



Dutch Youth Baseball



Dutch Youth Baseball Board: Kim Dykstra (treasurer), Drew Nonnemacher, Ashley Saras, Eric Van Den Berg, and Josh Van Es

Dutch Youth Baseball Director: Adam Boone, 712-737-7666, aboone@mocfv.org

The Dutch Youth Baseball Association seeks to provide 4th-6th grade baseball players from the communities within the MOC-Floyd Valley school district opportunities to . . .

- ★ promote and display character and integrity. Athletes will learn the value of character and integrity within the game of baseball and how to live out those values in their community.
- ★ develop teamwork and sportsmanship, a unified set of baseball skills and fundamentals, and fun, challenging competition.
- ★ This program is **not** a substitute for each community's recreation program or league. Instead, this program is a supplement to help grow and develop your child as an aspiring baseball player.

5th & 6th Grade Baseball

- Provide opportunities for athletes to improve and acquire baseball skills for the next level of competition.
- Provide athletes with an introduction to middle school athletics by providing a practice atmosphere that is similar to what can be expected at the middle school level.
- Dutch Youth Baseball daily practices. These practices are available for all 5th/6th graders in the MOC-Floyd Valley communities. The fees help cover the cost of coaches and equipment. Four (4) practices per week, Monday - Thursday. Please see the schedule for dates and times. A head coach for each grade level will be provided.
- Dutch Youth Baseball regular season games. Approximately 12-15 regular season games will be scheduled and played during the weeknights.
- Provide tournaments to athletes who want to participate. There will be a tournament fee above and beyond the regular season practices and games.
- Players are given the option to participate in either DYB or their community's recreation program.

5th & 6th Grade Practice Coaches

Adam Boone 712-737-7666 aboone@mocfv.org

Nathan Anderson

Carter Van Gelder

5th Grade Tournament Coaches

Joey Hofmeyer 712-541-9859 hofmeyer71@hotmail.com

Scott Bortscheller 712-395-1345 scottb@altoniowa.us

Josh Van Es 712-395-1553 vanesconstruction@gmail.com

5th Grade DYB Coaches

Chris Saras 712-441-1100 chris@thepathwayfinancial.com

Tim Vander Ploeg 402-980-3510 timnkelp@gmail.com

6th Grade Coaches

Adam Boone	712-737-7666	aboone@mocfv.org
Drew Nonnemacher	712-541-7511	dnonnemacher@mocfv.org
Shane Bouman	812-298-4227	shanebouman@gmail.com

Practice Expectations

Practices are necessary to improve your child's baseball fundamentals, skills, and aptitude of the game. Also, practices are needed to facilitate team chemistry, teamwork, and camaraderie. Please arrive on time, so your child is ready to warm up at the beginning of practice. We ask that you notify the head coach or DYB director if your child is going to be gone. Please understand that consistently missed practices will result in a loss of playing time during regular season games and participation in tournaments.

Regular Season Expectations

Regular season games will place an emphasis on developing a player's skills, fundamentals, and aptitude of the game. Every player will have the opportunity to play in the game and play multiple positions. The head coach will decide which positions each player will play in that game and the batting order.

Tournament Expectations

Tournaments are still designed to be developmental, while being more competitive in nature. Tournament rosters will be kept to a maximum of 12 participants to increase the amount of at bats and playing time for all players involved. Tournament rosters for each of the tournaments will be created by the coaches and DYB director. At the discretion of the coaches, players will be placed in the field and in the batting order to create the most competitive team. Players will not have equal playing time or the same number of tournaments. We will seek to give each player ample amount of tournament experience.

Travel Teams

Teams created outside of the Dutch Youth Baseball Association do forfeit their players' opportunities to participate in Dutch Youth Baseball practices, regular season games, and tournaments. We encourage these teams to travel to tournaments outside of the Northwest Iowa area. Our desire is to maintain a cohesive, well-managed program that seeks excellence and provides great opportunities for youth baseball players of all skill levels. Please feel free to contact the Dutch Youth Baseball Director or Board Member if you have any questions or concerns.

Team Expectations: Our baseball team has four rules to be followed.

1. **Team above all.** Our actions and behaviors in and outside of practice and games have an impact on our team. Demonstrate character and a "we" before "me" mentality.
2. **Be encouraging. No blaming, complaining, and defending** (these three traits lead to discouragement, division, and despair within a team).
3. **Be attentive and coachable.** Seek first to understand, then to be understood. Look and listen for ways to improve as a player and contribute to the team.

