

# MVAA BASEBALL



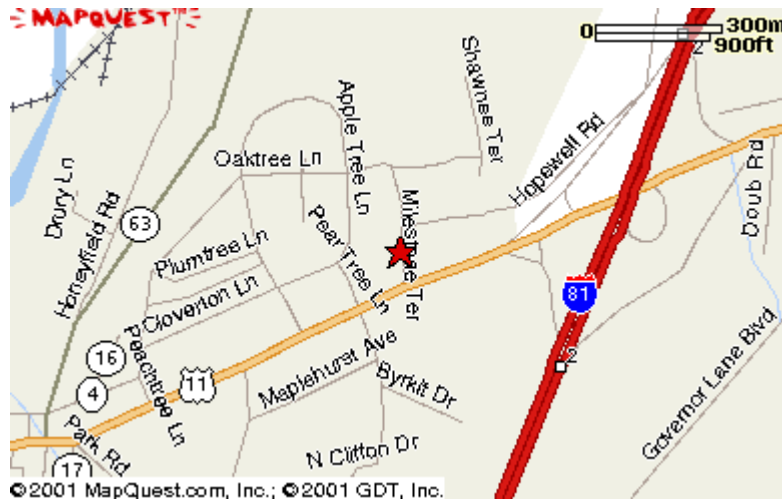
**MATURITY. HONESTY. DISCIPLINE. LOYALTY. ADAPTATION. COMPASSION. SELF-ESTEEM. TEAMWORK. RESPECT. SACRIFICE. HUMILITY. PATIENCE. DILIGENCE. COURAGE. TRUST.**

The game of baseball gives its players the chance to test and refine the qualities that make up a well-rounded life experience. The MVAA Baseball program hopes to not only teach the game of baseball, but to also move your child toward becoming all that they can be. To this end we have and will continue to institute changes for the betterment of the program. Please visit the MVAA website (<http://www.mvaasports.com>) for additional information regarding the baseball program. Scroll down to Baseball and go to 2007 MVAA Baseball Guidelines. This document explains recent changes in the program and procedures for the upcoming evaluations/try-outs.

## **Mandatory Player Evaluations**

**Mandatory Player Evaluations will be held on Sunday February 3, 2008 at the 4 Star Athletic Complex in Williamsport MD.**

### ***Directions***



70 West  
81 South  
Exit 2 (Route 11)  
Turn right after McDonald's onto Milestone Terrace.  
Facility is on the left.  
301 223 6116

Please allow 30 minutes for travel.

## **Times**

All players between the ages of 7-12 must report 15 minutes prior to the start time indicated below.

<b>Age*</b>	<b>Time</b>
8U (7-8)	2:00 – 3:30 PM
10U (9-10)	3:30 – 5:00 PM
12U (11-12)	5:00 – 6:30 PM

\* For levels 8U – 12U, a player may “play up” one level if their ability (as judged by their numeric evaluation) or other factors as determined by the Director of Baseball warrant such a result. The parents of any player wishing to play up must notify the Director of Baseball via e-mail ([Doug@mvaasports.com](mailto:Doug@mvaasports.com)) at least 1 week prior to player evaluations. The standards to play at an advanced level within MVAA are rigorous and very few players, if any, will be permitted to play up. Please refer to the *2008 MVAA Baseball Guidelines* for eligibility requirements.

- There may be a second evaluation date the weekend following the first evaluation date. The first evaluation date is the primary date. In order to be eligible for the second evaluation date, parents must contact the director of baseball a minimum of one week prior to the first evaluation date.
- Players not evaluated are not eligible for Select level play.
- It is in the interest of all players and parents to attend the evaluations in order for the MVAA baseball program to function properly.

All players should bring/wear:

- Baseball glove.
- Baseball bat (optional).
- Baseball hat.
- Baseball pants or sweat pants.
- Sneakers or Gym shoes.
- Protective cup.

Your child’s coach will contact you within a week of evaluations.

## **Practicing With Your Child**

It is the intention of the MVAA baseball program to give each child enrolled the very best baseball education possible in an all-volunteer organization. In order for each child to enjoy their baseball experience it is necessary for them to develop the essential physical skills of catching, throwing, batting, and running bases to the best of their ability. It takes a great deal of work and repetition to master these skills, and parents should be prepared to spend time practicing with your child. If you feel you are not familiar enough with the game to do this, you are invited to learn along with your child at practice.

## ***Volunteering to Help With Your Child's Team***

As in any volunteer organization, there must be volunteers to make it work. All parents with children in MVAA baseball are expected to help. It takes a huge number of people to have a successful program. Each team needs as many as 6 adults to run a successful practice. During a 8U home game, 6 parents are needed to field a team successfully; 2 parents are needed to umpire, someone has to keep score, 2 base coaches are required, and someone must keep the players organized on the bench. Additionally, there are team website duties, and the field needs to be raked and lined before a game and raked after each game. You will be called upon to help and you must be open to doing so. A team is just that, a team. Players learn how to be part of a team through example.

## ***Select / Travel Teams***

Membership on a Select / Travel Team at any level represents additional commitment in both time and money. Select / Travel Teams typically practice more frequently, play more games, and incur additional costs in the form of equipment, tournament fees, and travel expenses. Parents and players interested in Select / Travel level play must be willing to accept and commit to these additional demands.

## ***Mandatory Coaches Meeting and Clinic***

On March 2, 2008 there will be a mandatory coach's meeting followed by a clinic for coaches at the 4-Star in Williamsport from 2:30-5:30 PM. This is intended to improve the quality and consistency of coaching in our program. Parents are welcome to attend; interested parents should email the Director of Baseball by February 15, 2008.

## **Behavior**

MVAA Baseball has no tolerance for inappropriate behavior on the part of Coaches, Parents and Players. Good sportsmanship is the rule. Please, if it's not positive, keep it to yourself.

## **Addressing Issues/Concerns**

Please make every effort to resolve any issues you may have by speaking directly with your child's coach in a rational, adult manner. Coaches should be approached either before or after practice, preferably not before or after a game and never during a practice or game. If you are still not satisfied after speaking with the coach, please contact the coordinator for your child's age division (if assigned). If the division coordinator cannot address your concern please contact the Director of Baseball. Please remember that we can disagree without being disagreeable.

I look forward to a great 2008!

Doug Leidig  
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