

Louisville Parks and Recreation Baseball Proposal

Louisville Parks and Recreation Athletics will host a series of Baseball Clinics and Fun At Bat programs in place of the Reds Rookie model. We will continue to run our JCPS RBI League, RBI Tee-Ball, and other USA Play Ball Events.

Baseball Clinics

Louisville Parks and Recreation Athletics Department will conduct a series of baseball clinics at four locations in Summer 2020. These clinics will focus on hitting, fielding, throwing and catching. Clinics will be set up in three parts, daily:

- exercise/stretching/character building
- skill development
- daily competition.

On the last day of each week teams will be formed, and competitive baseball games will be played.

Clinics will be led by Louisville Parks and Recreation staff and special hired staff along with special guest assistance from former collegiate baseball and softball players to provide a higher skill development for the participants.

Partnering with the Louisville Bats and Cincinnati Reds additional well-developed training possibilities will be provided. The partnership with the Cincinnati Reds and MLB can assist with additional promotions.

Summer 2020 sessions:

Session 1: Boys and Girls 7-14 yrs. old: June 15th-June 18th 9 a.m. – noon (Wyandotte Park)

Session 2: Boys and Girls 7-14 yrs. old: June 22nd-June 25th 9 a.m.-noon (Petersburg Park)

Session 3: Boys and Girls 7-14 yrs. old: July 6th- July 9th 9 a.m.-noon (Shawnee Park)

Session 4: Boys and Girls 7-14 yrs. old: July 13th-July 16th 9 a.m.-noon (Westonia Park)

Each Child will receive a T- Shirt, hat, and necessary equipment on site.

Registration will open April 1 through [rectrac](#) and [leagueapps](#) websites

Goal: Registration inventory of each site 2 weeks prior to each start date will provide critical information needed for budgeting of staffing, uniforms, snacks and equipment.

Each site will have a minimum of 60 participants/registrants

Fun at Bat

Louisville Parks and Recreation will initiate the “Fun At Bat Program.” Initially, “Fun At Bat” will be offered at various parks, special events, daycares, Boys and Girls Club and other youth

organizations. The vision eventually will be to expand to multiple Jefferson County Public Elementary Schools. This program has its own character developmental procedures, in which we will also implement the R.E.D.S model Respect, Education, Determination and Spirit during operation of this program. Wins for this model include high visibility at popular events, minimal cost to operate, few staff needed, limited transportation and equipment is provided by MLB and USA Baseball. We anticipate using less than half of our previous Reds Rookie budget for transportation. That funding will be used to hire effective, trained instructors for Fun At Bat and instructors/staff for the baseball clinic.

Fun at Bat Tentative Community Programming Schedule:

1. Russell Lee Park
2. Lannan Park
3. California Park
4. Chickensaw Park
5. Seneca Park
6. Thurman Hutchins

*Week 1 Tuesday – Thursday at Seneca Park (1) and Russell Lee Park

Seneca Park 5– 7 p.m.

Russell Lee Park 5 – 7 p.m.

*Week 2 Tuesday – Thursday at California Park and Lannan Park

California Park 5 – 7 p.m.

Lannan Park 5 – 7 p.m.

*Week 3 Tuesday – Thursday at Chickasaw Park and Thurman Hutchins Park

Chickasaw Park 5 – 7 p.m.

Thurman Hutchins Park 5 – 7 p.m.

*Times subject to change

Our expectations are that we will launch Fun At Bat in Jefferson County Public Schools by spring 2021. We will focus on the schools we have close relationships with already and have participated in our JCPS RBI Baseball League. The schools we currently have in our JCPS

Baseball League and/or have participated in the past are listed below. We will anticipate having Fun At Bat in these schools by spring 2021.

1. Wheatley
2. Jacob
3. Hazelwood
4. McFerran
5. Engelhard
6. Crums Lane
7. Rutherford

Tee-Ball

Louisville Parks and Recreation RBI Tee Ball will begin April 11. Games will be played on Saturday mornings at Wyandotte Park. Kids will receive a shirt and a hat, and we will provide equipment to teams as well on site.

Last year our RBI Tee Ball League had four teams. This year we are anticipating a minimum of 8 teams. The Fun At Bat Program will be implemented at various community centers and youth organizations that compete in our league to keep the kids engaged throughout the winter months.

LIST THE NUMBER OF TEAMS WE ARE ANTICIPATING COMPARED TO PREVIOUS YEAR AND HOW YOU WILL CONTINUE TO ENGAGE WITH THEM AFTER T-BALL FOR CONTINUED PLAY

JCPS RBI Baseball League

Louisville Parks and Recreation will continue to offer the JCPS RBI Baseball League. Beginning this year, every school will participate in the USA Play Ball Home Run Derby Event. The league will begin April 7th and games will be played on Tuesday evenings at Wyandotte Park. The league will be at its largest this year at 6 teams. With adding the Fun At Bat at Jefferson County Public Schools, we are forecasting that we will attract schools that participate in our fun at bat program, t-ball program to have the opportunity to be engaged in a year-round program. This in itself will provide a foundation to deliver continued growth and retention for youth baseball initiative

Louisville Parks and Recreation Fall Baseball and Softball

We will use our summer clinics and our Fun At Bat Program to start a Youth Fall Baseball and Softball League. We will anticipate having a league for 7-8,9-11, and 12-14. Being intentional; to develop a minimum of 4 teams per league. In the fall and winter youth baseball Leagues are seeking facilities, clinics, camps and programs that offer the ability to assist young future players.

In the attempt to find the common thread for continuity of these youth players is the possibility of a youth baseball academy. The youth baseball academy would provide all of the future players, coaches and volunteers the ability to work together with one plan, one method, one culture and one mission. This will allow for a continued strategic plan of educating, training and

developing a community that has the same focus of working with young players, coaches and parents to understand teamwork as well the game of baseball. The idea of the academy will be to develop good players and to inspire them to be great people.

USA Play Ball Events

Pitch Hit & Run

Derby City Field April 1st from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Petersburg Park April 25th from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Wyandotte Park May 16th from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Home Run Derby

Wyandotte Park April 11th 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Home Run Derby with JCPS at Wyandotte April 22nd 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Petersburg Park May 9th 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Louisville parks and recreation youth baseball initiatives growth is a goal of the athletics division and our department. Initiating a full menu of baseball development with the introduction of fun at bat this summer to communities that may not understand the benefit of youth participating but have an interest of baseball (but not sure how to get involved). Continued growth of tball and graduating into, competitive, youth baseball teams of all ages and skills.

All under (future umbrella) Louisville parks and recreation Baseball Academy