



# Irish Baseball Academy 2024-25

Dear all,

The 2024-25 Academy Programme for U12, U15, U18, Senior development squads will commence the week of November 4th.

Further information on the programme, including eligibility, timings and costs are captured on the [www.baseballireland.ie](http://www.baseballireland.ie) website.

Places can be booked at <https://www.klubfunder.com/Clubs/Baseball%20Ireland>

Regards,

John Dillon, Academy Director

Florian Gniech, Head Coach U12

Juan Lucas Galan, Head Coach U15

Sean Mitchell, Head Coach U18



## Overview

The overall aim of the Academy programme is to develop a National Team squad at all age levels. A group of up to 20 players per age group will be selected at the beginning of each season to benefit from over 40 dedicated sessions of individual and group trainings, as well as games. Typically, the Academy will run over a period of 11 months, from November to September each year. Academy players are expected to participate in the majority of training sessions to be considered for National Team selection.

## Programme Phases

The 2024-25 Academy season will commence in November 2024 for all age groups. The Academy will be run in a number of phases:

- Phase 1 (November) - introduction
- Phase 2 (December - Apr) - development work
- Phase 3 (May - August) - game practise and tournaments
- Phase 4 (September) - review and 2024-25 development planning

\* The squad of 20 players per age group will be selected by head coaches for each age group.



### Weekly time slots for each age group will be as follows:

- U12 - Saturday, 10 to 12 noon
- U15 - Wednesday, 6 to 8pm & Saturday, 12 to 2pm
- U18 - Tuesday & Thursday, 6 to 8pm
- Senior - Tuesday & Thursday, 8 to 10pm

### Eligibility

For European and other tournaments each player must be aged 12, 15, 18 respectively, or under, **for the year of the tournament**. The following age ranges apply for the 2024-25 Academy squads.\*

- U12 - Birth year 2013, 2014, 2015 (i.e. turning 10, 11 or 12 in 2025)
- U15 - Birth year 2010, 2011, 2012 (i.e. turning 13, 14 or 15 in 2025)
- U18 - Birth year 2007, 2008, 2009 (i.e. turning 16, 17 or 18 in 2025)

\* In exceptional circumstances, a player younger than the age category may participate based on playing ability. The head coach for the age, in consultation with other coaches, will have final decision on player selection.

All players require an Irish passport to be considered for the National Team but not to participate in the Academy and Academy competitions.

### Costs

The cost for the academy 11-month academy programme in Strike Zone is as follows:

- U12 - €300
- U15 - €450
- U18 - €600 (includes access to gym)
- Senior - €600 (includes access to gym)

Note 1: Applications for funding support are available through the Baseball Ireland scholarship scheme. For more information, contact the Academy Director.

Note 2: One-off or monthly payment option available.