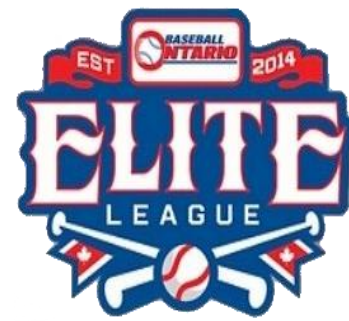




# WATERDOWN MINOR BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

*WOLVES BASEBALL LIVES HERE*



# WATERDOWN 15U EBLO

Program Overview:

2025/2026

# ELITE BASEBALL IN ONTARIO



- Waterdown has been approved to enter a team in the Elite Baseball League of Ontario (**EBLO**) next season.
- The EBLO is one of 3 “elite” baseball leagues in Ontario; the other two being:
  - Canadian Premier Baseball League (**CPBL**)
  - Premier Baseball League of Ontario (**PBLO**)
- Participation in the PBLO has been dwindling for years.
- The CPBL has become very popular but charges the highest player fees (upwards of 7-8k + high travel costs).
- The EBLO offers the best combination of affordability and high-level competition, while playing for your local organization.
- The EBLO is extremely competitive; effectively the AAA teams from various OBA districts (COBA, ICBA, TBA, etc) with enhancements as teams pick-up players at-the-margin.
- The EBLO is the highest level of baseball offered under the OBA.

# COMPARING ELITE LEAGUES IN ONTARIO



Feature	EBLO	CPBL	PBLO
Affiliation	OBA	Independent	OBA
Cost	~\$3,000 - \$3,500	\$7,000-8,000+	~\$3,500 - \$4,000
Scouting Exposure	Moderate	High	Moderate
Competition Level	High	Very High	Moderate (declining)
US Tournaments	Required 2+	Frequent	Sometimes (depends on team)
Travel Demand and Costs	Moderate (Ontario + 2 US trips)	High (loop covers broader region and more US travel)	Moderate (loop covers broader region)
Development Focus	Balanced between individual and team success	Individual focused; heavy "showcase" focus	Varies
Roster Size	~14	Varies: often >15-16	~14
Eligible for OBAs and Nationals	Yes	No	Yes
League Momentum	Growing (many players return to EBLO after trying CPBL or PBLO)	Established	Declining

# EBLO REQUIREMENTS



**EBLO teams must meet a number of mandatory requirements, including:**

- 1. Fall Baseball (tournaments and exhibition games)**
- 2. Off-season strength-and-conditioning program**
- 3. Indoor winter training**
- 4. Compete in at least 2 US showcase tournaments in the summer**

# EBLO SEASON

## Fall Season (September)

- 2 tournaments in Ontario
- 6 exhibition games
- practices

## Off-season

- Strength-and-conditioning (Oct – Apr)
- indoor training (Jan – Apr): bullpens, batting practice, and field practice

## Summer Season

- League Play:
  - EBLO teams play about 20 regular season games, in a loop that includes: *Burlington, Milton, Etobicoke, Vaughan, Mississauga, Brampton, Hamilton, Lasalle, Riverside, Niagara, Oakville, Guelph*
- Tournaments:
  - 2 US “showcase” tournaments (mandatory for EBLO teams)
  - 2-3 Ontario tournaments
- Playoffs:
  - EBLO offers a league playoff format to declare an EBLO champion
  - OBA playdowns
  - Eliminations: a chance to make it to the National championship (only occurs at 13u, 15u, 18u, and 22u). This is a qualifier tournament to make it to the Canadian National tournament.



# EBLO PLAYER FEES



**Target cost per player = \$3500**

The player fees will be higher than previous Waterdown seasons for several reasons:

- Increased league fees for EBLO
- US showcase tournaments (approx. 2500 USD each)
- The addition of fall games and tournaments (field and umpire fees)
- Strength-and-conditioning
- Additional playoff entrance fees for eliminations qualifier tournament and eliminations tournament
- Efforts will be made to reduce costs as much as possible, but families should assume the above amount



# WHY CHOOSE EBLO IN WATERDOWN FOR YOUR CHILD?

If your athlete is serious about baseball, Waterdown's EBLO team offers the ideal path to develop, compete, and get noticed — all within a supportive and affordable environment.

## Elite Competition Without the Elite Price Tag

Waterdown's EBLO program is part of the highest level of competition under the Ontario Baseball Association (OBA).

Players compete against top-tier teams from across Ontario — including Burlington, Vaughan, Etobicoke, Mississauga, and more — without the extreme cost associated with private academies.

**You get high-level talent, competition and structure at a cost that respects family budgets...**

## Exposure

This isn't just local baseball.

Our team will participate in two premier U.S. showcase tournaments, which are mandatory for EBLO teams.

These events are chosen specifically for their visibility to college recruiters, making them an important stepping stone in the player advancement process.

**Your player will have the opportunity to stand out...**

## Total Year- Round Development

This is a full development model that supports growth throughout the year:

- Fall Baseball,
- Winter Strength and Baseball Training,
- Summer Season with US Tournaments and Postseason

**Your player will reap the benefits of dedication and commitment to the game...**

# QUESTIONNAIRE

EBLO is highly competitive and involves an increased level of commitment. This team will focus on both player development and on-field success.

Some questions players and families should consider include, are you willing to:

1. commit to playing in two Fall EBLO tournaments and ~6 fall exhibition games?
2. commit to attending more than 75% of off-season training sessions?
3. commit to attending more than 90% of the summer regular season and summer practice schedule?
4. commit to attending all summer tournaments?
5. travel to the US for two tournaments lasting 4-5 days each?
6. pay the higher fees associated with EBLO?
7. play on a team with a potentially larger roster (13-14 players), understanding that this means you may not play in every game and accept that this is not an equal playing time team?





# THANK YOU

