

Mickey Mantle (15 & 16 year olds as of April 30, 2012--9th/10th Grade)

Cost: \$149 per player

Uniform: Big Lake Team Hat, shirt, pants, belt and socks.

Season Length: May 14 through July

Nights of the Week: Varies (practices dates and times are up to each team)

Game Time: varies (mostly evening times)

Number of Games: 14-18 games and playoffs (and possibly additional games at the Big Lake Tournament -June 8-10). These tournament games for Big Lake teams are free, and aren't included in the registration fee. Tournament games could be played June 8.

Locations: Big Lake School Fields and out-of-town at teams in the League

League Includes: Teams do be determined

Parents that wish to coach must fulfill the requirements to be a BLBA coach:

See "How Teams and Coaches are picked for the "AAA" Teams" and "How Teams and Coaches are picked for the "(In-house) AA" Teams" under "COACHING INFORMATION" inside Registration Brochure.

Skills Evaluation for Players

9th Grade: **Sunday, April 15, 2012:** Arrive by 11:45am--Big Lake Varsity Baseball Field

10th Grade: **Sunday, April 15, 2012:** Arrive by 2:15pm--Big Lake Varsity Baseball Field

In case of inclement weather on April 15, the tryouts will be held in the Big Lake High School Gym.

BLBA's policy is to have each child play at their age level.

Association Players on Town Teams or non BLBA sponsored teams--no players who are under the Big Lake Baseball Association umbrella (through Mickey Mantle) may participate in Town Ball or any other non BLBA sponsored teams. If the player does, there will be an automatic removal from team.

Pictures will be on Sunday, June 3 from 5:00-8:00pm at BLHS. More details to follow.

BLBA VISION STATEMENT

Reaching and developing our youth through teamwork, sportsmanship, rules of the game, and character building lessons that reach beyond the baseball field and into our community.

BLBA MISSION STATEMENT

The Big Lake Baseball Association's Mission is to provide an educational, safe, and fun environment for the youth in Big Lake to play baseball. In support of that mission, BLBA seeks to:

- Serve and embrace players of all races, creeds, color, nationality, or ability.
- Provide a safe and healthy environment for all players to experience the pure enjoyment of the game.
- Help players develop and improve their baseball skills so they can perform at their highest potential.
- Create a culture where honor of self, teammates, opponents, officials, and coaches is consistently displayed.
- Teach players to understand that the winning of games is secondary to effort and attitude.
- Equip our coaches with every necessary means to succeed.

BLBA GOALS

The goals of the BLBA include:

- To support and be committed to all Big Lake area youth baseball programs, both community and school.
- To encourage, aid, and support acquisition of facilities, equipment, and other resources for the playing of baseball.

Concerns and Complaints Procedures

This procedure will be followed in the event of a person who has an issue against another person.

Expect no action to a complaint or concern unless the procedures below are followed in order:

1. Talk to the person you have the questions or concerns with and try to work things out.
2. If a satisfactory resolution is not achieved, contact the League Director with your concerns.
3. If a satisfactory resolution is still not achieved, contact the BLBA President and the issue may be brought before the Board of Directors at a monthly meeting. All sides will be heard before any decision is rendered. Please, always remember why we are all involved in this Association--the children. There are a lot of people volunteering their time and talents to make this a successful Association.

Skills Evaluation for Players

3rd Grade: Saturday, March 17, 2012: Arrive by 7:45am--Big Lake High School
4th Grade: Saturday, March 17, 2012: Arrive by 10:15am--Big Lake High School
5th Grade: Saturday, March 17, 2012: Arrive by 12:45pm--Big Lake High School
6th Grade: Saturday, March 17, 2012: Arrive by 3:15pm--Big Lake High School
7th Grade: Saturday, March 24, 2012: Arrive by 8:45am--Big Lake High School
8th Grade: Saturday, March 24, 2012: Arrive by 11:00am--Big Lake High School
9th Grade: Sunday, April 15, 2012: Arrive by 11:45am--Big Lake Varsity Baseball Field
10th Grade: Sunday, April 15, 2012: Arrive by 2:15pm--Big Lake Varsity Baseball Field

2nd Try-outs (for those invited back)

3rd and 4th Grade: Sunday, March 18, 2012: Arrive by 11:45pm--Big Lake Middle School
5th Grade: Sunday, March 18, 2012: Arrive by 1:30pm--Big Lake Middle School
6th Grade: Sunday, March 18, 2012: Arrive by 3:15pm--Big Lake Middle School

Big Lake Baseball Association Baseball Tournaments

The BLBA hosts tournaments which not only help us generate funds, but more importantly gives our players an opportunity to play against teams from other areas. In fact, with the revenue generated, each participant in grades 3-10 has their registration reduced by \$45 (which is already reflected on the registration form).

