assessment of the player and the needs of the relevant teams. No single assessment result, prior achievement, representative selection, previous team placement or other individual factor guarantees placement in a particular team or division.

- Final team placement decisions will be made soon after the completion of the relevant preseason and tryout process.
- Final decisions will be determined by a Club selection panel with all the available data consisting of the President, Junior Vice President, Senior Vice President, Head Coach, SL/BL Coordinator and Registrar.

ALL AGE GROUPS

Playing Up Arrangements

- Players will be placed and play in their designated league age group. A player may request to also play in the next eligible age group above their designated league age group (“playing up”), subject to the arrangements outlined below.
 - Playing up is not an entitlement and is not guaranteed. All requests will be considered by the Club on a case-by-case basis, taking into account team numbers, available positions, player welfare and safety, the player’s readiness and ability to safely participate at the higher age level, and the overall needs of both age groups and teams.
 - Playing up will only be considered where there is a genuine opportunity for the player to participate in an additional team in the next age group and where their inclusion does not adversely affect team numbers, team balance, player opportunities or the operation of either team.
 - A player playing up will not displace a player who is appropriately placed in the higher age group, nor will the Club be required to create an additional position or increase in teams beyond the Club’s preferred or appropriate team size solely to accommodate a request/s to play up.
 - Where a player is approved to play in two games on the same day, coaches are expected to manage the player’s workload appropriately. This includes maintaining full awareness of the player’s pitching and catching duties across both games and giving careful consideration to their overall playing time, particularly in younger age groups or where necessary to manage fatigue, player welfare and safety.
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Coach and Team Official Assignments

Coaching Assignment

- Coaches are appointed by the President, in consultation with the Junior VP, Senior VP and Juniors Development Coordinator.

Team Manager Allocation

- The Junior Team Managers Coordinator liaises with teams to assign a Team Manager for each team.

Scorer Assignment

- A Head Scorer is assigned for each team in collaboration with the Club Scoring Coordinator.

Confirmation & Communication Process for all age groups

Official Notification

- Once teams and officials are confirmed, the Registrar sends a team announcement with all players and officials and team colour, via a group email to each player's family, with copies (CC) to the:
 - President
 - Junior VP
 - Senior VP
 - Junior Development Coordinator
 - Scoring Coordinator
 - Uniforms Coordinator
 - Team Manager Coordination
- The Registrar also forwards full team lists and details to the respective Team Managers and Coaches, requesting that they:
 - Reach out promptly to team families
 - Set up a WhatsApp group for communication on training, fixtures, rosters, etc.

Ongoing Communications

- After teams are finalised, most communication between the Club and players is managed through the team managers' WhatsApp group, to streamline coordination and reduce clutter.