



Seattle Elite League - 2024 General Overview

Age Groups & Divisions

Our league can be broken down into three segments: High School, 13U - 14U, and youth (11U - 12U). Information about each of those segments is outlined below:

High School

At the high school ages, we generally do not separate teams competitively - all teams are in the same competitive division. Teams are separated into sub-divisions based on region (North, Central, South) to limit travel for league games. These age groups generally have between 25 - 30 teams in them.

League play generally consists of between 15-20 games, with the top 2-3 teams in each division qualifying for our postseason, which is played in a College World Series format (2 pools of 4, double-elim; pool winners play best-of-three championship series) towards the end of July.

13U & 14U

These age groups are split into two separate competitive divisions - Gold (Majors) and Silver (AAA). Teams select which division to compete in based on the perceived strength of their team. Within those divisions, teams are separated into sub-divisions based on region (North, Central, South) to limit travel for league games. These age groups have annually had between 35-40 teams in them, and the split of Gold & Silver is generally pretty even.

The league season for these age groups is a little longer, so they trend towards the 18 - 24 league game count. Postseason format follows the high school divisions with the College World Series format (see above) - generally right after the 4th of July holiday.

Youth (11U - 12U)

Our Youth Leagues focus on little league friendly teams with an emphasis on playing competitive league games structured around the typical little league schedule. True select teams are eligible to participate as well. Teams will play the vast majority of their league games on Sundays, as opposed to the older age groups (without little league conflicts) that play weeknight games.

Within those divisions, if we have enough teams, we will again split into Gold (Majors) and Silver (AAA) for the best competitive experience for everyone. Game count is much lower for these divisions to help manage workload for the kids who are also participating on other teams - we've played anywhere between 10 - 14 league games in years past. Postseason will be a one-day single-elimination tournament due to Little League all-star commitments.



Seattle Elite League - 2024 General Overview

League Calendar / Timelines

High School

The 18U division generally starts their season following the Washington state high school regional weekend - usually the week prior to Memorial Day. The 16U & 15U divisions start date coincides with the end of the JV & C team seasons for Washington state high school teams, which is in early-May. All three leagues play through mid-July, with the playoffs wrapping up at the end of the month.

13U & 14U

These divisions start in early April, right around the Spring Break time frame for most Washington schools. The season lasts through late-June, early-July, with the playoffs generally set to wrap-up in mid-July.

Youth (11U - 12U)

The youth divisions start in mid-March and run through the end of May. The playoffs are usually held the first week of June in order to allow the youth teams to participate in their local league championships and all-star tournaments.

2024 Seattle Elite Baseball - League Dates

Age Group	Start Date	End Date	Rainout Dates **	Playoff Dates
18U	Sun, 5/19/24	Sun 7/14/24	Mon 7/15 - Sun 7/21	Wed 7/24 - Wed 7/31
15U - 16U	Sun, 5/5/24	Sun 7/14/24	Mon 7/15 - Sun 7/21	Wed 7/24 - Wed 7/31
13U - 14U	Sat, 4/6/24	Fri 7/5/24	Sat 7/6 - Sun 7/7	Mon 7/8 - Mon 7/15
11U - 12U	Sun 3/10/24	Sun 5/26/24	Mon 5/27 - Thu 5/30	Sun 6/2/24

*** NOTE - the 2024 PAC NW Regional Games are scheduled for Monday, 7/15 - Wednesday, 7/17. Teams are able to schedule games during this time, but could potentially be missing players for this event. We listed those dates in the rainout dates section for awareness for HS age teams.*

League Scheduling Process

On the first Sunday in March (13U - 18U) or mid-February (11U - 12U), all the teams get together to collectively create the league schedule. Each team brings their home field allocations and sits in a room with other coaches in their division. The league sets the parameters (play everyone 2x or 3x in division, start/end dates, etc.) and from there, the coaches make their own schedule. This allows all teams the autonomy to control when and where they play.

Once all the team schedules have been created, coaches/GMs submit their individual schedules to the league office. Everything from that point forward is taken care of by league officials - the creation of the master schedule, league administration, assigning umpires, scores & standings tracking, etc. This scheduling process has worked extremely well, allowing teams to really have control of their entire schedule, from league play to tournaments, while building in days off and working around any potential conflicts (spring break, graduation, etc.)



Seattle Elite League - 2024 General Overview

Team Budgeting Information

2024 League Fees

Covers all league administration, postseason costs, website, marketing, etc.

- **13U - 18U** - \$1,250
 - Returning organizations get a \$75 discount per team
 - Long-term members (5+ years in the league) get a \$150 discount per team
- **Youth (11U - 12U)** - \$900 (all teams)

Umpire Fees

Separate costs - all teams in the league split the umpire costs for the division evenly. This is dependent on # of games per division and umpire rates.

- **13U - 18U** - Generally ranges from \$1,500 - \$2,250
- **10U - 12U** - Generally ranges from \$950 - \$1,250
 - All umpire fees vary based on the number of league games, umpire rates at each division, etc.

Fields

Each team is responsible for securing & paying for their home fields for the season. This allows for the teams to have a true “home field”, control where they play, and set their own schedule. This cost varies greatly based on the location, quality, and size of the field, but is up to each organization to stay within their field budget.

Baseballs

Baden is the official ball of Seattle Elite Baseball - all balls used in any Seattle Elite league or tournament game must be Baden baseballs. Each team is responsible for supplying baseballs for their home games - generally 4-5 dozen will get each team through the season (based on division & number of games). Game balls for league play (and other purposes) can be purchased through the league at a discounted rate.

Interested in joining the Seattle Elite League? Contact us today!

- Email: [Derek Bingham](mailto:Derek.Bingham@seattleelitebaseball.com)
- Twitter: [@SeattleElite](https://twitter.com/SeattleElite)
- Instagram: [@SeattleElite](https://www.instagram.com/SeattleElite)
- Facebook: <http://facebook.com/SeattleEliteBaseball>