

WHAT'S PROVIDED?

At all levels, the league supplies all team equipment necessary to play the game – bases, balls, helmets, bats, batting tee (tee-ball) and catcher's gear (coach-pitch and older). WYBSL also provides each player with a team shirt and cap or visor, which the player may keep. Each player must supply a fielder's glove, shoes and shorts or baseball pants (for boys at the Green Hat level and older, baseball pants are required). Your coach will probably ask that all players wear the same color of shorts or baseball pants. We ask that, if at all possible, you follow the request of the coach. Optional items, such as heart protectors or special masks, are not required and, if chosen, are the family's responsibility.

EQUIPMENT

We suggest a generic infielder or outfielder glove be your first purchase. Most importantly, make sure it is the right size for your player! In older leagues, pitcher's gloves cannot include white or gray. Softball gloves cannot be gray, white or optic (neon) in color.

For our Tee-Ball and Coach-Pitch leagues, gym shoes or baseball/softball shoes are fine. As players grow, we recommend baseball/softball shoes. Also, metal spikes are not allowed except in the Boys' Blue & Black Hat leagues.

We suggest strongly that parents consider that all boys wear cups for protection as they grow in the program. Catchers at Green Hat and older levels must wear one.

SPECIAL EVENTS



Team Photo Day — All teams and individual players are encouraged to take part in WYBSL's Photo Day, which will be on **Saturday, August 18th**, at your practice fields. Even if you don't wish to purchase a photo, your teammates would like a picture of the **whole team** as a remembrance. Coaches will provide order forms and time for this event.

Awards —All Tee-Ball and Coach-Pitch players receive a trophy at the end of the season. In all other leagues, trophies are awarded to league champions and runners-up.

BATS — IMPORTANT

One of the most distressing things that a parent or player can be told is that a personal bat can't be used because it is "illegal" – especially after it was just purchased last year! In order to avoid costly mistakes, here are some simple guidelines (generally for safety):

1. In Tee-Ball, the bats must be factory-marked "Tee-Ball" or "Little League" **and "1.15 BPF"** (boys) or "Softball" (girls).
2. In Girls Coach-Pitch, bats must be factory marked "Softball".
3. In all other Girls' softball leagues, bats must be factory marked "2000 or 2004 ASA".
4. In Boys' Coach-Pitch, Green Hat and Red Hat, the bats must be factory-marked "Little League" **and must also be factory-marked "1.15 BPF"** or new bats can also meet the new USABat standard and must be factory marked with the USA Baseball logo.

A bat that is factory-marked "Tee-Ball" can only be used in our Tee-Ball leagues. A boy's bat that is factory-marked "Little League" and "1.15 BPF" can be used from Tee-Ball through Red Hat. A girl's bat that is factory-marked "2000 or 2004 ASA" can be used throughout the softball leagues.

5. When a boy plays Blue Hat or Black Hat ball, NFHS rules apply with one Blue Hat modification:
 - A non-wood bat must be 2 5/8" or less in diameter, 36" or less in length, with a -3 differential between length and weight. The BBCOR standard will also apply. Current and new NFHS bat rules can be found at www.nfhs.org.
 - In Blue Hat only, a bat less than 32" in length may be 2 5/8" in diameter and have a -5 length to weight differential and must be factory marked with the appropriate "1.15 BPF" label.

Most problems occur when Boys' Red Hat players graduate to Blue Hat. Many expensive bats can't be used – so when buying a bat for your older boys, **please be sure to check the Blue & Black Hat rules above**. And, call the League if you have any questions.

UMPIRES WANTED!

The WYBSL provides paid training for non-certified umpires to officiate our baseball and softball leagues for players 9-12 years old.

Umpires must be at least 15 years old, and start earning \$26 per game. **Please contact Umpire Director John Paul at umpires@wybsl.org for more information.**