Big Lake Tournament Dates

May 11-13, 2012: Pee Wee Reese In-House & AAA (11 & 12 year-olds)
May 18-20, 2012: 14AAA Tournament
June 1-3, 2012: Sandy Koufax In-House & AAA (13 & 14 year-olds)
June 8-10, 2012: Willie Mays In-House & AAA (9 & 10 year-olds)
June 8-10, 2012: Mickey Mantle In-House & AAA (15 & 16 year-olds)

Umpire Information

We are looking for help with Umpiring. If you are 13 years old or older and are able to help out and want to earn some extra money this summer, please sign up at registration.

*Saturday, April 28 from 8am-10:00am. **ALL INTERESTED UMPIRES** must attend this Umpire Clinic. Free for all Big Lake Baseball Association umpires.

Location: 4-field Complex (if rain--Big Lake Middle School)

COACHING INFORMATION

Coach's Clinics: To be considered a coach, you must attend a coach's clinic during Evaluations (RC coaches may have a clinic at a different time).

Coaches of 3rd Grade: **Saturday**, March 17, 2012: 8:00am
Coaches of 4th Grade: **Saturday**, March 17, 2012: 10:30am
Coaches of 5th Grade: **Saturday**, March 17, 2012: 1:00pm
Coaches of 6th Grade: **Saturday**, March 17, 2012: 3:30pm
Coaches of 7th and 8th Grade: **Saturday**, March 24, 2012: 9:00am

How Coaches and Teams are picked for the "AAA" Teams: All players must be registered and paid before the initial evaluation. If a player cannot attend an evaluation, they cannot make up their evaluation at another time. The 15 players with the highest scores will be eligible for the second tryout. A parent that is interested in being the Head Coach of the team must have their child finish in the top 8 after both evaluations and attend the Coaching Clinics. The eligible coaching staff will be notified (a coach whose child finishes in the top 12 can attend the 2nd evaluation, but cannot help or talk to any of the players). Once the coaching staff of the top 12 players is identified, a second evaluation of the top 15 players and up to 9 other invited players (decided upon and completed by the Evaluation Coordinators) will be held. Only the coaches that signed up to be Head coaches will be allowed to watch the second evaluations. The team must be picked from the top 18 kids after the 2nd Evaluation. If a child is not able to make one of the evaluations, then their one score would be multiplied by 2 to see where their score would land in relation to the other scores. If the child's score is not in the window of the scores of the top 18, then the child is not eligible for the AAA team. If the multiplied score reaches the Top 8, the child would need to be a coach's pick. The children who finished in the Top 8 are automatically invited to the AAA team. The head coach has the choice of the other 4 players, adhering to the guidelines above.

How Coaches and Teams are picked for the "In-House" Teams: All the players that do not make or do not want to be on the "AAA" Team will play on a combined age "In-House" team. Once the head coaches are identified, the list of players to be drafted will be placed in groups as to how they finished in alphabetical order. For example, if there are 5 teams, the players who finished 1-10 will be placed in a group alphabetically. If there are 3 teams, players who finished 1-6 will be placed in a group alphabetically. The order of the coach's draft will be determined by a coin flip, card drawing, dice toss, or other method approved upon by the Draft Coordinator. After the order is determined, the coaches will first draft players in the first group. For example, if there are 3 teams, team number 1 will pick a player in the top 6. Team number 2 will pick a player remaining in the top 6. Team 3 will get the next TWO picks of the players remaining in the top 6. The next round will continue the same way. If the HEAD coach's child is in a certain round, the coach MUST pick their child as their first pick in that round. If a Head Coach has a certain assistant coach in mind, the assistant coach's child must be chosen with the Head Coach's first available pick of the applicable round. There is no guarantee that the Head Coach and the assistant coach will be paired up; it is up to the luck of the draw and of the draft. A BLBA Board Member will be present at the Draft.

Coaching assignments for the Roberto Clemente will be completed on April 29 at Field #7. This will start at 6:00pm. Coaches for all teams will then contact their players.

