

FALL ACADEMY 2025 - September thru early November

The **RBI Austin Fall Academy** is a 9 week program designed to continue the momentum gained this summer and build towards the RBI Austin Summer Regional Team 2026 who will compete for an opportunity to return to the <u>MLB / NIKE RBI World Series</u> hosted at Jackie Robinson Stadium in Vero Beach Florida. The Fall Academy will continue to offer programming designed to deliver an elevated **Player Development** experience for families in the RBI Austin organization, through weekly practices, games and select tournaments.

The Fall Academy will consist of a 16U tournament team and an 18U tournament team. Each team will have a 14-15 player roster. Erique Hernandez will serve as the head coach for the 16U team *Erique has served as the assistant coach for our 18U Regional Team for the past two years and is eager to pour into the 16U team this fall. Chase Almendarez, head coach Huston-Tillotson University, will serve as the head coach of the 18U team.

Indoor practice on Mondays - Weekly indoor practice starting 9/8 @ the 1% Academy owned by the family of RBI alum, Troy Haefs, located at <u>3416 Duke Rd, Austin 78724</u>. Focusing on Pitching clinics, Bull pens, Arm Care; Hitting clinics, Reps and Instruction. *start time TBD

Field practice Wednesdays - Field practices starting 9/17 @ <u>Downs Field</u>, home of Huston-Tillotson University Baseball. Focusing on defensive skills development by position, team drills, and scrimmages/games. *start time TBD

Tournament schedule: The Fall Academy will consist of a 16U tournament team and an 18U tournament team. Each team will have a 14-15 player roster. *We welcome two-way athletes who are **playing football or basketball this fall**.

- 9/20 or 9/21 One day Showcase with Results Baseball Tournaments with 10+
 College Coaches in attendance hosted at Franklin Park in College Station. Info
- 9/26-9/28 5 Tool Tournament in Austin. *if a game is scheduled Friday it would be in the evening for local teams. Info
- 10/18 or 10/19 One day Showcase with Results Baseball Tournaments with 10+ College Coaches in attendance hosted at Franklin Park in College Station. Info

• 10/31-11/2 5 Tool Tournament in San Antonio.*if a game is scheduled Friday it would be in the evening for local teams. Info

Additional Information

Fall Academy participation fee - \$500. Sponsorships available.

The RBI Austin Fall Academy schedule is designed to provide a balanced program of Player Development opportunities, Game reps, and Mentorship. We have been intentional to break the current (and traditional) select ball model where weekends are full of tournaments year-round. Games are incredibly important, but learning how to become a better baseball **player** is equally important. The fall is also a time to focus on getting stronger and enjoy baseball-rest; both physically and even more importantly, **mentally**.

The tournament schedule also includes two events where 10+ College Coaches are guaranteed to be in attendance and will be providing feedback to individual players and the team post-game. We have participated in these one-day tournaments in the past and they have been invaluable.

The coaches and I feel it is important, at this stage of your ball player's career, that he plays for independent (and many times new) coaches. This is an acknowledgement of their current stage on the baseball timeline. The stage where players are all needing to (better) learn how to adjust to playing for high school coaches; some will play for college coaches; some in pro ball. All independent personalities; varying degrees of baseball knowledge; varying coaching abilities. The key is for players to learn how to **adjust** when the familiarity of relationship isn't there. Making these adjustments for the first time in the spring high school season can be hard for most.

Additionally, the Fall Academy schedule allows for athletes to play more than one sport and for some, you may choose to plug into the RBI Austin Fall Academy program and when/if you want to play additional tournaments, you play with another travel team on those weekends.

Fall Academy tryout: *registration required

When: Sunday 8/17/25 Where: Parque Zaragoza

What time: for more details, please register through the RBI Austin website or contact RBI

Austin Baseball Coordinator, erique.hernandez@rbiaustin.org, for more details.