



***Fair Haven Community Baseball Inc. (FHBB)***

***Fair Haven Diamonds Travel Baseball***

**<https://fairhavenbaseball.org/>**

***By Laws:***

***I - Organization Objective***

**FHBB is a volunteer, non-profit organization used to teach boys & girls the basic fundamentals of baseball with an emphasis on teaching positive character traits - principally good sportsmanship - while improving their baseball skills annually. The organization strives to provide the most enjoyable and competitive Rec & Travel programs and believes that instilling these positive traits in combination with teaching fundamental baseball skills creates well adjusted players / children who will grow into adults that benefit their communities.**

***II - Membership***

**A. Regular membership in FHBB shall be open to all boys & girls between the ages of 5 through 14, (15 years of age if still in the 8th grade) on the date of July 31st of the current baseball season. Playing members must be (but not limited to) Fair Haven residents or be registered in the Fair Haven school system.**

**As of Jan 1st 2025 Little League has initiated a “New League Choice” rule which amends Regulation II.**

The rule reads as follows:

Updates made to Regulation II to reflect that starting with the 2025 season, children at the youngest level of the program (League Age 4-7) will have the ability to register for any program they choose, without respect to any geography- or school-related eligibility requirements. Those players who register under this option will also be fully eligible to participate in all aspects of league play, including International Tournament play, for the duration of their Little League careers provided they have continuous and unbroken participation within the specific league where initially registered and provided all other participation eligibility requirements have been met.

**Additional information regarding this change may be found at [LittleLeague.org/2025Registration](http://LittleLeague.org/2025Registration).**

- **T-Ball league players may be from other towns provided their residency town does not have an available program for kids in this age group. Parents or legal guardians of children registered to participate in FHBB are considered regular members of FHBB. All members are bound by FHBB By-Laws.**

## **B. Voting Membership.**

**Voting Membership Shall be restricted to the following.**

- 1. Officers (executive board), regular board members, travel coaches & (1) assistant travel coach from each team.**
- 2. Adult regular members who have attended the previous (2) consecutive regular open meetings, this will be verified by sign-in sheets and roll call.**

## ***III - Officers (Executive Board and Regular Board)***

### **• Section A - Offices & Terms of Office**

**The offices of FHBB shall be:**

#### **(Executive Offices)**

- 1. President**
- 2. Vice President**
- 3. Treasurer**

#### **(Regular Board Offices)**

- 1. Travel Directors (2 person position)**
- 2. Field Maintenance Director**
- 3. Fundraising Director**
- 4. Rec Coordinator**
- 5. Field Coordinator / Scheduling**
- 6. Social Media & Merch Coordinator**
- 7. Director of Player & Coach Development**

- These officers shall be elected to term by majority vote of eligible FHBB members present at the annual (open) regular meetings scheduled in the months of (Nov, Dec & Jan.) Elected term of office shall be for (2) years. Each elected officer will take over office on July 1st of the calendar year in which he/she is elected.
- Section B - Duties Of The Officers of FHBB

**President:**

- Preside over all meetings.
- Call special meetings whenever deemed necessary.
- Form special committees when needed.
- Be a member ex-officio of any and all offices.
- Assume responsibility of assuring a smooth running program.
- Attend all TRLL meetings to ensure FHBB is in good standing & running their section of the league effectively.

**Vice President:**

- Preside over all meetings in the absence of the President. check all rosters & registration forms kept by Rec & Travel teams.
- Audit the treasury books at least once every year.
- Report all illegalities to the President & Executive board as it pertains to all Board Members, Coaches & players of FHBB.

**Treasurer:**

- Preside over all meetings in the absence of all other officers.
- Collect & record all monies due to FHBB.
- Pay all approved bills due against FHBB using an approved & maintained checking account
- Prepare a working budget for the next year with the assistance of the President & the outgoing treasurer.

### Travel Directors (2 person position):

- Coordinate tryouts
- Organize rosters for board approval
- Organize diamonds coaches for board approval
- Organize DD coaches for board approval (if nec)
- Assess coaches and players
- Coordinate / approve team structures at each grade level.
- Help set league play / poss tournaments.
- Organize independent evaluators
- Organize year one Diamonds clinics
- Ensure all fees are collected

### Field Maintenance Director:

- Keep field maintenance inventory up to date.
- Coordinate volunteers to work fields / assign field responsibilities.
- Work with DPW during REC season for field prep.
- Keep a list and report all damaged equipment.
- Organize volunteers for all tournament field prep
- Work with Scheduling director / set field prep schedule & makeup games.