If all eligible Head coaches are not able to work out the assignments of a particular team, the matter will be decided upon by the BLBA board, using a method decided upon by the Board of Directors. If a parent cannot be found for a head coaching position, a suitable replacement will be found. A person may only sign up to be a head coach for ONE team. This must be declared at the Mass Registration. The BLBA board may decide to assign a non-parent coach to a team at the BLBA board's discretion.

Uniforms: once uniforms are distributed to the head coaches, there will be a ONE-WEEK window for parents/coaches to make adjustments and/or changes. It will be up to the Head Coach and/or parent to contact the Uniform Coordinator, Dale Miller (763-639-4646)

2012 Big Lake Baseball Association Positions

BOARD OF DIRECTORS' NAMES AND PHONE NUMBERS

President: Robert Hoekstra (763-300-3337) **Vice-President:** Jeff Kubitschek (612-247-5858)

Secretary: Kristin Gardas (763-262-0872) **Treasurer:** Darci Stroud (612-747-6529)

Associate Director: Mike Morehead (263-6319)

Budget Committee (4 members at large):

(Even Years #1): Tim Flint (763-218-4076) (Odd Years #1): Dawn King (763-486-2613)

(Even Years #2): Andy Gomez (763-262-4911) (Odd Years #2): Lew Hinrichs (763-447-7554)

COORDINATOR POSITIONS

Uniform Coordinator:	Dale Miller (763-639-4646)
Equipment Coordinator:	John McDonald (763-257-3797)
Draft Coordinator:	Chad Tirevold (320-260-8784)
Picture Coordinators:	Jason Jordan (763-300-2475) Janae Stern (612-743-1666)
Umpire Coordinator:	Robert Hoekstra (763-300-3337)
Field Coordinator:	Tim Flint (763-218-4076)
Evaluation Coordinator:	Jeff Kubitschek (612-247-5858)
Concessions/Volunteer Coordinator:	Dawn King (763-486-2613)
Tournament Coordinator:	Robert Hoekstra (763-300-3337)

TOURNAMENT AND LEAGUE DIRECTORS:

Roberto Clemente: Steffanie Mittelstadt (763-263-9054)

May 21-22: Pee Wee Reese: Jeff Kubitschek (612-247-5858)

June 8-10: Willie Mays:

June 1-3: Sandy Koufax:

June 8-10: Mickey Mantle: Ken Halverson (763-263-2589)

BIG LAKE BASEBALL ASSOCIATION'S LEAGUE PHILOSOPHY

The purpose of the BLBA is to provide an opportunity to participate in the game of baseball for youth regardless of race, creed, color, nationality or disability. It is further the purpose of BLBA to aid youth who participate in this sport:

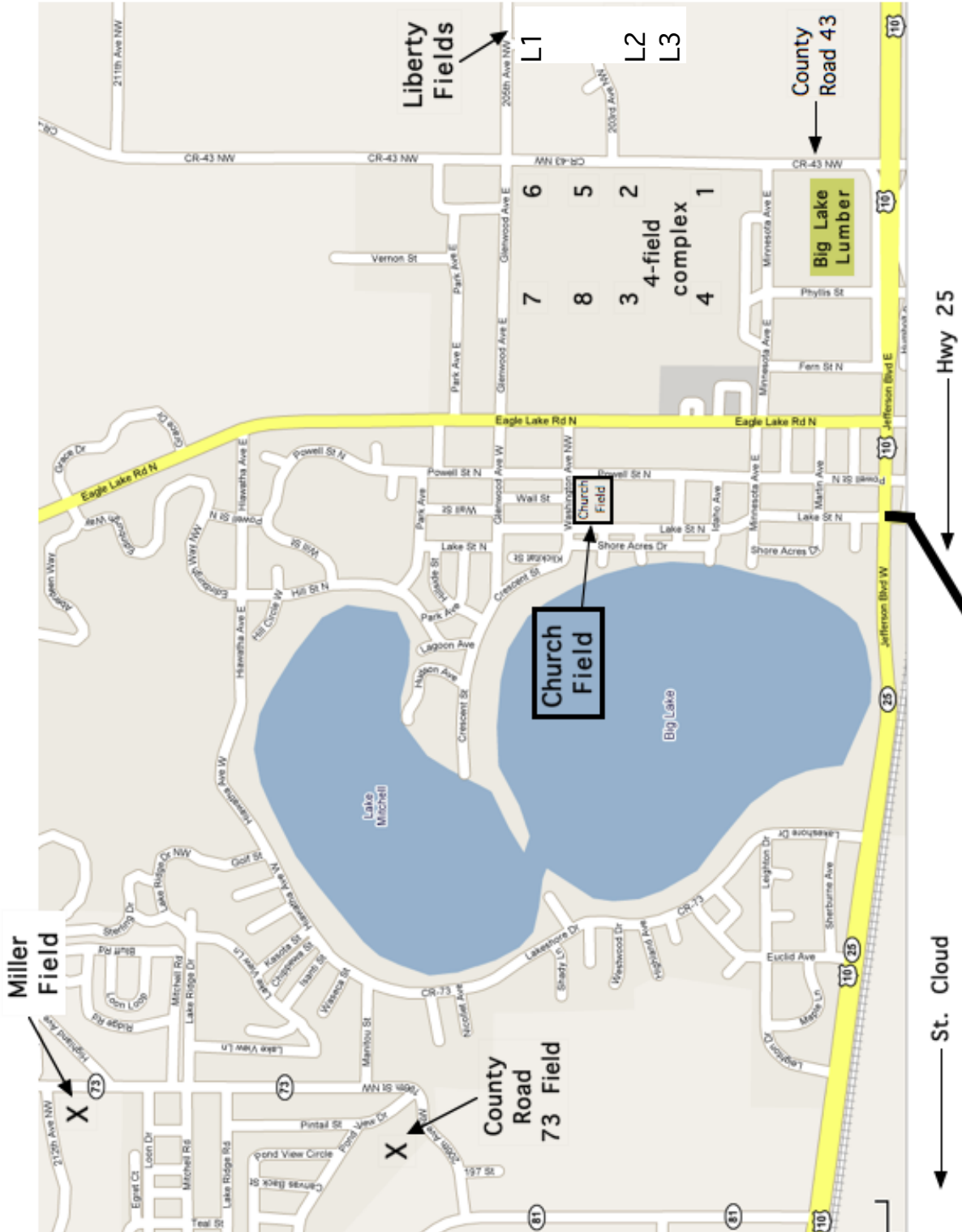
- 1) In the improvement and development of baseball skills.
- 2) To teach and promote physical, mental and moral development.
- 3) To teach a sense of fair and honest competition.
- 4) To promote fair play at all levels resulting in good sportsmanship.
- 5) To encourage, aid and support acquisition of facilities and means for the playing of baseball.

2012 BIG LAKE BASEBALL ASSOCIATION CALENDAR
Important Dates and Events
(DATES AND TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

February 15	(Wed)	Big Lake Baseball Association Meeting - 6:30pm at the Big Lake Middle School Student Center
February 26	(Sun)	Registration - 5:00pm to 8:00pm at the Big Lake Middle School
March 5	(Mon)	Registration - 5:00pm to 8:00pm at the Big Lake Middle School
March 14	(Wed)	Big Lake Baseball Association Meeting - 6:00pm at the Big Lake Middle School Student Center
March 17-18	(Sat/Sun)	Try-outs for Willie Mays and Pee Wee Reese (9, 10, 11, and 12 year-olds)
March 20	(Tues)	Last day to sign up for WM, PWR to be guaranteed a place on a team (contact President)
March 21	(Wed)	Form Teams/get equipment for WM/PWR In-House Teams--Field #7 @ 6:00pm
March 24	(Sat)	Try-outs--Sandy Koufax: 13's: 10:00am; 14's: 12:30pm--HS Gym
March 27	(Tues)	Last day to sign up for SK to be guaranteed a place on a team (contact President)
March 28	(Wed)	Form teams and get equipment for SK In-House Teams @ 6:00pm (Field 7)
April 1	(Sun)	Practices can start for teams
April 11	(Wed)	Big Lake Baseball Association Meeting - 6:00pm at the Big Lake Middle School Student Center
April 14	(Sat)	Gopher State Baseball Scheduling Session
April 15	(Sun)	Mickey Mantle Tryouts: 15's: 12:00pm; 16's: 2:30pm (at Varsity Baseball Field)
April 15	(Sun)	PWR, SK in-house scheduling session (6:00pm; place TBD)
April 28	(Sat)	Umpires' Certification Clinic - Big Lake 4-field complex (8:00am-10:00am); In case of rain, the clinic will be at the Middle School
April 29	(Sun)	Roberto Clemente: form teams (Coaches Only)--6pm at Field #7 Equipment handed out after meeting
May 9	(Wed)	Big Lake Baseball Association Meeting - 6:00pm at the Big Lake Middle School Student Center
May 12-13	(Sat/Sun)	Pee Wee Reese (In-House & AAA) Tournaments in Big Lake
May 20	(Sun)	Pictures for Willie Mays, Pee Wee Reese, and Sandy Koufax near High School (rain: HS)
May 23	(Mon)	In-House Games Begin--Tentative
June 2-3	(Sat/Sun)	Sandy Koufax (In-House & AAA) Tournaments in Big Lake
June 3	(Sun)	Roberto Clemente and Mickey Mantle Pictures (rain: HS)
June 4	(Mon)	Roberto Clemente Season Starts
June 9-10	(Sat/Sun)	Willie Mays (In-House & AAA) Tournaments in Big Lake
June 9-10	(Sat/Sun)	Mickey Mantle (In-House & AAA) Tournaments in Big Lake
June 20	(Wed)	Big Lake Baseball Association Meeting - 6:00pm at TBD
July 11	(Wed)	Big Lake Baseball Association Meeting - 6:00pm at TBD
July 14	(Sat)	Big Lake Legion Tournament--11am & 1:00pm
July 20-22	(Fri-Sun)	In-house end of the season tournaments
July 22	(Sun)	Equipment Turn-in Option I @ Field #7: 6:00pm-8:00pm
July 29	(Sun)	Equipment Turn-in Option II @ Field #7: 6:00pm-8:00pm
August 15	(Wed)	Big Lake Baseball Association Meeting - 6:00pm at TBD