4. **Be prepared.** Arrive to practice and games early. Being prepared allows you to be ready in all circumstances. Prepare your equipment and keep it in the same place at all times. This is your responsibility - not your parents' responsibility.

Addressing Coaches

If you have a concern about your child's playing time, positions your child is playing, or other concerns you see during practices or games, please consider the following:

1. 24-hour rule - provides time to think and not react to emotions. Allow yourself time to feel your emotions and respond in a way that seeks a positive outcome.
2. Plan a well thought out email or phone call.
3. Understand all coaches make mistakes and ultimately want to best serve your child. Please know this may not always align with what you think is best.

Dutch Youth Baseball Equipment & Apparel

Required game apparel (regular season games and tournaments)

- Dutch baseball hat (purchased separately from DYB)
- Baseball jersey (purchased from the team store). *You may keep your jersey from last year.*
- White pants with black piping (purchased from the team store)
- Purple belt (purchased from the team store or from DYB)
- Purple socks (purchased from the team store)

Required practice apparel & practice/game equipment

- ❖ Dutch baseball hat. This is important - you play games with a hat, so you will practice with a hat.
- ❖ T-shirt (preferably Dutch if possible). Please dress in layers as it will be cool in the morning and gradually warm up.
- ❖ Baseball pants. These pants can be a practice pair - gray, white, or black. Prevents unnecessary scrapes and turf burn.
- ❖ Baseball glove
- ❖ Cleats
- ❖ Any other personal baseball equipment of your own. Dutch Youth Baseball is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged equipment.
- ❖ You are to use DYB equipment or your own. If sharing equipment, please know DYB is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged equipment.
- ❖ Dutch Youth Baseball will provide batting helmets, bats, and catcher's equipment.

Disclaimer

Dutch Youth Baseball is **not** sponsored or funded by the MOC-Floyd Valley CSD. MOC-Floyd Valley CSD is generous in allowing us to use their facilities for practices, games, and our tournament. In order to maintain this positive relationship and benefit our 7-12 baseball program, please help maintain and care for the facilities we use. Also, if a situation arises that needs to be addressed, please contact the Dutch Youth Baseball director. The Dutch Youth Baseball director will communicate with the DYB Board and any necessary school staff or administration if needed.

Dutch Youth Baseball Registration

Registering for Dutch Youth Baseball is easy! If your child has participated in Dutch youth football, basketball, or wrestling, you already have an account, and you are ready to register for your child's baseball season. *Please make sure to be careful which offerings you add to your cart before checking out.*

Instructions

1. Once you have logged into your account, click dutchyouthsports.com at the top of the page.
2. Player Registration. Click Enroll.
3. Enrollee. Select your *child's* name.
4. Enrollment Type. *Player*.
5. Program. *Dutch Youth Baseball - Summer 2025*.
6. Offering. Select and add each offering separately.
 - 4th Grade DYB Tournament Teams. Your child wishes to participate in a tournament. *No payment required at this time. \$25/tournament.*
 - 5th Grade DYB Regular Season Baseball Baseball Games. If your child is going to participate in another community's recreation program, **DO NOT** select this option. \$50.
 - 5th Grade DYB Baseball Practices. If your child plans to participate in DYB tournaments, you **must** select this option. \$50.
 - 5th Grade DYB Tournaments. Your child wishes to participate in tournaments. Your child does not have to participate in tournaments to be involved in DYB practices and regular season games. *No payment is required at this time. \$25/tournament.*
 - 6th Grade DYB Regular Season Baseball Baseball Games. If your child is going to participate in another community's recreation program, **DO NOT** select this option. **\$50.**
 - 6th Grade DYB Baseball Practices. If your child plans to participate in DYB tournaments, you **must** select this option. **\$50.**
 - 6th Grade DYB Tournaments. Your child wishes to participate in tournaments. Your child does not have to participate in tournaments to be involved in DYB practices and regular season games. *No payment is required at this time. \$25/tournament.*
7. Click Proceed to Checkout.
8. If you selected DYB tournaments, please select the dates your child would be available to participate in.
9. Read, acknowledge and agree to the DYB Parent/Guarding Conduct Policy and DYB Waiver of Claims and Liability Release. *These policies are the same for every offering and need to be acknowledged.*
10. Click Next and enter your payment information.

If anyone is in need of financial assistance, please visit the link, <https://www.allkidscan-oca.org/request-aid>, to request aid.