### Fundraising Director:

- Explore fundraising opportunities for FHBB as a whole.
- Help 12U teams fundraise annually.
- Work with Social Media & Merch Coordinator to maintain updates / content and fundraising campaigns on the FHBB website.
- Constantly look for donations & sponsorships for FHBB / take advantage of the 501c3.
- Organize Rec sponsorships.

### **Rec Coordinator:**

- Organize Rec baseball parade.
- Organize Rec baseball draft.
- Upload teams to teamsnap / Ensure registration fees are collected.
- Coordinate Rec Equipment Distribution & Collection.
- Coordinate with Rec Director to ensure smooth running Rec season.
- Help coordinate T-ball teams / games / clinics.

### **Field Coordinator / Scheduling:**

- Coordinate field space with Rec Director / other sports programs.
- Assign field space to Rec / Travel teams for practices and games.
- Help coaches reschedule canceled games.
- Create shareable spreadsheets so coaches & the board are aware of changes.
- Coordinate with field maintenance crew / DPW.

### **Social Media & Merch Coordinator:**

- Create a monthly editorial calendar.
- Draft the social posts for board approval.
- Collect photos for various uses on social posts.
- Monitor social channels and share / relay feedback and questions back to board.
- Coordinate with online vendors to ensure quick delivery and appropriate inventory.
- Refresh online team store to ensure seasonally appropriate gear is available.
- Monitor sales to support fundraising efforts.

### **Director of player & Coach Development:**

- **Establish a training program for the Diamonds travel teams.**
- **Break down the training program by age group to ensure players are progressing and learning the requisite skills for each age division.**
- **Ensure the training program includes suggested drills and practice agendas.**
- **Conduct mandatory clinics for coaches allowing the coaches to learn the proper fundamentals that should be developed at each age group as well as the proper manner in which to conduct practice.**
- **Attend a practice and / or game from time to time for each team to observe and make suggestions to related team's Managers and Coaches.**

### ***IV - Meetings***

- **Section A - Meetings**

**Regular FHBB open board meetings shall be held at a time and place designated by the President (November, December & January or thereabouts.) All speakers must be recognized by the presiding officer prior to speaking. The officer may limit the speaking time of those recognized. There shall be no issues presented which do not concern FHBB. Issues shall be decided upon by a majority of the eligible voting members present. Proxy voting will not be permitted outside of immediate family members i.e. (Husband, Wife or significant other.) Closed board meetings (FHBB board members only) may be called by the President at any time deemed necessary.**

- **Section B - Order Of Business For Meetings**

**Regular FHBB meetings will follow the Agenda set forth by the President or presiding member prior to each scheduled meeting.**

### **V - Fees**

**All fees shall be determined by the officers of FHBB at the beginning of each season. All fees must be collected prior to any team selection or tryouts.**

### **VI - TRLL League Rules & Changes Of By- Laws**

- **Section A - Rules**

**FHBB is part of the Two River Little League (TRLL.) TRLL follows the rules of Little League of America for both Junior Little League and Senior Little League. The official rules for Little League can be found at the following address.**

**<https://www.littleleague.org/playing-rules/rules-regulations-policies/>**

- **Section B - Changes To By-Laws**

**All Changes to the By-Laws shall be addressed by open discussion during a regular meeting session. All open issues & changes shall be resolved and voted on at a meeting with no less than ten (10) voting members. A  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote is required for any change to the By-Laws of FHBB.**

- **Section C - Eligibility**

**Any boy or girl who satisfies the regular membership requirement is eligible to play on a FHBB team.**

- **Section D - Rec Baseball Draft**

**(2nd-8th Grades)**

**Prior to each Rec Baseball season players shall be chosen at the discretion of the head & assistant coach at each age level. The child (children) of the head coach and one (1) assistant coach may be assigned to a team prior to the team being picked. Selection of further players will be based on skill level making sure each team has a similar number of players with the same skill sets. FHBB board members need to be present while teams are being drafted to make sure selections of players have been equalized for each team.**

