



USSSA Jr. Midwest Games

Information Packet



On behalf of USSSA Baseball and the Amateur Baseball Report (ABR), welcome to the 2011 USSSA Jr. Midwest Games. The inaugural event will be an experience that you will always remember.

The USSSA Jr. Midwest Games will take place from August 12th – August 14th in Waukegan, IL. The event will take place at the brand new state-of-the-art Waukegan SportsPark (located at 3391 Beach Road, Waukegan, IL 60087)

ABR is working with the USSSA Baseball State Office for Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, and Wisconsin. The event will feature All-Star teams from each of the 9u-12u age levels from each state. Bragging rights are on the line...who's the "Best in the Midwest"

The event will give youth kids a chance to compete in a regional event with the top kids from throughout the Midwest.

Please read through and familiarize yourself with the event information. Enclosed is the following:

- Schedule of Events
- Selection of Teams/Coaches
- Schedule of Events
- USSSA Jr. Midwest Games Rules
- Facility Information
- Hotels/Accommodations
- Lake County: Things to do!!

If you have any questions about the USSSA Jr. Midwest Games please contact Mike Cuzzone at 708.675.1500 or email mcuzzone@abwcompanies.com

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Cuzzone'.

Mike Cuzzone
Amateur Baseball Report



USSSA Jr. Midwest Games

Information Packet



Schedule of Events

The USSSA Jr. Midwest Games is a three day event, starting on Friday, August 12th, and concluding on Sunday, August 14. Below is a tentative schedule for the entire event.

Friday, August 12th

Check-In: 12:00pm – 4:00pm

Courtyard Marriott

3800 Northpoint Blvd.

Waukegan, IL 60085

847.689.8000

Meeting Room A

PLAYERS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO CHECK-IN AT THE SPORTSPARK.

Opening Ceremonies / ABR Skills Competition: 5:00pm – 9:00pm

Waukegan SportPark

3391 Beach Road

Waukegan, IL 60087

The Opening Ceremonies will take place on Field A, and will consist of all teams being introduced as they walk onto the field and then key speakers will address the players and parents.

The ABR Skills event will feature the following competitions:

- Fastest Runner
- Pitching Velocity
- Most Accurate Arm (Outfield)
- Home Run Derby

*1st, 2nd, and 3rd place trophies will be given for each event in each age level.



USSSA Jr. Midwest Games

Information Packet



Saturday, August 13th

Games: *All day*

Each team will compete in two games against two other State Teams. Game schedules are posted on www.amateurbaseballreport.com/ussajrmidwestgames.aspx

Sunday, August 14th

Games: *All day*

Each team will compete in two games. Teams will play the other two State Teams that they did not play on Saturday. The event will end with giving awards after each age division's last game.

Awards: *At the conclusion of the event*

First Place Teams will receive individual Gold Medals

Second Place Teams will receive individual Silver Medals

Third Place Teams will receive individual Bronze Medals

At each age level an "All-Tournament Team" will be announced a couple of days after the event. The All-Tournament Team will be made up of 9 players. All-Tournament Team Apparel will be mailed out to each player.



USSSA Jr. Midwest Games

Information Packet



ABR Skills Competitions

Players may only choose 1 skills competition to compete in. Players will specify which event they will be doing at check-in. If a player is found to have participated in multiple skills competitions he will be disqualified from all of them.

Top 3 players per age level will receive trophies

*Outfield Accuracy (Field A): Players will get five throws from the outfield. There will be targets set up at home plate. The closer to home plate with the throw the more points that will be rewarded.

*Fastest Runner (Field B): players will run both 60 yards and from second to home. The times will be added together to determine the winners.

*Home Run Derby (Field C & D): Each player will be given five outs to hit as many home runs as they can.

*Pitching Velocity: After warming up each player will be given five throws from one of the bullpen mounds.





USSSA Jr. Midwest Games

Information Packet



Selection of Teams/Coaches

The USSSA Jr. Midwest Games was designed in order to give the top players at the 9u-12u age levels a chance to showcase their skills in a national event. The USSSA Baseball State Office in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, and Wisconsin will be in charge of selecting the players to make up their State Teams, with approval from the ABR National Office.

Being selected to this inaugural event is a great accomplishment. The event is featuring some of the top youth players in the Midwest.

The coaches were selected by the ABR National Office. These coaches are part of elite organizations within their state. More importantly, the selected coaches have shown to have exceptional baseball knowledge to go along with good coaching skills.

USSSA Jr. Midwest Games Rules

The event will be very competitive as the State Teams compete for the inaugural championship. However, this is a fun, All-Star event in which all players will be given the same opportunity on the field. The rules listed below will ensure equal and fair competition (rules are subject to change).