Player Store: required game apparel (regular season games and tournaments)

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- White pants with black piping (*purchased from the team store*)
- Purple belt (*purchased from the team store or from DYB*)
- Purple socks (*purchased from the team store*)



8 Ways to Be an MVP (Most Valuable Parent)

1. Say "I love watching you play."
 - ★ The most competitive athletes need time to decompress after competing. It is most impactful to just have them hear these five words!
2. Don't Compare Your Child
 - ★ "Comparison is the thief of joy," Teddy Roosevelt
 - ★ Teach your child to be the best version of themselves... no two athletes are alike!
 - ★ Comparing will bring disappointment to your child.
3. Be Positive
 - ★ Bring positive energy to your child and the team. Cheer and celebrate the positives.
 - ★ Energy is contagious ... what type will you spread?!!!
 - ★ Your child and the team will feel negative energy.
 - *When two lion cubs are born it is hard to tell which will win the fight to be king of the pride. The one you feed the most will end up winning the fight. FEED the POSITIVE Lion!*
4. This is your CHILD's experience
 - ★ Remember this is your CHILD's experience, not yours.
 - ★ Let it be their experience, their performance does not define you as a parent.
 - ★ Your child, and you, will be happier if it is allowed to be their experience.
5. Trust the Process
 - ★ It is not about the shirt, trophy, medal, or award.
 - ★ It IS about trusting a process of positive habits, done with others over a period of time. These are habits that will lead to life's successes!
6. Support your Child
 - ★ Be there to listen and offer support.
 - ★ They don't often want you to solve their problems, rather they want you to listen and offer support.
7. Be a fan of the TEAM
 - ★ Avoid watching with tunnel vision.
 - ★ Be a fan of the team, not a critic of other players (go back and read #2).
 - ★ Be happy for and express that happiness when other players have success. Think of how good that feels when someone says something positive to you about your child!
 - ★ Celebrating others' success is a good habit to have your child see in you!
 - ★ You will enjoy the experience of being an MVP much more with this approach.
8. Accept and Support the struggles of Team Sports
 - ★ It is a guarantee in team sports... there will be struggle!
 - ★ Accept the struggle, it is normal, it is NOT someone's fault.
 - ★ The struggle is not the enemy; it is how we learn, grow, and develop.

Create a 3D Dutch Youth Baseball Experience

PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES & EXPECTATIONS

Love your teammates. Thank and respect your parents for allowing you to play baseball. Thank and respect your coaches for their time and dedication to YOU.

Dimension #1: Fundamentals (physical)

1. Take care of your body by eating properly, staying hydrated, getting enough rest/sleep, and proper personal hygiene - shower, brush your teeth, use deodorant.
2. Give your best effort in practice and games. Practice throwing, catching, and hitting outside of team practices.

Dimension #2: Psychological (mind)

1. Focus on the task at hand. Be present in the moment.
2. Seek to understand the game of baseball. Seek to understand situations in the game.
3. Build a growth mindset. Understand the power of YET.
4. Respond to situations with a NEXT PLAY mentality.

Dimension #3: Heart (spirit)

1. Celebrate your teammates.
2. Encourage one another.
3. Perseverance > Proven character > Hope.

COACH RESPONSIBILITIES & EXPECTATIONS

Care for players and support their development in all three dimensions.

Dimension #1: Fundamentals (physical)

1. Provide opportunities, instruction, and feedback in football specific skills, techniques, and strategies.
2. Provide opportunities, instruction and feedback to improve speed, quickness, power, and strength.

Dimension #2: Psychological (mind)

1. Use strategies to improve confidence, motivation, intensity, focus, emotions, mental imagery, goal setting, and team cohesion.
2. Provide an appropriate role model demonstrating these skills and traits.

Dimension #3: Heart (spirit)

1. Use strategies to improve value, self-worth, identity, character, significance, and purpose.
2. Treat players with dignity and value and model the characteristics listed above.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES & EXPECTATIONS

Love your child unconditionally and support their development in all three dimensions.

Dimension #1: Fundamentals (physical)

1. Provide security, food/nutrition, shelter, clothing, rest/sleep. Help them and instruct them in their physical maintenance and development.

Dimension #2: Psychological (mind)

1. Provide for them a growth mindset over a fixed mindset.
 - a. Growth = your ability to continually grow and improve
 - b. Fixed = you're judged based upon your performance
2. Praise effort over intelligence/talent

Dimension #3: Heart (spirit)

1. Provide encouragement in all situations. Encouragement means to put "in courage".
2. Trials and conflict lead in two different directions. Lead them in the first.
 - a. Perseverance, Proven character, Hope
 - b. Discouragement, Division, Despair