

2024  
Florida Dixie Youth Baseball  
Division II  
AAA and Ozone  
State Tournament



**Hosted by:**  
District 8  
Avon Park, FL



This event is made possible  
with support from the  
Highlands County Tourist  
Development Council

# **2024 Florida Dixie Youth Baseball Division II AAA and Ozone State Tournament**

Durrah Martin Complex \* Avon Park, Florida June 28th- July 3rd



## **Welcome**

Welcome to Avon Park! We are pleased to be the host of the 2024 Florida Dixie Youth Baseball Division II AAA and Ozone State Tournament. The Tournament will be held at Durrah Martin Complex beginning Saturday, June 29th. We will begin with an Opening Ceremony on Friday, June 28th at Charles R Head Field .

## **Mandatory Team Check-In**

Friday, June 28th at Jacaranda Hotel- **19 E Main Street Avon Park, FL**  
Check in 12:00-4:00 pm

You will need to turn in your credentials book and team flag at this time.

## **Mandatory Coaches Credentials Meeting**

Friday, June 28th **immediately** after opening ceremonies, we will have a mandatory credentials meeting.

**\*\* All team managers and coaches will be required to attend \*\***

## **Opening Ceremonies**

Opening ceremonies will begin at 6:00 and will be held at Charles R.Head Field. Please have players and coaches ready to go by 5:45. Fans will be able to sit under the covered bleachers to view the ceremonies.

## Facilities

### Tournament:

Games will be played at Durrah Martin Complex. The Facility will include 3 game fields, 1 practice field and 1 three stall batting cage.

### **Durrah Martin Complex**

620 S Self Avenue Avon Park, FL 33825

### Practice:

An additional complex only 1.8 miles away will be available for practice.

Coaches will be able to sign up for practice slots at team check-in.

### **Lucy Derkman Complex**

1004 N Anoka Ave, Avon Park, FL 33825

### Fan Accommodations:

There is some tree cover and ample room to set up tents and chairs at each field. However, tents **ARE NOT ALLOWED** behind home plate.

### Concessions:

A full concession stand will be running and offering specials throughout the tournament. We will also have a few food trucks/ frozen treat vendors on site.

## Opening Day Schedule

**12:00-4:00 PM** Team Check-In (**Jacaranda Hotel**)

**2:00-5:00 PM** Team Meal (**Jacaranda Hotel**)

\*Team meal will be provided for coaches and players only.

\*Time slots will be given for meal times

**6:00 PM** Opening Ceremonies (**Charles R Head Field**)

\*\*\*\*\* Immediately Following Opening Ceremonies-Credentials Meeting

(**Park Elementary School - 327 E Palmetto St, Avon Park, FL 33825 - COACHES ONLY**)

## Gate Fees

A gate fee of \$10 will be assessed each day for everyone age 10 and older, with money from each entry (\$1 for daily passes and \$2 for tournament passes) for the first two days of the tournament going to the Florida Dixie Youth Baseball Scholarship Fund. There will be tournament passes for sale Friday at the opening ceremony and Saturday at the gates for **\$30**. Players and coaches (3 per team) will be provided with free gate passes (at team check-in). No one will

be allowed to sit outside the complex fence and watch games without paying. Cooler passes will be available at \$25 at the front gate.

## **Official Tournament T-Shirts**

State Tournament T-shirts will be available for \$20. Please be advised that we will print a limited number of shirts, and normally these shirts have sold out during state tournaments. A pre-order form is listed below for players and coaches to purchase t-shirts.

**Pre-Sales for t-shirts will only be available for players and coaches.**

**Pre-orders MUST BE RECEIVED by Friday, June 21st.** Please bring payment to team check-in. Copies of all orders should be sent via e-mail to [avonparkyouthbaseball@yahoo.com](mailto:avonparkyouthbaseball@yahoo.com) .

*We will send a confirmation when orders are received. If you do not receive a confirmation for your pre-order by Monday, June 24th, please contact us to verify that we have received your order. Orders received after that will not be packaged for pick-up at check-in.*

T-shirts will be available for purchase at Charles R. Head Field before Opening Ceremonies and at the park throughout the tournament, **while supplies last.**

## **Park Rules**

- Coolers of any kind will only be permitted with a cooler tournament pass.
- There will be no alcohol allowed in the complex and any party found in possession while on the premises (parking lot included) will be removed from the complex for the remainder of the session and possibly banned for the remainder of the tournament.
- Teams and spectators are not allowed to use noisemakers, stereo systems, or music in Durrah Martin Complex.
- NO OUTSIDE FOOD OR DRINKS may be brought into the complex at any time during the tournament unless it is in a cooler with a cooler tournament pass.
- Guests are not allowed to ride skateboards, bicycles, whip sticks, or other similar items inside the complex.
- Any party asked to leave or are removed from the complex, must leave immediately and remain outside the premises (parking lot included) for the remainder of the game. Failure to do so could lead to party being banned for the remainder of the tournament.