Uniform Colors

Each State Team will receive two uniform tops and a USSSA hat. Each uniform will be a solid color. Team colors are listed below...

Illinois: Navy, Orange

Indiana: White, Red

Iowa: Navy, White

Michigan: Red, Navy

Wisconsin: Orange, White

*Please bring both uniforms to each game.



USSSA Jr. Midwest Games

Information Packet



Age Requirements

- Although the event technically takes place in August (2012 USSSA season), the age regulations will follow that of the 2011 season. If a player was 11u in 2011, then he will be 11u for the USSSA Jr. Midwest Games, not 12u.
- USSSA age regulations will apply: Whatever age a player was on April 30th, 2011 is the youngest level that player can participate in.

Tournament Format

Each team will play in four games, two on Saturday and two on Sunday. With five states being represented in this inaugural event, each team will have the opportunity to play every other State Team. There will be no playoff/bracket. Standings will be determined based upon the four games played throughout the weekend. Tiebreakers are as follows:

- Overall record
- Head-to-Head (only if all tied teams have played each other)
- Runs allowed
- Run differential (+/- 8 per game max)
- Runs against amongst tied teams
- Run differential amongst tied teams



USSSA Jr. Midwest Games

Information Packet



Roster Regulations (subject to change)

It is ABR's goal to ensure that each player at the event gets an equal opportunity of playing time. Whereas each team is playing to win, these roster rules must be followed.

- Pitching
 - A player can pitch up to 6 innings throughout the weekend.
 - If a player pitches more than 3 innings on Saturday then he cannot pitch on Sunday.
 - One pitch thrown does not equal an inning. Three outs equals one inning.
 - A pitcher cannot be taken out and then re-enter as the pitcher.
- Batting
 - Teams will always bat 10 players. It is up to the manager of the team to determine the batting order, however each of the 14 players must bat at least once per game.
 - If a batter is taken out he may re-enter at the same spot in the batting order.
- Defense
 - There is free substitution amongst all 14 players. All players must play at least 3 innings per game.



USSSA Jr. Midwest Games

Information Packet



Tournament General Rules of Play

The event will be using the USSSA National Rule Book. For a full list of tournament rules please visit www.ussbaseball.org. The rules on the previous page are exceptions created to ensure playing time for all players. Key rules that may arise are listed below.

Home Team: will be pre-determined and posted on the game schedule.

Courtesy Runners: Can run for the pitcher & catcher only, at any time throughout the game. This only applies for the pitcher and catcher that ended the previous inning. A pinch runner may only run once in an inning. The pinch runner must be one of the four players currently not in the batting order.

Game length: All games will be 6 innings long. Time limit is 2 hours. An inning can be finished, but a new inning cannot be started after the time limit. When the last out is completed determines time limit.

Extra innings: Extra innings are only allowed if the time limit has not been reached. No inning can start after the time limit has been reached and if the game is tied it will be entered as a tie.

Mercy Rule: 15 runs after 3 innings, 8 runs after 8 innings

Inclement Weather: In the event of inclement weather, we will make every effort to complete the game. Games will be considered suspended until ruled different. A game can be considered complete after 3 complete innings or 2 ½ if the home team is ahead. The decision to determine a game complete will be up to the Tournament Director. There will be a strong effort to complete all games.

Ejections: If a coach or player is ejected then he must sit out the remainder of that game. Additional penalties may be assessed as deemed by the Tournament Director. The Tournament Director has the option to remove a coach or a player from the event for unsportsmanlike conduct.



USSSA Jr. Midwest Games

Information Packet



Admission

The Waukegan Park District will be charging all cars that enter the facility \$5. This is non-negotiable as it was part of the financing plan for the new complex. Each time a car goes into the facility it will be charged \$5.

Concessions

There will be full concessions at Waukegan SportsPark. If teams are looking to stay around the area between games they are more than happy to enjoy the food and drink at the park.

Event Souvenirs

USSSA Baseball and ABR will be selling USSSA Jr. Midwest Games apparel and other assorted items. The sale of all items will start at check-in. Below is a list of potential items for sale:

- Shirts
- Hats
- Cage Jackets
- Power necklaces

Parents/Family Entertainment

There will be opportunities for parents and families to get involved with the excitement of the event. Contests and games will be running throughout the entire event.



