

Frequently Asked Questions London Mets Youth

When does the London Mets Youth Program operate?

Session	Venue	Duration	Registration
Winter Training	Various schools	Jan-March	November
Spring-summer	Finsbury	April - July	January/February
Summer Camp	Finsbury	Late August	June
Fall Ball	Finsbury	Sept-October	July

Registration: the London Mets is moving to Spond, a free app that allows easier communication among organisers, coaches and players. Registration and payment will continue for now through our Wix website which will generate a code for parents to join a spond group within the Mets club. Spond will replace our use of WhatsApp going forward. Here is the link to register on Spond: [Spond](#). This should also facilitate future sign-ups as key information will already be stored there.

Fees: we have separate member fees for winter training, summer camp, and the Spring-summer session which also includes Fall ball. You are a member when you register for the Spring-summer season. Non-members are able to join us for winter training and Fall ball. Fees are always pro-rated over the year and sibling discounts are available. For those unable to afford the fees, please contact us to discuss as we will never turn away a player.

When are training sessions? Winter training sessions vary each year as a function of facilities availability. Please check the youth page. The regular spring-summer sessions run on Saturdays generally from 10am to 2:30pm for 11+ players and from 10-12:30 for younger players. Training session time slots may change from time to time when we play games either home or away. Any times will be transmitted in advance to parents.

When should we arrive for training sessions? We really want to start on time so please arrive at least 15 minutes in advance, normally 9:45am.

Where is the training? Finsbury Park, London. For any away games, the new venue and address will be transmitted to parents. Please use the link below to view our field location on the map.

Training Kit: I have prepared a kit list which is accessible on the youth page. Click here to view it: https://www.londonmets.org/files/ugd/469ffd_d13dbb2ed5cd46fba56bf25b9cc03210.pdf. In addition, our club has an on-line shop with some key youth basics. Here is the link to the shop: [London Mets On-line Shop](#). Proper kit is required for all players and down to T-ball. We want all the kids to look sharp and feel part of the team!

What transport links are there to Finsbury Park? The closest link is the overground at Harringay Green Lanes and connecting to Hampstead Heath. By tube, the closest tube stop is

at Manor House. Please use this link to view more information on our website. [Where We Play | London Mets Baseball & Softball Club](#). Parking is also available nearby off of Endymion road. There is no parking allowed inside of Finsbury park.

Age groups: the age groups are shown on the youth page and include T-ball (6U), Coach Pitch (8U), Minors (10U), Majors (12U), Juniors (14U) and Seniors (16U). There is no softball offered at this time. These age groups are based on Little League groupings which can be different from typical European and UK groupings which are 10U, 12U and 15U. We usually run a single Juniors/Seniors group as 15U. Players aged 16 will typically opt to play on our adult teams.

Age group cutoffs: Little league age is the age of the player on August 31st of the year. European/UK age groups use the age of the player on December 31st of the year. Pony league uses yet a third cut-off date which is April 31st. Most of our Mets games will be using LL age cut-offs.

Can girls play? Girls are very welcome to the club and in youth. Our club has a women's baseball team and female coaches but fewer girls playing in the younger age groups.

Level of Play: the Mets club has a wide range of experience in its youth players. Starting in 2024, youth players will divide up mainly by level of skill (catching, throwing, and confidence) rather than age or size. This should provide the appropriate level of training for each group. Scrimmages will have to be worked out yet and depend on registrations but our objective is to create the best and meaningful experience for players irrespective of their level. We also want to have fun and for players to enjoy their time on the field. But there is no perfect model when levels are wide-ranging. Newer players will be able to play "down" and experienced players will be able to play "up".

Games: the Mets enter teams in each age category for the BBF youth league. Games will be both home and away but are not every week. The away games will require travel in and around London.

Game time for players: we endeavour to be as fair as possible for players to experience playing in games. Some levels and games might lean more towards equal game time while higher levels will lean more towards winning with unequal game time. For players having played many years, it is unfair to them to then settle for equal time in a game. Nevertheless, games will feature both players although a player might not be invited to play every game.

Food: we will be providing catering most weekends, by serving up burgers, hotdogs, and sausages along with sodas and crisps plus assorted other goodies. We will always announce in advance whether we have catering or not. There are ample food opportunities nearby at the plaza across from the field.

Toilets: we have our own clubhouse with male and female toilets and can be used for changing if necessary.

Water: there are taps inside where water bottles can be refilled.

Safeguarding: We will always have parents or coaches in and around the clubhouse providing oversight of your children.

First Aid: many of us are trained in first aid. The nearest defibrillator or AED is at Finsbury Park Café on the boating lake. First aid supplies are in the clubhouse and the kit bags..

Nearest hospital: Whittington hospital on Highgate Hill, N19, 2 miles away with the W5 bus taking you there (25 min ride). Must hail (ie wave to the driver) the W5 on Endymion road (no bus stops).

Help/Volunteering: we need all the help we can get in so many areas. Please have a look at the web page to see if there is something you could help with, even in a small way. [Youth Volunteers | Londonmets](#).