

# Parent Contract

The following is a contract that all parents are required to sign prior to joining the team. This helps establish clear expectations for all — players and coaches will also have their own contracts.

By signing this contract, I confirm support of my child's commitment to become a member of \_\_\_\_\_. My family is an extension of the team's baseball family, and as a result I understand I am expected to do my best to commit to team rules and expectations.

(Initial)

\_\_\_\_\_ **1. I acknowledge that any deposit and team fees paid for this season are non-refundable.** By completing and submitting this contract, if funds remain in my account that can cover the deposit, they will be used first (unless there is a different communicated agreement). If these funds are insufficient, the rest will need to be covered with a check. If we change our minds and decide not to honor our commitment to the team, I understand that this deposit will not be returned. I also understand that if we leave the team during the season, no fees already paid will be refunded.

\_\_\_\_\_ **2. If my child has been asked to fill in for another team, I will get approval from our team's head coach first.** I will also connect the coach of the other team with our team's head coach to finalize expectations prior to my son playing. Unless otherwise agreed, he will not pitch more than \_\_ innings in a tournament or \_\_ inning in a stand-alone game for another team. Ultimately, it will be my responsibility to make sure that these expectations are followed, and I will have him removed if the coach does not honor the restrictions.

\_\_\_\_\_ **3. I commit to making sure my child arrives to games and practices on time.** This means often arriving 15 minutes early so that my child has enough time to get situated prior to joining practice or pre-game preparations. If an unexpected event happens that will prevent timely arrival, I will make sure the coach is aware as soon as possible.

\_\_\_\_\_ **4. I will be sure that my child is properly equipped for/BEFORE practices and games.** This includes proper uniforms, gloves, bats, cleats, and bags. Uniform requirements will be posted.

\_\_\_\_\_ **5. I will be sure that my child is properly hydrated and fueled for/BEFORE practices and games.** My child will arrive with water and food, if necessary. If we have a morning game, my child will eat prior to the game. Barring back-to-back game, extenuating circumstances or diet, I will not bring food and water to the dugout during games.

\_\_\_\_\_ **6. I will show respect for the umpires.** They will often make the wrong call, but the job of the umpire is not an easy one. Voicing my displeasure will not improve the situation.

\_\_\_\_\_ **7. I will stay away from the dugout during games and practices.** My job as a parent is to cheer on the team. While not easy, I will let go and allow my child to perform, succeed, and fail.

\_\_\_\_\_ **8. I will refrain from coaching from the stands and allow coaches to coach.** I know that providing potentially conflicting messages during a game can be confusing to my child and my interactions may contribute negatively to his ability to focus. If there is something I believe my child needs to know, I will talk to him about that or work on that situation at another time. Whether he remembers these things during a game is not my responsibility. I will allow him to learn and fail.

\_\_\_\_\_ **9. I will be a role model for my child regarding good sportsmanship, teamwork, and self-worth.** These things start with the adults, and the players will behave accordingly. We will take pride in how we carry ourselves and treat others.

\_\_\_\_\_ **10. I am responsible for the behavior of my family members at games and practices.** Others may attend games to cheer on my child, and I will be sure that they also handle themselves according to these rules.

\_\_\_\_\_ **11. I will provide encouragement and support for my child.** My child needs to hear my positive encouragement throughout the game.

\_\_\_\_\_ **12. I will provide encouragement and support for all players on the team.** We're in this together!

\_\_\_\_\_ **13. I will respect the opposing team, coaches, and fans.** They are the same as us in many ways, but they wear different uniforms. Appreciation for their performance and respect for their abilities will contribute to a positive game environment.

\_\_\_\_\_ **14. I understand that winning is important to the team, but the primary objective is promoting an environment of growth and learning.** They will win. They will lose. They will make mistakes. Most important will be what they learn from success and failure.

\_\_\_\_\_ **15. I will get to know the team values and reinforce them with my child.** I will read through those expectations and provide reminders when not being met.

\_\_\_\_\_ **16. I will support the coach's message.** While I will not always agree with the coach, I also understand that contradicting that message is counterproductive.

\_\_\_\_\_ **17. I will help my child embrace his role, no matter what it is.** I may not agree with where my child hits or plays in the field, but it is important that I help my child embrace and master that role for the best possible experience.

\_\_\_\_\_ **18. I will help nurture a positive environment on and off the field.** I will do my best to keep a positive tone as I realize my reactions impact my child, other parents, and the team.

\_\_\_\_\_ **19. I will refrain from public complaints about coaching and other players with parents.** While I will not always agree with how the team is coached, I know these reactions do not help. Negativity is toxic.

\_\_\_\_\_ **20. If there are disagreements about how my child is used, I will have my child schedule a time to discuss this with coaches.** If after my child discusses his role with coaches there remain questions, I can schedule a time to discuss this with the coach.

\_\_\_\_\_ **21. I will not approach the coach about disagreements with his coaching, style, or philosophy during or after games.** See #20 regarding roles and playing time. If another issue, these things should be discussed via proper channels – in person or by phone. Text and email are not appropriate for sensitive issues.

\_\_\_\_\_ **22. I will offer my help as a volunteer to leverage my skills, where possible.** The success of this team relies on the contributions of volunteers, and I want to contribute whatever I can to help.

\_\_\_\_\_ **23. I will respect the challenges the coaches face and time commitment they make.** I know that coaching isn't easy. It's a significant contribution of time and energy, often with the side effect of stress.

\_\_\_\_\_ **24. I will make payments for team fees by the first of the month as scheduled, unless there's an agreed arrangement.** The team is not a bank, and several large payments are due on a scheduled basis for tournaments, uniforms, practice facilities, and more.

\_\_\_\_\_ **25. I will do everything within my control to make this a positive experience for my child, other players, families, and coaches.** I will do my part to contribute to this baseball family!

I will do my best to follow these rules. While I am not expected to be perfect and we will all have our weak moments, the main thing is that I will make a consistent effort to help nurture a positive environment for all.

I will not neglect nor ignore these rules. Depending on the severity and frequency of infractions, I understand that my actions may impact the standing of my child on this team. If my child is removed as a result of rules violations by him or my family, I understand that a refund of team fees will not be issued.

I understand these rules, and I will represent this team and my child well.

---

PARENT SIGNATURE

---

DATE