USSA Jr. Midwest Games

Information Packet

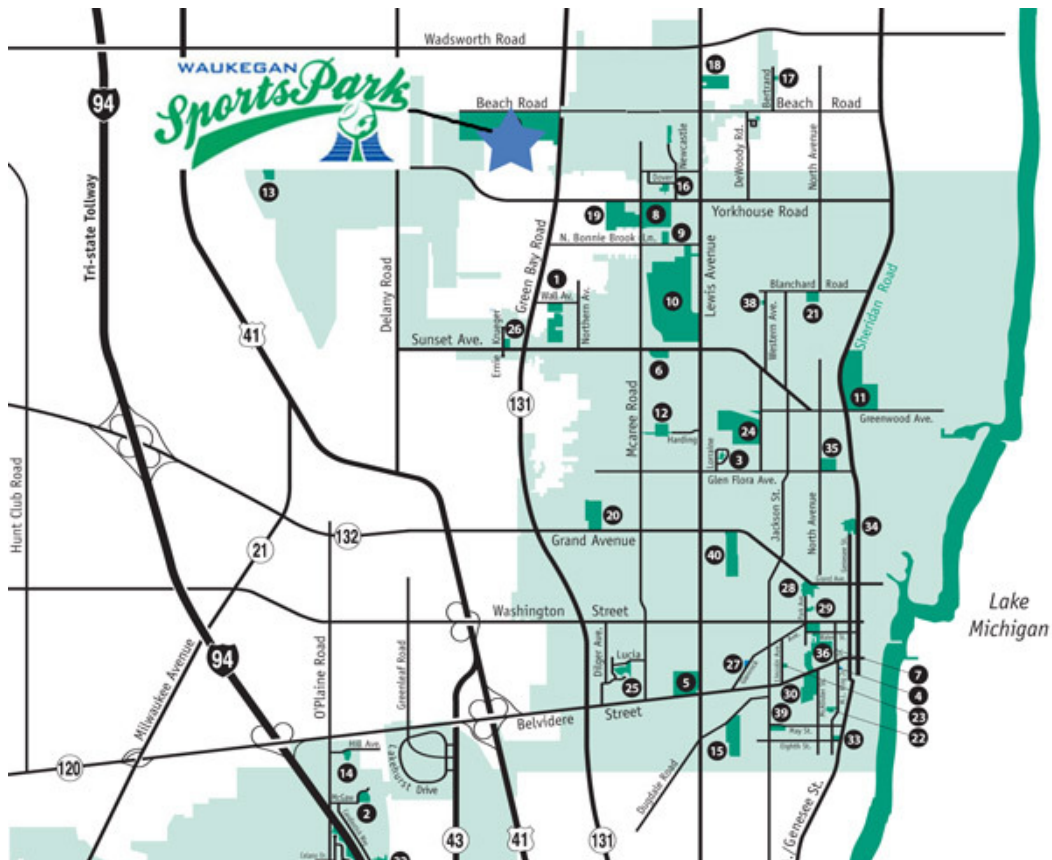


Directions to Facilities



3391 W. Beach Rd.
Waukegan, IL 60087

[For detailed map and directions, click here \(for Google Maps\)](#)





USSSA Jr. Midwest Games

Information Packet



Accommodations

USSSA has set up room blocks with Marriott Hotels. We ask that you please choose one of the two host hotels if at all possible. If these blocks are filled up there are many additional hotels in the Waukegan Area.



3800 Northpoint Blvd.
Waukegan, IL 60085
847.689.8000

King w/ Sofa Sleeper or Queen-Queen rooms for \$99.00 per night.
Must say you are with the USSSA Jr. Midwest Games



4101 Fountain Square Place
Waukegan, IL 60085
847.688.9801

King w/ Sofa Sleeper or Queen-Queen rooms for \$99.00 per night.
Must say you are with the USSSA Jr. Midwest Games

If you have any questions with hotels please contact
Mike Cuzzone at 708.675.1500 or email mcuzzone@abwcompanies.com.



USSSA Jr. Midwest Games

Information Packet



Lake County CVB



Lake County has many restaurants and activities that are available for the entire family. Find out what the area has to offer at: www.lakecounty.org

Activities



Six Flags Great America is a Six Flags theme park in the Chicago metropolitan area, located in Gurnee, Illinois. The park has eight themed sections, a 16-acre water park, three specially themed children's areas, and various other forms of entertainment. USSSA will be offering reduced ticket prices for both Thursday, August 11th and Friday, August 12th.



The Best Water Park in the Nation...Just Got Bigger Coming in 2011 — Riptide Bay at Hurricane Harbor! Catch a wave at the only place to surf on Lake Michigan. The newly expanded water park will boast more slides and attractions than any other in the state.

- Explore 100,000 square feet of slides, pools and water fun
- Get drenched on the award-winning Tornado
- Jump into a simulated ocean at Hurricane Bay



Gurnee Mills is the largest outlet and value retail shopping destination in Illinois and visited by more than 20 million people each year. The center provides the ultimate shopping experience with more than 200 stores. Gurnee Mills is located at the intersection of Interstate 94 and Grand Avenue (IL 132) in Gurnee, IL.

If you are interested in any of these activities please contact Mike Cuzzone at 708.675.1500 or email mcuzzone@abwcompanies.com