**(T-Ball & 1st Grade)**

**T-Ball & 1st grade players will be placed on teams randomly by the Rec Coordinator with some assistance from the coaches at both levels. Teams are to be created with as much parity as possible.**

- **Section E - All Stars Selection (2nd - 6th Grades)**

**At the conclusion of each Rec season 4 players from each team (4 from each grade level in the Majors Division) will be nominated for TRLL East All Star tryouts, two (2) nominated by the coaches of each team and two (2) by fellow players. Tryouts will be run by the TRLL All Star head coach and staff of each age group. The coaches are selected by TRLL and (should) include both Fair Haven & Rumson coaches (TBD by TRLL baseball board.) An independent evaluator will evaluate each player and assign a score over two (2) days of tryouts. The top score over the (2) day tryout will be used for the team selection process. The players with the top nine (9) scores will be accepted automatically with a mandatory minimum of 12 players selected. The balance of the players accepted will be “coaches discretionary picks.” Most teams carry between 12-13 players, but that is determined by the head coach and staff. (Parents are not**

allowed to attend tryouts.)

- **Section E - Disqualification Procedures and Termination**

The decision to disqualify a coach or player from a game or terminate a game shall be the decision of the umpire and be guided by the safety and welfare of all the players. A warning shall be given to coaches & player (s) prior to being removed from the game, playing field or general area.

All members must adhere to the By-Laws of FHBB. Not adhering to the rules of this organization will constitute, with the approval of the majority of the board members, the dismissal of any member.

Drugs and Alcohol are forbidden on the field and or spectator area during all FHBB games and practices (Rec & Travel.) If a coach indulges in unsportsmanlike conduct the officers shall take appropriate action in the best interest of FHBB. If a coach or player is disqualified, the board will review the circumstances and shall decide if a penalty is warranted as well as decide the severity of said penalty. Any coach or player who feels their penalty is unwarranted, may slate their objections to the Fair Haven Rec Committee.

## ***Diamonds Travel Baseball***

**Fair Haven Diamonds Travel Baseball**

### **I. Purpose**

Fair Haven Diamonds Travel Baseball's objective is to offer “extra baseball” for those motivated or potentially motivated players who want to continue playing baseball through little league, middle school, high school and beyond. At the core of this objective is working to encourage a love of baseball which will involve teaching the game in a way that balances advanced play with fundamentals, competitiveness with light-heartedness and selectiveness with inclusiveness. Diamonds will carry out this objective by

**administering a travel baseball program that will be separate and in addition to FHBB's Rec program. Diamonds Travel Baseball will compete with local, state and national level travel and club teams. By encouraging a love for the game of baseball, Diamonds Travel looks to provide an environment for motivated and potentially motivated Fair Haven children to play baseball with their friends and classmates locally for as long as possible.**

## **II. Mission**

**To foster a positive and competitive environment for young athletes to develop essential baseball skills, promote healthy lifestyles, and build strong character through teamwork, discipline, and sportsmanship, creating responsible and resilient individuals on and off the field.**

## **III. Message to Parents**

**Parents are asked to be supportive of their players and their coaches. Part of being supportive is trusting that your coaches are making decisions that are best for the team and leaving coaching decisions up to them. We encourage communication! If you have any concerns, please talk to your coach. We are all volunteers and are doing this for the love of the game, and the kids. However, please wait 24 hours before addressing your coach when out of anger or frustration and never address your coach while in the presence of your child. Parents are also encouraged to practice with children on their own time, using your coaches' suggestions to work on improving individual skills. Interaction with players during games and practices is discouraged so that players can give 100 percent of their attention to their coaches and their teammates. Only positive cheers and words of encouragement are appropriate during games from parents, who are required to remain seated in the bleachers away from the dugout. There will be no tolerance of criticism or arguments with umpires. Travel baseball games can get very intense, which can be fun and exciting, whether they are wins or losses. We ask that everyone work**

