

[October 17, 2022]

1. CLUB BALL PHILOSOPHY Morgan Hill Pony Baseball (MHPB) is committed to providing talented baseball players with a Club Ball option. The MHPB Club Ball program is designed for players who consistently demonstrate advanced baseball skills and a unique love and respect for the game. It's intended for players who wish to compete at a higher level and are willing to dedicate the extra time and effort that Club Ball demands. These players have good baseball knowledge and mechanics, demonstrate a willingness to work hard to get better, and support their teammates in a fun and competitive environment focused on personal and team success. If you like spending your weekends playing baseball and competing at a higher level, this program is for you.

2. ORGANIZATION AND STRUCTURE Club Ball teams will be organized and formed by age groups according to Pony National age restrictions per the instructions from Pony National on October 9, 2022.

All Club Ball teams will play under the name of "Morgan Hill Pony Toros".

Below are examples of Club Ball teams that can be formed. The number of teams is dependent on the number of interested and qualified coaches and players:

- Morgan Hill Pony Toros 14U
- Morgan Hill Pony Toros 13U
- Morgan Hill Pony Toros 12U
- Morgan Hill Pony Toros 11U
- Morgan Hill Pony Toros 10U
- Morgan Hill Pony Toros 9U
- Morgan Hill Pony Toros 8U

Roster sizes are as follows:

- 8U-12U: 11
- 13U+: Mgr discretion
- Guest players are allowed for tournaments. Guest players must be registered with MHPB.

3. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION Players who wish to play on an MHPB Club Ball team must also be registered for the current MHPB season.

Players who wish to play on a Club Ball team should opt in during registration (league to ensure this option is clear during registration). Or families can express interest to the appropriate Club Ball manager or Club Ball Rep.

Teams will be selected each Spring. Comp Evals to be run separately and one week prior to Spring Rec evals and must be held every year. Comp player selection must conclude within three days of Rec evals, so Rec drafts can be held in a timely fashion after evals. Toros managers are expected to be open, responsive, and communicative with the league throughout.

Evals to be run by the team manager, the Board Club Ball Rep, the age appropriate DR(s), a party who is unaffiliated with that division/age group and the Board Player Agent.

The top four from evals are guaranteed a spot (if spot declined, that spot goes to #5 and on down the line). Manager discretion for remaining roster spots. Note – all players must attend evals or receive Club Ball Committee approval if unable to attend. Child of Manager and up to two coaches will be auto-selected to the team and will use a manager discretion spot if the child is not in the top four.

4. MANAGERS AND COACHES Managers and coaches who are interested in Club Ball teams should express interest by contacting the Club Ball Director (club@mhp.org). Division Reps are encouraged to recommend potential managers and coaches for Club Ball teams. Club Ball managers and coaches will have completed all mandatory MHPB coaching requirements. The MHPB Board will ratify all Club Ball Committee decisions, including selection of the managers and coaches of the Club Ball teams.

Manager selection process to be completed prior to Spring evals. Club Ball Rep to ensure the process is communicated to all eligible managers. The Club Ball Committee will provide endorsement for managers.

Conflict resolution: in the case of multiple manager nominations, a rejected nomination, removal of a manager, or any other unforeseen conflict; Club Ball Committee to make decision.

Club Ball Committee: age-appropriate DR(s), Club Ball Rep, and Player Agent. Parents are encouraged to share feedback, both positive and negative, regarding coaching performance to club@mhp.org. For unresolvable issues concerning the performance of any manager or coach, parents should contact club@mhp.org. Every effort should be made to resolve concerns at the team level. Coaches: Manager is able to designate up to two coaches prior to season and those coaches will go through the same process as above.

5. MINIMUM PLAY TIME In the field, players will get equal time on Saturday of tournaments or during weekday games, and the Manager will have discretion on Sunday. It is highly encouraged for equal field playing time on Sunday as well. For Batting, manager must bat full lineup in all games until the 13U season. In 13U, manager discretion on Sunday (highly recommended to bat all players who show up to tournaments).

As a reminder, this is a player development organization, and Managers are expected to develop ALL players to max extent possible. Exceptions to above rule can be made if a player does not attend practices.

6. SPRING SEASON SCHEDULE

The decision on whether or not a particular Toros team is to play rec games will be made by Player Agent, Age Appropriate DRs, Club Ball Rep, and Toros team Manager.

At high school ages, Toros managers should be aware of the Colt division and look for opportunities to play. Mid-June through July are All-Star months and Toros are encouraged to make players available for All-Stars. All-star team run separately from Toros. Toros players and coaches are eligible only if they meet MHPB and Pony National criteria.

7. FALL SEASON SCHEDULE Club Ball players should not participate in MHPB Fall Ball, as the Fall season is significantly more intense for Club Ball and will take priority over MHPB activities.

Managers should plan activities to begin no earlier than Mid-August and end no later than Mid-November.

8. FEES Costs for Toros are separate from league fees, and families should be aware of the significant extra costs associated with Travel Ball. To offset costs, Toros teams are allowed to run independent fundraising. 100% proceeds to the team. Additionally, 100% of Corporate Donations tagged for a specific Club Ball team or the Club Ball program are to be provided to that team or the Club Ball program. Club Ball Rep expected to maintain a budget and distribute funds according to the principle of keeping costs as low as possible for families. All funds will be held in the MHPB general fund and will be paid out by direct payment or reimbursement. It will be tracked on a ledger by the Toros Director and the MHPB Treasurer. The ledger will be reported on quarterly at MHPB Board meetings. For each Spring registration for a Club Ball player, \$50 will go to the Morgan Hill Pony Baseball general fund and the remainder of the registration fee for that player will go to the individual Club Ball team that the player is on.

Each Toros manager should have their own budget in coordination with the Toros Director and MHPB Treasurer. A credit card is to be provided to the Toros Club Ball Rep to facilitate payments on behalf of the club ball teams. All payments will be made directly to MHPB. No third party payment applications shall be used other than what is used by the league. This is to avoid any appearance of funds not being reported. Scholarships are available for Toros fees.

9. UNIFORMS All Morgan Hill Club teams will share consistency in color scheme (primary: Forest Green/Navy Blue, secondary: Gray/White), logo, and wording (Morgan Hill and Toros) regardless of the age group/team. Having similar uniforms across all Club Ball teams helps build the Morgan Hill Pony Baseball brand while allowing teams a level of independence to express their team pride. Managers should order several extra numbered uniforms in case of needing to add a "guest" player for a tournament.

10. MEMORIAL DAY and ALL STARS & CLUB BALL The MHPB Memorial Day and All Star selections processes does not consider a players Club Ball status. There is no guarantee that a Club Ball player will be selected for an MHPB Memorial Day or All Star team. Club Ball teams will not play “as a team” during Memorial Day or All Stars. Memorial Day and All Star teams will be formed according to the MHPB Memorial Day and All Star selections processes.

11. TOURNAMENT PITCHING RULES MHPB pitching rules, which are generally more restrictive, will be followed in the Spring season, and tournament rules followed in the Fall.

Club Ball managers need to coordinate with division directors and/or coaches regarding pitch counts before and after tournaments.

12. CONCERNS Any concern involving a Club Ball player or a Club Ball team should first be addressed to the Club Ball team Manager, the Club Ball Rep, and the Player Agent (in that order). The Club Ball team Manager should be the first to know any concerns and have the opportunity to resolve it. The Club Ball Committee will be the final resolution body on all conflicts.