



## Play-up and play down policy

In general Hamel Baseball participants will not be allowed to play up. Hamel Baseball believes players should play in the age group designed for their skill and abilities. Our #1 priority is to assure all kids registered have a team on which to play and that each team has the appropriate number of players. Smaller team sizes are more beneficial at the younger levels in order to provide a better coach/player ratio and more playing time for players.

Play-up requests will be considered for the following reasons:

- 1) Players whose birthdates fall after the cut-off date and would not allow them to play with teammates from their grade in school.
- 2) Siblings who are in a different registration age group and who desire to play on the same team. Proven ability to play at the advanced level is required.
- 3) Players who have the proven ability, either through past play and/or through evaluations, have exhibited the skill needed to succeed at the upper level.

Other play-up requests will be considered in some special circumstances.

Specifically, seven year-olds who are in second grade or 2) those with two years of coach pitch experience at Hamel will be eligible to play at the Rookie (machine pitch) level.

Eight year-olds wishing to play at the minor level need to have one year of Rookie (machine pitch) experience and need to evaluate in the top half of the minor pool.

All requests for play-ups should be done prior to registration and e-mailed to [mdorsey@hamelbaseball.com](mailto:mdorsey@hamelbaseball.com).

Requests will be considered by the HAC Board. Parents will be notified as soon as possible.

If approved, players will need to sign up for their age appropriate level and pay the difference before being placed on a team.

If parents feel the level of play designated for a player's age is not appropriate, play-down requests can also be sent to [mdorsey@hamelbaseball.com](mailto:mdorsey@hamelbaseball.com)

**PROOF OF AGE (BIRTH CERTIFICATE OR PASSPORT) WILL BE REQUIRED FOR ALL PLAYERS PARTICIPATING IN EVALUATIONS.**