**to make that intensity fun and not unnecessarily tense.**

#### **IV. FH Diamonds Travel Baseball Governance**

##### **A. Diamonds Directors**

**Fair Haven Diamonds Travel Baseball is not an independent organization but is part of Fair Haven Baseball, Inc. (FHBB). The FHBB Executive Board will approve two (2) Diamonds Directors of Operations (voted on by the adult regular members of FHBB) that will oversee the program and make recommendations to the Executive Board for final approval. The appointment of the Diamonds Directors shall run concurrent with the elections of the Vice President but opposite the appointment of the President and Treasurer. This means each appointment shall be for 2 years unless otherwise decided by the Executive Board. The Executive Board shall have the right to elect / replace the Diamonds Directors based upon a majority vote. In the event a majority vote cannot be reached by the Executive Board, it shall open the vote to all the board members of FHBB.**

##### **V. Team Coach / Trainer Selection**

**Any parent wishing to coach a Diamonds Travel Team must apply in writing and submit a volunteer form that can be obtained from the Diamonds Directors or downloaded off the FHBB website. Coach & Trainer selections will be made based on many criteria including, but not limited to; baseball knowledge, schedule, flexibility, youth sports philosophy, past Fair Haven Diamonds Travel experience, past experience in any other youth sports organization and conflicts with other baseball organizations. Prospective candidates may also be asked to have a quick phone or in person interview. The Diamonds Directors may ask for documentation or references that support any claims made by an applicant.**

**After submission of the application and review by the Diamonds Directors, the Diamonds Directors shall share all applications with the**

**Executive Board for review. The Executive Board shall elect a candidate to be the Manager of a Diamonds team by a majority vote.**

**All managers and coaches shall be required to pass a Background Check and participate in the RU Safety Course and Concussion Course and other required courses that the Executive Board may mandate from time to time.**

**Given the anticipated level of commitment when coaching a team and FH baseball's goal to ensure more inclusive opportunities for all parents who wish to volunteer, parents volunteering for a head coaching position will be limited to coaching one Diamonds team per season (Fall-Spring.)**

#### **Term and Coach Evaluations**

**Coaches & Trainers are elected on an annual basis and may be removed at any time by the Executive Board by a majority vote. Coaches are to be selected by the Diamonds Directors & Executive Board, and serve on an annual basis.**

**The Diamonds Directors may initiate a review of any manager or coach who receives a formal complaint submitted to FHBB. After review of the complaint, the Diamonds Directors, in consultation with the Executive Board, will decide if repercussions are warranted and if the coaches / trainers should be removed and or be considered to coach or train again. Returning coaches / trainers (who are in good standing with the Fair Haven Diamonds) will be given priority during the selection process due to the enormous time commitment they made in the past. Notwithstanding a coach's prior service, the Diamond Directors shall have the right in their sole discretion to recommend a new head coach for any Fair Haven Diamonds Travel Team for approval by the Executive Board. Team Managers will be selected following the tryout for the respective team for which they are being considered. [The Trainer selection process should be completed no later than one (1) week following the tryout in the spring.] Paid Trainers will be used where needed, however our goal is to use parents to manage our 7-10 year old teams. If a team requires**

**additional coaches, the Diamonds Directors and the Team Manager will appoint additional parents or hire assistant coaches as necessary. All coaches must be approved by the Diamonds Directors and Executive Board.**

**Trainers and coaches are expected to act responsibly and set a good example for our young players at all times. Trainers must adhere to all rules of the league in which they're participating with the goal to provide a safe and supportive baseball environment for our players.**

### **Player and Coach Development**

**The Director of Player and Coach Development duties are to establish training programs for the Diamonds Travel Program. The training programs shall be broken down by age group to ensure players are progressing and learning the requisite skills for each age division. In addition, the training programs should include suggested drills and practice agendas.**

**The Director of Player and Coach Development will conduct mandatory clinics for Coaches. These sessions will allow the Coaches to learn the proper fundamentals that should be developed at each age group as well as the proper manner in which to conduct practice. In addition, the Director of Player and Coach Development will attend a practice and / or game from time to time for each team to observe and make suggestions to related team's Managers and Coaches.**

**By having all players learn the proper fundamentals starting at age 7U, the players and team will become more skilled and competitive as they continue through the program.**