## Hotel Accommodations

*When calling to reserve your room, say you are booking for **DIXIE STATE TOURNAMENT DIV 2**. You will need to call the hotel directly in order to get the discounted rate.*

\*Holiday Inn Express Sebring—4389 Keiber Blvd., Sebring, FL 33870

(863) 386-1115 (4.7 miles from complex)

[https://www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/us/en/sebring/seflr/hoteldetail?cm\\_mmc=GoogleMaps\\_-EX\\_-US\\_-SEFLR](https://www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/us/en/sebring/seflr/hoteldetail?cm_mmc=GoogleMaps_-EX_-US_-SEFLR)

\*Magnuson Grand Sebring North—6525 US-27 N, Sebring, FL 33870

(863) 385-4500 (3.4 miles from complex)

<https://www.magnusonhotels.com/hotel/magnuson-grand-sebring-north/>

\*Inn on the Lakes –3101 Golfview Drive, Sebring, FL 33870

(863) 471-9400 (9.4 miles from complex)

[www.InnOnTheLakes.com](http://www.InnOnTheLakes.com)

\*Tru by Hilton Sebring—1775 US Hwy 27 S, Sebring, FL 33870

(863) 471-0000 (10 miles from complex)

[https://tru3.hilton.com/en/hotels/florida/tru-by-hilton-sebring-SEFRURU/index.htm?SEO\\_id=GMB-RU-SEFRURU](https://tru3.hilton.com/en/hotels/florida/tru-by-hilton-sebring-SEFRURU/index.htm?SEO_id=GMB-RU-SEFRURU)

\*Residence Inn by Marriott Sebring—3221 Tubbs Rd, Sebring, FL 33870

(863) 314-9100 (10 miles from complex)

<https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/sefri-residence-inn-sebring/?scid=bb1a189a-fec3-4d19-a255-54ba596febe2>

\*La Quinta Inn & Suites by Wyndham Sebring—4115 US 27 South, Sebring, FL 33870

(863) 386-1000 (11.9 miles from complex)

<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/laquinta/sebring-florida/la-quinta-sebring/overview?CID=LC:LQ::GGL:RIO:National:53057>

## **Restaurants**

### **Avon Park**

Avon Park Diner  
Market 27  
The Turkey Tavern  
Sandhill Grill  
Tagueria Merlo's  
McDonald's  
Wendy's  
Islands Choice  
La Yerbita  
Arby's  
Dominoes

Olympic  
Little Italy  
The Diving Girl  
The Jacaranda Buffet- *lunch only*  
Eighteen East  
Burger King  
Taco Bell  
La Malquerida Restaurant & Tienda  
Dutcher's Diner  
Maryland Fried Chicken  
Little Caesars Pizza

### **Sebring**

Buffaluca's  
Denny's  
Fairmont Cafe  
Outback  
Chili's  
Jersey Mike's  
Don Jose's  
The Watering Hole  
Burger King  
Taco Bell  
Sonny's BBQ

Beef 'O' Brady's  
The Blue Lagoon  
Cang Tong  
Panera  
Cody's Steakhouse  
Azul Tequila  
Tai House  
McDonald's  
Wendy's  
Dairy Queen  
Five Guys

### **Refreshments**

THN-Avon Park  
THN- Sebring  
Starbucks  
Turn 2 Brewery  
Soda Shop

### **Sweet Treats**

Maxwell's Ice Cream  
Pelican's  
The Vampire Penguin  
Sweet Frog's

## **Activities**

Donaldson Park- playground (Avon Park)

Maxwell's Groves- country store (Avon Park)

Highlands Hammock State Park (Sebring)

Children's Museum (Sebring)

Lakeview Water Sports- rental service on Lake Jackson (Sebring)

Lakeshore Mall Movie Theatre (Sebring)

Electric Scooter Rental- Bird Scooters (Sebring)

Golfing:

*River Greens Golf Course*

*Pinecrest Golf Club*

*The Preserve at Highlands Ridge*

*Highlands Ridge North*

*Sun 'N Lake Golf Club*

\*\*For additional accommodations and things to do in highlands county, visit

[www.highlandscvb.com](http://www.highlandscvb.com)

# Tournament Contacts

Brian Cox  
State Director  
(850) 832-6009

Mort Jackson III  
Avon Park President  
(863) 443-4443

Tony Galimba  
AP Vice President  
(863) 443-2752

**12:00-4:00 PM** Team Check-In (**Jacaranda Hotel**)

**2:00-5:00 PM** Team Meal (**Jacaranda Hotel**)

\*Team meal will be provided for coaches and players only.

