



Lafayette Squires Program

The following document, as approved by Lafayette Central Catholic Youth Baseball, is meant to serve as an overview and guideline for those wishing to participate in the Lafayette Squires program. It is critical that there is consistency and transparency across all age groups within the Squires program. This document will likely evolve over time, as changes come about from the LSB Board, but should serve as a solid foundation for anyone considering joining the Lafayette Squires program.

The Lafayette Squires Baseball program is designed to provide a higher level of competition to those players that have the desire and ability to develop their skills beyond what a traditional rec league allows. This program is an integral part of Lafayette Central Catholic Baseball and requires a more significant commitment from both parents and players.

Tryouts

Each year, traditionally in August, dates will be approved by Lafayette Squires Baseball (LSB) for Squires tryouts. Tryouts are held at either Field 51 or Gordon Leming Field as determined by LSB. Eligible players for Lafayette Squires must attend a school within LCSS, a private school or must expressly state their intentions to attend Central Catholic High Schools.

For each age group, the cutoff is April 30th and players must try out for the team they are eligible for according to their birth date. The exception to this rule is that any player in the appropriate grade level may play with their classmates. For example, a player that should be on the 11U team by birth date, may play on the 12U team if he is in the 6th grade (as the 12u team is comprised of 6th and 7th graders.) This rule applies to all age groups. Finally, an 8 year old may try out for the 9U team if they so choose.

All players trying out for Squires teams will go through a series of drills including ground balls, fly balls, pitching, hitting in the cages, base running etc. They will be evaluated by an independent group of coaches and while Squires Head Coaches are allowed to help at tryouts, they will NOT be involved in individual player evaluations. Within 1-2 weeks of player tryouts, those players that qualify for teams will be notified and roster spots solidified. Rosters will then be posted on the LSB website.

Player Fees

Each player that qualifies for Lafayette Squires will be expected to pay a player fee. This fee will vary by age group but will be approximately \$350-\$500 per player. Sponsorships and fund raising can cover or greatly reduce your out of pocket amount.

Sponsors

Obviously there is a large gap between what players will pay to play and what our overall budget will be per team. To help in this regard, it is critical that each player of each team actively seeks out sponsors in the community. Additional information regarding this process and an overview of how the Squires sponsorship works will be discussed at the individual team parent meetings. For sponsors over \$400 you will need to collect corporate logos if the sponsor wishes to use those on the team shirts/banner. Sponsorship money collected will be deducted from player fees.

Fundraising

There are myriad ways to raise money for teams and we have used various methods in the past. The Lafayette Squires Board will determine the method to be used each year and depending on the success, or lack thereof, in gaining corporate sponsors, this amount will vary each year.

Winter Workouts

Typically, the season starts in mid to late January. Squires teams will be given a time on a Saturday or Sunday that they can practice indoors during the winter months. Locations for practice can include Eberle Gym and Batting Cage at Central Catholic. Basketball and wrestling will be in full swing during this time, so players will not be penalized for playing an in-season sport.

As the weather permits in the spring or when regular season practices take place, Armstrong Park, McCaw Park, Field 51 @ CC, or any other field the coach has access to will be used. Practice will typically be held to 1-2 hours.

Scheduling Games

It is recommended that each age level try to play the corresponding number of games throughout the season. Keep in mind how you perform in tournaments has a large impact on how many games you will play. Typically, each tournament will have a 3 game guarantee, but you might play 5-6 games if you keep advancing.

9U – Play between 25-30 games. Total includes 2-3 local tournaments and one drivable tournament during June and July with no overnight stay

10U – Play between 30-35 games. Total includes 2-3 local tournaments and one drivable tournament during June and July with no overnight stay

11U – Play between 35-40 games. Total includes 3-4 tournaments during May, June and July with 1 overnight stay possible.

12U – Play between 40-50 games. Total includes 3-4 tournaments during May, June and July 1 with overnight stay possible.

13U – Play between 40-50 games.

14U – Play between 45-55 games.

The LSB Board, along with the Director for 9-12 age group will assist in scheduling tournaments. Coaches for 13U and 14U will schedule their own tournaments. Efforts will be made to play multiple age groups at the same location on a weekend.

Calendar Breakdown

August

- Tryouts

September - December

- Parent meeting.
- Fundraising efforts

January - February

- Weekly indoor workouts begin

March

- Determine season schedule

April

- Regular Season games begin

May – July

- Regular season games and tournaments. Season ends by 2nd week in July.