Lions Park: Located 2.6 miles North of Hwy. 10 on Eagle Lake Road (Co. Rd. 5).

Miller Field: 19613 212th Ave NW, Big Lake, MN 55309. USE THE DRIVE OFF OF COUNTY ROAD 73.



Volunteer Fee

There will be a mandatory \$100 volunteer fee required at registration. Please make a check out for \$100 payable to BLBA, separate from the registration check, with your child's name(s) written on the check. You will be required to volunteer for 4 hours throughout the season. Registrations mailed in will not be valid unless accompanied by your volunteer fee. Your volunteer check will be shredded at the end of the season (we will not return the check to you) if you volunteer a minimum of 4 hours. Volunteer fees will be forfeited if you do not perform volunteer work during the season. If you do not intend to volunteer and wish to waive your volunteer fee at the time of registration please write "CASH MY CHECK" on the memo line on your check. This will allow us to hire any additional help that may be needed. It is up to the head coach to pick his assistant and parent rep. **It is also up to the coach to report these names no later than ONE WEEK after teams are chosen to the website.** If no names are submitted by the end of that week, no volunteer hours will be allotted. Once names are submitted by the coach, **NO CHANGES** may occur. Extra team help is appreciated and needed, however your time helping at practices and games will not count for volunteer time. The volunteer coordinator and/or any BLBA Board Members are the only people that can approve your volunteer time. If you have questions regarding your time or efforts of volunteering you may email the Volunteer Coordinator (food@biglakebaseball.com). Please don't be mistaken and assume your time is approved if you have not spoken with the Volunteer Coordinator about your time and efforts. You must have approval before you complete a volunteer opportunity. For weather related issues--you MAY get rescheduled to work another shift.

Volunteer opportunities are available at www.biglakebaseball.com, by clicking on Volunteer. All volunteer positions, including coaches and assistant coaches are required to pay the volunteer fee and will have his/her check shredded up upon successful completion of the position. Board positions are eligible to have their check shredded as well. The \$100 volunteer fee will be collected by each team's parent rep. After the money is collected, then each team will receive their uniforms.

If you neglect to show up for an assigned shift, your check will be cashed immediately. No other options will be available.

*Tournament times are filled first--then weekend shifts will be filled.

Opportunities include:

Coaches: 2 total per team	Draft Coordinator	League Directors
Registration Helpers	Picture Coordinator	Parent Rep (1 per team)
Concessions	Umpire Coordinator	School Concession workers
Board Positions	Field Coordinator	
Uniform Coordinator	Evaluation Coordinators	
Equipment Coordinator	Concessions Coordinator	
	Tournament Coordinator	

Parent Rep. Responsibilities

Your team will need one parent volunteer (other than the two coaches) to serve as the team's parent representative. This parent will be responsible for:

***Communicate** dates, times, and locations that are printed in all of the BLBA informational brochures and on the website (<http://www.biglakebaseball.com>).

***To be a liaison** between your parents and coaches. If your parents are not able to go to the coaches with a problem, they should be able to come to you. Also, help the coaches call and distribute information to your parents, such as game or practice changes, etc.