

## Tryout Process

### *Waterdown Minor Baseball Association (WMBA)*

The Waterdown Minor Baseball Association (WMBA) offers Rep and House League Select tryouts for players within the WMBA boundaries. Players attend tryouts to be selected for teams within their age divisions. Our Rep teams participate in the Central Ontario Baseball Association (COBA) League.

### Eligibility for Tryouts

To be eligible for WMBA tryouts, players must meet the following criteria:

- **Residency:** Players must live within the WMBA boundaries. (Boundary details are available on the WMBA website under the Rep Tab.)
- **Outside Boundaries:** Players outside WMBA boundaries must obtain a release from their home association before attending tryouts.
- **14U Exception:** Players residing within COBA boundaries do not need a release to try out for WMBA at the 14U level. However, players outside COBA boundaries still require a release to participate.
- **Attendance:** Players must attend all required tryouts to be eligible for selection.

### Trying Out and playing for an Older Age Group

Historically, WMBA has allowed players to try out for older age groups to fill roster gaps. However, starting in the 2026 Rep season (tryouts begin September 2025), this will no longer be permitted due to increased registration. Players must tryout and play at their own age division.

Players who previously moved up and wish to continue at the older age group must:

- Choose only one division for tryouts.
- Forfeit the right to try out at their actual age group or receive a release if not selected for the older age group.

### Inability to Attend Tryouts

Players must attend all required tryouts to be considered for a team. In special cases, such as illness or pre-planned vacations:

- **Absence Approval:** Players must email WMBA explaining their inability to attend. WMBA will confirm if missing a tryout is permissible.
- **Multiple Absences:** Missing two or more tryouts results in ineligibility for selection.
- **Previous Rep Players:** If a player misses tryouts due to a pre-planned vacation and played Rep the previous year, the coach will evaluate their potential return for the upcoming season.

- **Illness: Players missing the first two tryouts due to illness must attend the third. The third tryout is by invitation only, and alternative arrangements may be made by the WMBA and coach.**

## **Tryout Schedule**

- **Tryouts typically begin the week after Labour Day.**
- **Pre-tryout clinics are held the week prior to tryouts at 6 p.m. (weather permitting).**
- **Each division will have two mandatory tryouts, with the option of a third by invitation if necessary.**

## **Player Selection**

**Teams are selected based on evaluations from coaches and evaluators during tryouts. After the second tryout, players will be contacted with one of the following:**

- **An offer to join the team.**
- **An invitation to a third tryout (if required).**
- **Notification that they are no longer moving forward in the selection process.**
- **Tier 1 tryouts finished players will be notified they are to move forward with tier 2 tryouts**