## **VI. Teams**

### **1. 7U Diamonds first year Structure:**

**Teams at the 7U/Rising First Grade level will be offered as an introduction to travel baseball and will include as many teams as**

possible according to participation numbers. Teams will be balanced evenly according to skill level which will be assessed during a "tryout" using the same procedures as the older Diamonds teams. In addition to providing data needed for balancing teams, the tryout is intended to be a useful learning experience for players and families as they begin their travel baseball journey, and will therefore be approached with an "entry level" mindset by organizers. There are to be no cuts as a result of the tryout. Leading up to the tryout FHBB will offer a fun, instructional clinic to help prepare both players and parents for the tryout. This clinic will take place over 3-5 weeks starting the week after REC playoffs conclude (i.e. mid June) and will run until mid July. The tryout will be scheduled in mid-to-late July with team player and coach assignments announced shortly thereafter. For reference this is all to take place during the summer in between Kindergarten and First Grade. Each 7U team will remain together for the next 12 months and is expected to practice both separately and together, scrimmage each other, conduct clinics, enter weekly leagues, and possibly compete in tournaments - all at the discretion of the Head Coaches/Team Managers, and in consultation with the Board.

## **2. 8-14U Travel Teams:**

The Diamond Directors may recommend up to two (2) teams at each of the 8U-14U levels depending on availability of coaches and facilities. In addition, the Fair Haven Executive Board shall reserve the right to add a third team or an age combined team should the registration talent allow for such consideration.

## **3. Team Selection**

Teams in the 7-10 age bracket will be considered Developmental Teams. The goals of our developmental program will be to focus on the fundamentals of baseball skills through repetition and skill improvement drills. Players will be developed at more than one position on the field to develop physical and mental baseball skills.

At the 7-10 age group coaches should run a continuous batting order

whenever possible but that can be changed during the postseason. Playing time will not be equal and players will not be moved around as much as in traditional Rec Little League, but probably more than in the Senior program. Our Developmental teams will play in the fall and spring leagues and / or tournaments and perhaps local summer league and tournaments.

- *One (1) mandatory practice per week will be required in the fall & spring season for 7U - 10U teams. One to two (1- 2) mandatory practices per week will be required during the fall & spring season for 11U - 14U teams (pending field space & availability.)*

Teams in the 11u (fall)- 14u bracket will be considered Senior Teams. These teams will play on the 50/70 fields & 60/90 fields. “Senior” is a philosophy to train players in a way that best prepares them for playing baseball at the more advanced levels and eventually high school. Being on a senior travel team by no means guarantees that a player will be selected for any future travel teams or for a High School baseball team. The goal of the Senior Teams will be the following:

1. To provide more complex strategy and situational training to our older players.
2. To provide an opportunity to play in a highly competitive environment.
3. To provide coaching on more advanced baseball skills.

Our Senior teams will play in spring / fall games and / or tournaments as well as a local summer league and tournaments. Playing time will not be equal and players are more likely to be limited to only a couple positions on the field. Attitude, ability, hard work, and sportsmanship will play a larger role in determining playing time for our Senior teams.

## **VII. Tryout Process**

We are a “tryout based” travel program. All eligible 8U-14U players interested in playing travel baseball will be required to attend the tryouts for the next season if they wish to make a team (Diamonds

Blue or Diamonds White.) Travel teams will be formed based solely on tryout performance whenever possible. However, the Diamonds Directors, Coaches and the Executive Board reserve the right to consider additional information and/or to schedule makeup tryout sessions to accommodate unique circumstances, including but not limited to: injury, sickness, a family emergency, or other factors to determine team selection. During try-outs, players will be observed by independent evaluators selected by the Diamonds Directors.

- *Diamonds Directors will hold or share an annual Pre Tryout clinic list explaining what skills are being evaluated so players can best prepare for the upcoming tryouts.*
- *If any age group has two (2) teams ( Diamonds Blue & Diamonds White ) the coaching / training staffs from both teams are required to run tryouts together.*

Try-outs require good concentration. Communication with the children who are trying-out is prohibited as the safety of the children involved is our primary concern. While it would seem obvious that the best baseball players would make the team, this is not always the case.

