



## Roseville PONY Nationals 2023

### Introduction:

Each season Roseville PONY Baseball (RPB) offers an opportunity for its players to participate in our PONY Nationals program, also known as All Stars. This program offers a chance for our more advanced players to compete in a competitive tournament environment after our regular season is complete. PONY Nationals season brings on a flood of positive (and sometimes negative) emotions for the players and parents. Because of this RPB often receives questions and comments from parents and players about how the program works. With that in mind, we wanted to give you as much information about the program as early in the process as possible. This letter will outline expectations, commitments, prospective dates, probable costs, and a basic explanation for how we determine the PONY National players. ***Please note, this is a description of the PONY Nationals Program, not regular season play.*** Please feel free to contact the League Player Agent (Steve Park, [lpa@rosevilleponybaseball.com](mailto:lpa@rosevilleponybaseball.com)) if you have any questions.

### Basic Explanation of Selection Process

The process is not iron clad because every year we tinker with how to better evaluate the kids as far as talent goes. What is iron clad is our commitment to a fair system that will allow the most talented players with the most hustle and sportsmanship to make the team(s). Basically, the PONY Nationals selection process uses as its foundation a continuous evaluation of a player's talent, attitude and dedication by the division managers and assistant coaches. Starting with preseason evaluations (Pinto, Mustang and Bronco) and the first practice and continuing over the length of the season, managers are expected to be evaluating the development of their own players, as well as those on competing teams.

As the season progresses, the PONY Nationals Selection Committee (comprised of RPB Board Members), managers and assistant coaches work together to conduct PONY Nationals evaluations; this may include evaluation clinics for certain divisions. Each team manager utilizes their knowledge of the players from practice and games, combined with input from their assistant coaches to nominate players from their team to be evaluated throughout the season. The PONY Nationals Committee then combines the list of nominated players from the managers and the managers and coaches conduct continuous evaluations throughout the season. For those divisions where an evaluation clinic will occur, our Division Player Agent will invite those players to participate in a PONY Nationals Clinic(s). These clinics are run by the PONY National Committee and Managers of the division and are typically held typically on Sunday(s) in April and May however subject to field availability.

Players will be continually monitored throughout the rest of the regular season. Finally, each division's managers and the PONY Nationals Committee will meet to discuss and finalize the PONY Nationals rosters. The Board will review and confirm the choices. The final rosters will be announced on or before Closing Day. We will not announce the "nominees". Team(s) will be announced in our Shetland, Pinto, Mustang and Bronco and PONY divisions subject to a team formed in each division. The number of teams per division will be based on the availability of coaches, number of players in the division, availability/commitment of players being evaluated and availability of tournament slots in PONY Nationals.

All-Star teams will be assembled per division as follows: 6U, 8U, 9U, 10U, 11U, 12U, 13U and 14U.



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### Expectations:

Players are expected to commit to the team by attending all practices and games of every tournament. Possible exceptions to this must be made known to your regular season Manager and Divisional Player Agent so that teams can be formed accordingly. No exceptions! I.e. if you know that you will miss the first week of PONY National practice because of the annual trip to visit friends or family, you must tell your regular season Manager and your Divisional Player Agent prior to PONY Nationals selection. The PONY Nationals Committee will consult with the PONY Nationals Manager to determine whether or not this will affect the player's status on the team. This may seem harsh, but it is not fair to the other players or the manager to find out later that a player won't be able to make practices.

Parents will be expected to support fundraising efforts for RPB to help pay for PONY Nationals expenses. We will determine the workload after we better understand what our obligations are for our tournament play.

There should be NO expectation of minimum play time. This includes NO minimum infield time as well. We have charged our managers to go out and win tournaments. Parents and players will be expected to conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner no matter what situation occurs both on the field and off. You will be representing RPB.

### Commitments:

We need a commitment that you will see the PONY Nationals season through to the finish. You must commit that Roseville PONY Baseball is your #1 priority when it comes to playing baseball. You will not miss a RPB practice or game for travel ball or other league practices or games.

### Likely Dates:

Practices will start in early June and tournaments will start in mid to late June or early July. You should expect that your son or daughter could participate in tournaments through the month of July or early August depending on how the team performs. As a guideline – here is what this year's schedule looked like – when we have more information about this year's schedule we will communicate this to you.

### 2023 PONY Nationals Schedule:

Here is the website that will indicate all dates and locations for each division:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1gfVkwM4qv1F1k5sIL6HiENCJeMNDj3MfvOFYhnGexDc/edit#gid=1839025246>

### Probable Costs:

Shetland players should expect to pay approximately \$125 to participate in PONY Nationals. Pinto players should expect to pay approximately \$150 to participate in PONY Nationals. Mustang, Bronco & Pony players should expect to pay approximately \$175 to participate in PONY Nationals. This fee may increase do to unforeseen expenses as well reduce by getting sponsors for your team. These fees cover fields, uniforms and equipment. Depending on how well a PONY Nationals team does, that team could participate in tournaments that will require travel to the location as well as overnight-stays. Parents are expected to cover the cost of that travel – the league will not be paying for these expenses.



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### Closing:

We feel this letter accentuates the positive aspects and league expectation of PONY Nationals and minimizes the inevitable negative issues that come with PONY Nationals. As with everything we do, we put a lot of board member hours into the PONY National season. This includes planning meetings, selection meetings, setting up for hosting tournaments, and recruiting volunteers to assist us in hosting. It is a marathon that starts in August of the year prior and finishes at the end of July of the current season year. We hope this letter provides a little more clarity to the process.

Sincerely,

Steve Park  
League Player Agent  
Roseville PONY Baseball  
[lpa@rosevilleponybaseball.com](mailto:lpa@rosevilleponybaseball.com)

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Please sign below if you feel you and your player are willing to be on a PONY Nationals team.

Player Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Player Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_