

## 2022 BASEBALL NL HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM

#### Preamble

Baseball Newfoundland and Labrador is pleased to announce details on the Baseball NL High Performance Program that will commence later this fall!

The purpose of this new program is to better train and prepare our athletes for Baseball Canada National Championships for the 2022 season – and beyond!

### **Program Information**

Telephone: 709-576-3401

The initial weekend of the Baseball NL High Performance Program will take place on October 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Sessions will start on Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at approximately 5:00 PM and run until Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM. This initial weekend will be an open tryout for any interested players that want the opportunity to be a part of the High Performance Program. This is the only tryout weekend scheduled. Any player interested in being selected for the High Performance Program must be in attendance (unless granted an exemption – more information below).

All on-field sessions will take place at Premier Sports Academy (PSA) with an exact schedule for team/age group to be determined once the registration process has completed. Any off-field sessions will be booked at separate facilities and built into the overall schedule for the weekend.

After the October weekend, Baseball NL's High Performance Committee, in consultation with Provincial Team Coaches, will invite players to join the Baseball NL High Performance Program for the winter training season. Upon a player's acceptance of the invitation, that player will be a part of the Baseball NL High Performance Program until May 2022.

After receiving feedback from players & parents both in and outside the Eastern region, Baseball NL has made some adjustments to the program for the January and March sessions. Rather than having all athletes regroup together in the Eastern region, the January and March regroup weekends will be operated regionally. This means that there will be two training groups – an Eastern group and a Western group – that will train separately for the January and March weekends. Provincial team coaches, as well as members of the High Performance Committee, will travel to the players to oversee and run the High Performance training (rather than the players traveling to the coaches). For players selected for the High Performance Program from the Central region, those players will have the option to train with either the Eastern group or Western group depending on their preference. Baseball NL will work with selected players from the Central region to best determine where they wish to train once selections have taken place.

Entering the April/May training weekend, <u>all players</u> will regroup together in the Eastern region for the final training weekend before the final Provincial Teams are picked for the 2022 season. Please note – <u>there will not be additional/separate tryouts for Provincial Teams in 2022</u>. If a player is hoping to make a Provincial Team in 2022, they must have attended the October

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weekend, and also have been invited to join the High Performance Program after the October tryouts. Players selected for 2022 Provincial Team will be chosen from the High Performance Program athletes following the May 2022 regroup weekend.

Tentative dates for the January, March and April/May Eastern regroup sessions have been selected and are as follows:

- January 21st 23rd
- March  $18^{th} 20^{th}$
- April 29<sup>th</sup> May 1<sup>st</sup>

NOTE: Due to circumstances beyond Baseball NL's control (weather, COVID-19, etc.) these weekend dates are tentative and will be confirmed nearer to the above dates.

NOTE: With the change in program layout, the tentative dates for the Western regroup sessions are not yet finalized and will be communicated as soon as possible.

#### Program Cost

For the October weekend, the cost for all attendees is \$100. This will cover both on-field and off-field training, as well as a registration package for all participants. Payment options include:

- Cash (dropped off to Baseball NL Office);
- Cheque (made payable to Baseball NL; mailed or dropped off to the Baseball NL office);
- Etransfer to baseballnltreasurer@gmail.com (preferred)
  - If sending via etransfer, please reference your child's name and "Baseball NL High Performance Program" in the message section

Upon completion of the October tryout weekend, the selected athletes will pay a \$450 program fee that must be paid. This will include the three regroup weekends, as well as a Baseball NL High Performance Program apparel package (to be distributed at the January regroup session).

For athletes that are selected from outside the Avalon area, or those that may require travel assistance, they can contact Baseball NL on a case-by-case basis to review possible options.

## Registration Process

Registration will take place online at:

https://www.leaguelineup.com/formpreview.asp?url=nlbaseball&formID=171774

Players (or their parents) are asked to complete the registration form at the link provided. Registration will be open until **Friday, October 1**<sup>st</sup>, **2021.** This will allow for the final planning to take place, create groups, and put the finishing touches on the schedule of events for the October 15<sup>th</sup> weekend.

### Eligible Athletes & Targeted Age Groups

In attempting to best align with the ages used at the National and Atlantic stage, Baseball NL will be opening the High Performance Program to the following athletes:

- Male players born from 2000 2010
- Female players born from 2001 2010

From the tryouts and registration, Baseball NL is looking to select the following teams for competition in 2022:

- 13U Provincial Team
- 14U Girls Provincial Team(s) (2)
- 15U Provincial Team
- 16U Girls Provincial Team
- 18U Provincial Team
- 21U Women Provincial Team
- 22U Provincial Team

Due to the Canada Games Program, there will not be a 17U Provincial Team selected for 2022 as there is no Baseball Canada Cup (due to the rescheduled Canada Games).

## Player Expectations, Exceptions & Exemptions

Baseball NL fully understands that there are other activities in life that are taking place that does not guarantee being able to attend all sessions. In saying this, Baseball NL also wants to take committed and invested players that show a commitment to baseball and the necessary training and development needed.

With this in mind, all interested players must make every effort to attend the October tryout weekend. Following the October weekend, invited players will remain in good standing with the High Performance Program so long as they attend two of the remaining three sessions held in January, March and May.

Any instances whereby a player cannot make the October weekend, or subsequently two of the three remaining sessions will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis, with their status in the program determined upon collection and review of the information provided.

Requests for exemptions can be sent to <a href="mailto:baseballnl@sportnl.ca">baseballnl@sportnl.ca</a>. Please provide as much information/detail as possible when submitting such a request. While each instance will be handled on a case-by-case basis, please understand that exemption requests simply to avoid travel to St. John's for the October tryout weekend are unlikely to be considered. Exemption requests should be for reasons such as injury and/or prior conflicts that cannot be avoided (out-of-province travel, other activities, etc.). While Baseball NL will be as understanding as possible

when reviewing exemption requests, there is also an expectation that players and parents interested in the program place value in the program, as well.

For any athlete who would like to inquire about a possible exemption, the deadline for submitting such requests is **Friday**, **October 1**<sup>st</sup>, **2021**. Late requests will not be accepted.

NOTE: for any player who is granted an exemption for the October tryout weekend, this does not exempt that player from paying the \$100 fee for the October tryout weekend. The exemption is for their attendance ONLY. Any player granted an exemption for the October tryout weekend will have the \$100 October fee added to the \$450 program fee.

#### Closing

This is an exciting venture for Baseball NL and its athletes. The ability to train and develop over the winter to better prepare for the National Championship season is not one to be taken lightly. Significant planning and preparation have taken place, and is continuing, to ensure the best possible experience for everyone that wishes to be a part of the program.

If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Baseball NL Office via email (baseballnl@sportnl.ca) or phone (709-576-3401).