#### Tryout Specifics and Team Selection:

- **Players must attend two scheduled tryouts or use the makeup as a second tryout. Any player that fails to make two tryouts (without approval of the Diamonds Director and Executive Board) will not be considered for the A team (Diamonds Blue.)**
- **Evaluators will judge the players on hitting, fielding, throwing and running.**
- **Scores range from 0-5 for fielding and throwing. Hitting will have two separate scores for mechanics and power. These scores will range from 0 to 7.**
- **Players finishing in the top 3 in running will receive an extra bonus point.**

## **Selection:**

**Teams will consist of 11-13 players. Coaches / Trainers may elect to carry more than 13 or carry practice players but prior discussion should be held with the Diamonds Directors and the Executive Board.**

**The top 8 players with the highest scores based on the average of 2 tryouts will be selected for the Diamonds Blue roster. Only under extenuating circumstances will a candidate finishing in the top 8 be precluded from making the team. Such circumstances shall include behavioral issues, parental issues or others that will be evaluated by the Diamonds Directors and Executive Board.**

- **The Independent evaluators scores will be sent directly to the Diamonds Directors, Executive Board and Coaches.**
- **Coaches whose child does not finish in the top 8 scores must recuse themselves from team selection. The Diamonds Directors and Executive Board will appoint a coach to help with team selection in this case.**
- **The Coach or Trainer must present all selections to the Diamonds Directors and Executive Board who shall approve the team roster.**

**The selection process involves the evaluation of many tangibles and intangibles. Some of these include:**

### **I. Baseball talent and ability:**

**Obviously the primary criteria for selection to a Travel Team based on the scores from the tryout.**

### **II. Eligibility**

**(i) Any player trying out for a Travel team must be eligible to play based on league rules and age guidelines., (ii) Players must be residents of Fair Haven and must play recreation baseball for TRLL. Note, in order to support (Diamonds White) teams, non-residents may be allowed to play on a case by case basis to serve the greater group**

of Fair Haven residents.

### **III. Coachability**

If a child has shown an inability to follow direction, lacks focus, or has a behavioral problem, they might not be selected, even if they are one of the best players in the tryout. Conversely, a child who shows a strong willingness to learn and improve, but is not one of the top 12 – 15 players, might be selected.

### **IV. Sportsmanship**

A child who has exhibited a lack of sportsmanship towards his/her teammates, opponents, coaches or parents may be excluded from consideration. Additionally, if a parent has exhibited a lack of sportsmanship toward players, coaches, other parents or umpires, their child may be excluded from consideration.

### **V. Commitment**

If a child has shown prior disregard for attending practice and/or games they might not be selected, even if they are one of the best players. Players should be prepared to attend all scheduled practices and games.

### **VI. Availability**

Travel Baseball is a significant commitment. However, we do encourage our athletes to play other sports and engage in other activities. It is the responsibility of the parent and/or player to promptly communicate any conflicts so that the coaching staff can make necessary adjustments for practices, tournaments and games.

### **VII. Position**

Many times teams are picked based on a player's ability to play a position, and depending on what is needed by the team. A need for a player with certain skills at a particular position can certainly

**factor into player selection.**

## **VIII. Playing Up**

**Players are not allowed to “play up” on the basis of skill. Players are assigned to teams based on their date of birth. A child can then elect to play down to play with the players in his grade which is strongly encouraged. Coaches / Trainers may allow a child to play up when they are in need of substitute players.**

## **IX. Attendance Expectations**

**Attendance is mandatory! You are expected to be on time for practice, meetings and at least 60 minutes early for games. The team cannot achieve their goals and maintain a winning attitude if players are missing or arriving late for games and/or practices. If you miss a practice or a game, for any reason, the Coach / Trainer must know about it as soon as possible.**

## **X. Team Finances and Fundraising**

**Each player will be responsible for its pro rata share of expenses of league registration fees, umpire fees, tournament play, cage rentals, paid trainers, etc. Players will also be responsible for purchasing a team uniform plus have the option to purchase certain accessories (backpacks, sweatshirts etc). The Coach / Trainer for each team with the help of the Merch Coordinator will communicate the process for uniforms and associated costs at your initial team meeting. Travel fees will not cover the cost of any activity not pre-approved and / or any activity that takes place outside of the “official” travel season. All players on a Fair Haven Diamonds roster will be asked to participate in certain Diamonds fundraising activities. As costs rise for training and Cooperstown participation, we recommend functioning as a cohesive organization to help all achieve their goals and to reduce duplicative fundraising requests of local businesses in Fair Haven & Rumson. Please note that fundraising efforts may include selling raffle tickets, holding car washes, hosting Diamonds fundraising events or other activities.**

**Revised: 01/31/2026**