



President's Report

2025 Annual General Meeting | Thorold Minor Baseball

368	14	7	4
registered players	listed teams/programs	hosted tournaments	players advanced to AAA

Season Overview

The 2025 season was another year of growth and progress for Thorold Minor Baseball. Registration increased to 368 players, up from 325 in 2024 - an increase of approximately 13%. Our athletes competed across House League, Select and Rep programs, while the organization continued to invest in coaching, officiating, training and facilities.

Registration

Division / Program	Players	Division / Program	Players
5U	53	12U Rep	13
7U	59	13U House League	23
9U House League	28	13U Rep	12
9U Rep	12	14U Rep	14
10U Rep	12	15U House League	16
11U House League	28	15U Rep	13
11U Rep	12	18U House League	24

Thorold also fielded Select teams at 9U, 11U and 18U.

House League and Select Success

- Our 9U House League champion represented Thorold at the Niagara Interlock Finals and earned third place.
- The 11U A's won their divisional championship and finished second at the Niagara Interlock Finals.
- The 13U A's won their divisional playoffs and captured the Niagara Interlock championship.
- The 15U A's also captured the Niagara Interlock championship.



Competitive Program

Our Rep teams represented Thorold with pride throughout the season. The 14U A's won the Niagara District Baseball Championship, and all of our Rep teams competed in tournaments and at the OBA Championships, with each making a deep run into Saturday evening or Sunday play.

Four Thorold players advanced to AAA district teams in 2025 - an outstanding reflection of both their commitment and the strength of our development pathway. Looking ahead, Thorold will field an 18U Rep team in 2026 for the first time in well over a decade.

Coaching and Umpire Development

We continued to strengthen the people who make our programs possible. Our umpire group grew in both numbers and skill, more coaches completed NCCP courses than in previous years, and a new group of non-parent coaches joined the organization across several age levels. These are important steps toward building a deeper, more sustainable baseball program.

Tournament Hosting

Thorold successfully hosted tournaments at 9U, 10U, 11U, 12U, 13U and 15U, as well as the 15U C OBA Championship. These events showcased our community, provided strong competitive opportunities for our players and generated valuable activity for the organization.

Financial Position and Facility Investment

Thorold Minor Baseball remains in a strong financial position. Expenses were well within budget, and the organization achieved revenue growth during the year. We reinvested in our programs and facilities through the purchase of new bases, improvements to dugouts at Port Robinson and South Confederation Park, updates to several L-screens, and the purchase of a new pitching machine.

Looking ahead, planned needs include new catcher's equipment, repairs to existing pitching machines and a larger portable mound for Sullivan Park.

Partnership with the Senior Anchors

We expanded our relationship with the Thorold Senior Anchors through our training offerings. Feedback from families has been positive, and we are seeing both player development and stronger results on the field. We will continue working with the Anchors to provide a coordinated training program that benefits players throughout the organization.

Municipal Partnership and Park Maintenance

Our greatest operational challenge in 2025 was our relationship with the City of Thorold and the parks team. Although we have worked closely with the City to establish training, coverage and standard operating procedures, 2025 was a weaker year for the overall quality and maintenance of Thorold's baseball parks. We remain committed to working constructively with City staff to improve consistency, accountability and playing conditions.



Volunteer Capacity

My concern about volunteer capacity in key organizational roles continues to grow. Thorold Baseball needs a dedicated Tournament Director, a dedicated Select Director, and additional administrative support for registration and scheduling. The volunteers currently carrying much of this workload are at risk of burnout, and the organization does not yet have sufficient backup or succession plans in place.

Strengthening our volunteer structure must be a priority in 2026 if we are to sustain our growth and continue delivering high-quality programs.

Looking Ahead to 2026

The 2026 season will be important for Thorold Minor Baseball. We have an opportunity to capitalize on renewed interest in baseball generated by the Toronto Blue Jays, continue growing participation, and build on the competitive and developmental success achieved in 2025.

To do so successfully, we must identify new strategies for securing park time, advocate for appropriate municipal investment, strengthen our volunteer base and continue investing in the people and equipment that support our players. With thoughtful planning and shared commitment, Thorold Baseball is well positioned for another strong year.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Green
President
Thorold Minor Baseball