

**Quaker Valley Baseball**  
**Play Up Policy: Spring 2019 Season**  
**Updated: January 2019**

In general, the Quaker Valley Softball & Baseball Operating Committee (QVSB) does not allow baseball players to play up to the next age group. We recommend all children play within their defined age groups. However, there are circumstances, principally involving issues of player safety, where QVSB will grant exceptions. These exceptions typically are granted at the 8U Coach Pitch level. There is a wide spectrum of talent, ability and experience within the 8U age group. Some children have mastered age appropriate hitting and fielding while other children in this age group are playing baseball for the first time. Matching skills to the appropriate league (8U Coach Pitch vs. 10U Kid Pitch) advances the development of all players. This policy of matching skills also incorporates safety concerns. For example, a strong, experienced player throwing a baseball to a player learning how to catch might result in injury.

Decisions by QVSB regarding play up requests from parents are made after registration has closed in February, 2019 and enrollment numbers are known within each age group.

**The following is the process to request playing up from 8U Coach Pitch (5/1/2010-4/30/2012) to 10U Kid Pitch (5/1/2008-4/30/2010)**

- A request to play up from 8U to 10U will be considered if each of the following four part criteria is met:
  1. The child must have played at least 1 full year of 8U Coach Pitch
  2. The child must be less than 1 year younger than the youngest eligible age for the 10U division. Specifically, the child's birthday must fall between May 1, 2010 and August 30, 2011.
  3. There is room on the 10U rosters to accommodate another player. If rosters are full then the 8U player will not be allowed to play up
  4. If playing up to 10U depletes 8U rosters and thus 8U will be unable to field full rosters then the 8U player will not be allowed to play up
- If all of the above criteria is met, the parent may request having their child play up and will need to do the following:
  1. Email the QVSB Operating Committee member listed in the registration email ([mriordan@srsicap.com](mailto:mriordan@srsicap.com)).
  2. Register your child for 8U Coach Pitch. If approved to play up in February 2018, the registrar will move your child from 8U to 10U
  3. 8U players selected to play up will be required to pay the difference between the 10U and 8U fee
- Once a parent commits their child to play up to 10U, the child will participate in 10U for the next three seasons. For example, if a child plays up to 10U beginning in Spring, 2019, he will play 10U in the Springs of 2019, 2020, and 2021. The child will not be permitted to play up to 12U in Spring of 2021.
- The 8-year old playing up might be eligible to play for the 9-year-old Sunday Spring Travel team. The decision for eligibility is made by the 10U Commissioner in consultation with the QVSB Operating Committee.

- The 8-year old playing up might be eligible to play for the 9-year-old Summer Tournament Travel team. Prior to the Summer Tournament team selection process, the 10U Commissioner, in consultation with the QVSB Operating Committee, will determine if any 8-year old players should be considered for summer baseball
- The following year (Spring 2020), the child now age 9, will be eligible to play on the 9-year old Sunday Spring Travel team and the 9-Year old Summer Tournament team if selected. Therefore, the child playing up is deemed age 9 for two consecutive years (Spring 2019 & Spring 2020)
- The 8-year old playing up to 10U foregoes their eligibility to play on the 8U Coach Pitch Summer Tournament team
- All decisions of the QVSB Operating Committee are final

**6 T-ball (5/1/2012-4/30/2014) request to play up to 8U Coach Pitch:**

- If a child has played at least 1 year with 6U T-ball and their continued participation would be a safety concern due to their advanced ability, an exception may be granted by the QVSB Operating Committee to play up to 8U Coach Pitch

**10U Kid Pitch (5/1/2008-4/30/2010) request to play up to 12U (5/1/2006-4/30/2008):**

- A request to play up from 10U to 12U will be considered if each of the following four-part criteria is met:
  1. Would like to play baseball with his classmates (the child of the parents requesting to play up is currently in 5<sup>th</sup> grade)
  2. The 10-year old would be considered a top 10 player amongst the 11-year olds as judged by the 10U Commissioner, 12U Commissioner, and QVSB Operating Committee
  3. There is room on the 12U rosters to accommodate another player. If rosters are full then the 10U player will not be allowed to play up
  4. If playing up to 12U depletes 10U rosters and thus 10U will be unable to field full rosters then the 10U players is not allowed to play up
- If all of the criteria are met, QVSB will consider allowing a player to play up from 10U to 12U
- The 10-year old playing up might be eligible to play for the 11-year-old Sunday Spring Travel team. The decision for eligibility is made by the 12U Commissioner in consultation with the QVSB Operating Committee.
- The 10-year old playing up might be eligible to play for the 11-year-old Summer Tournament Travel team. Prior to the Summer Tournament team selection process, the 12U Commissioner, in consultation with the QVSB Operating Committee, will determine if any 10-year old players should be considered for summer baseball.
- The following year (Spring 2020), the child now age 11, will be eligible to play on the 11-year old Sunday Spring Travel team and the 11-Year old Summer Tournament team if selected. Therefore, the child playing up is deemed age 11 for two consecutive years (Spring 2019 & Spring 2020)
- The 10-year old playing up to 12U foregoes their eligibility to play on the 10U Kid Pitch Summer Tournament team
- All decisions of the QVSB Operating Committee are final

**12U (5/1/2006-4/30/2008) request to play up to 14U Pony League (5/1/2004-4/30/2006)**

- With rare exception, 12U players are not permitted to play up a season early to 14U Pony League

- Parents may request an exception to have their child play up from 12U to 14U by contacting the QVSB Operating Committee member listed in the registration email
- All decisions of the QVSB Operating Committee are final

### **Playing “Down”**

QVSB will consider allowing a child to play down to a younger age group if deemed in the best interest of the child and their development. For example, a 9-year old child is registered to play baseball for the first time and has no baseball experience. QVSB will consider having the child play their first season at 8U Coach Pitch rather than 10U Kid Pitch to learn the fundamentals of the game. Parents should reach out to the QVSB Operating Committee person listed in the registration email to discuss specifics with their child’s unique situation.

### **Call-Ups**

Call-ups are used to fill in when a team is short a player and therefore must recruit from a younger division in order to avoid a forfeit. The use of call ups is separate from playing up. Call-ups are used in isolation for an occasional game whereas the play up policy is for a full season.