\*Time slots will be given for meal times

**6:00 PM** Opening Ceremonies (**Charles R Head Field**)

\*\*\*\*\* Immediately Following Opening Ceremonies-Credentials Meeting  
(**Park Elementary School - 327 E Palmetto St, Avon Park, FL 33825 - COACHES ONLY**)

## Important Addresses for the Tournament

(Game Fields)

**Durrah Martin Complex:** 620 S Self Avenue Avon Park, FL 33825

(Team Check-In/Team Meal)

**Jacaranda Hotel:** 19 E Main Street Avon Park, FL

(Opening Ceremonies)

**Charles R Head Field:** 800 W Winthrop St Avon Park, FL

(Practice Fields)

**Lucy Derkman Complex:** 1004 N Anoka Ave, Avon Park, FL 33825

(Credentials Meeting)

**Park Elementary School - 327 E Palmetto St, Avon Park, FL 33825**





# Pre-Order Gate Passes & T-Shirts

**DUE BY: June 21st, 2024**

**Contact (863) 449-9181**

**Email order forms to:**

**[avonparkyouthbaseball@yahoo.com](mailto:avonparkyouthbaseball@yahoo.com)**

**Send payment to:**

**checks: P.O. Box 1907 Avon Park, Fl 33826**

**Venmo Payment: @Apbaseball**

**Team Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Team Contact Name & Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

Size	Quantity	Price Each	Total
Youth S		\$20.00	\$
Youth M		\$20.00	\$
Youth L		\$20.00	\$
Adult S		\$20.00	\$
Adult M		\$20.00	\$
Adult L		\$20.00	\$
Adult XL		\$20.00	\$
Adult XXL		\$21.00	\$
Adult XXXL		\$21.00	\$
T-Shirts		Total Due:	\$
Tournament Passes		\$20.00	\$
		Grand Total Due:	

Gate passes are not transferable.

No refunds will be issued for lost or damaged passes.

Coach passes are limited to the (3) rostered coaches per team

Coach passes are not transferable to other adults helping with the team.

# AAA and Ozone State Tournament Preparation Checklist

Due Date	What You Need to Do Before the Tournament
Fri., June 21st	Submit pre-order form to <a href="mailto:avonparkyouthbaseball@yahoo.com" style="color: red; text-decoration: underline;">avonparkyouthbaseball@yahoo.com</a>

## What to Expect at Team Check-in:

<b>✓ Provide CredentialsBook</b>	<b>✓ Provide team flag</b>
<b>✓ Provide Official Team Contact Information</b>	<b>✓ Pick-up all Pre-order Items</b>
<b>✓ Pick-up all player and coach passes</b>	<b>✓ Verify secondary emergency contact information for your team</b>
<b>✓ Be prepared to schedule practice fields if desired</b>	<b>✓ Confirm receipt of park rules</b>
<b>✓ Confirm any player allergies or special medical information</b>	<b>✓ Provide hotel information and # of rooms booked</b>

## BASEBALL IS PART OF AVON PARK HISTORY

In 1926, town folks crowded into the lobby of the Hotel Jacaranda to listen on the radio to the World Series between the New York Yankees and the St. Louis



Cardinals. When the Cardinals beat the Yankees to become world champs, the 3,500 residents of Avon Park went wild. They knew that these very same Cardinals would be arriving at the Seaboard Airline Railway Depot down the street to reside at the very same Hotel Jacaranda.

Colonel Charles R. Head, an Avon Park resident, convinced his long-time friend Sam Breadon, the owner of the St. Louis



St. Louis Cardinals

Cardinals, to move his team to Avon Park for spring training. Col. Head encouraged the city to build a baseball field worthy of a

professional baseball team, to be named Cardinal Field. The Cardinals played spring training here from 1927-29.

At a one-game rematch between the Cardinals and the Yankees, more people attended that game than the entire population of Avon Park. There were such Hall of Famers as Babe Ruth, Dizzy Dean and Lou Gehrig all playing here. The Babe hit a towering home run out of the park that landed on a street just north of the field. That street is now known as "Ruth Street." The Avon Park fans presented a 52-inch 14-pound commemorative bat to Babe Ruth during a pre-game ceremony. You can see that bat on display at the [Depot Museum](#) in Avon Park.



Babe Ruth

In the 1930's and 40's, Cardinal Field - now called Head Field - became home to several minor league clubs, including the Columbus Red Birds, the Toronto Maple Leafs, Toledo Mud Hens and the House of David team.

The tradition of baseball continues with the APHS Red Devils, with 8 state championships and 5 runners-up. **#GOBIGRED!**

(Information sources: [floridagrapefruitleague.com](http://floridagrapefruitleague.com); Highlands Sun article by Elaine Levey (Museum Curator) Sept., 2021 with Dr. Ron Sevigny).