Official Team Rules

- 1. Players must attend all practices and games and be on time. If your player can't be at a practice or a game, please call the head coach. It is only fair that multiple practice absences will result in less playing time in games. If players don't attend practice it's difficult to refine baseball skills and accomplish team goals. Be at games no less than 30 minutes prior to game time so that the team may warm up together and prepare for the game. 45 minutes is preferable.
- 2. Players are required to try their absolute best at all practices and games, *no matter where or how much they play*. A desire to learn, good attitude and energetic participation is expected over laziness, lack of motivation and not listening to direction.
- 3. Parents and players must be respectful to all players, parents, family, coaches, umpires and other teams.
- 4. Only coaches instruct players. Do <u>not</u> yell things like '*Run!'*, 'Home!', 'Swing' or 'Second!' at the players. Do <u>not</u> instruct base runners or batters at the plate. These distractions are for less-disciplined teams and confuse players.
- 5. The amount of playing time during games, field position, pitching and batting order is determined solely at the discretion of the coaches. No position belongs to a player. The outfield is just as important as the infield and should be treated as such.
- 6. League play is considered practice for tournaments and is used by our team to refine skills. Do not treat it lightly. Equal playing time can be expected for all players during league games. During tournaments all players will play, however playing time will be distributed in such a way as to give the team the strongest opportunity to succeed and to continue competing in the tournament. Championship, semi-final and bracket-play games are always played to win. Players are encouraged to demonstrate their strengths and work on their weaknesses during league and practice. Coaches decide tournament playing time based upon previously demonstrated performance. If you want more game time in tournaments, don't ask for it take it with your constantly improving skills. Remember that with competitive baseball comes hard work, the need to perform and the constant challenge of maintaining your skills and position on the team. Normal team roster is 12 full-time players.
- 7. Trips to state, regional and World Series tournaments are the yearly goal of our team and usually occur in late June through the middle of July. Our team may pick up additional players for these events. Up to three additional players are usually permitted. These players are not taking your game time, they are strengthening your team. They are also likely to be evaluated as potential team additions, as their teams either did not qualify for these events or chose not to attend.
- 8. There will be no horseplay, fighting, cursing, spitting, throwing objects, swinging bats, climbing fences or running in the dugout. Proper behavior will also be observed on the field. While on the bench, players should be watching the baseball game, should know the number of outs/score/count and should encourage their teammates that are on the field.
- 9. Players that cry will be asked to leave the dugout. Players that throw bats, helmets, etc. will be asked to leave the game. Aggravated incidents may result in missing the next game. Repeated incidents will likely result in dismissal from the team.
- 10. Please do not disturb the team score keeper with repeated inquiries about the score. It is difficult enough to keep score, pitch counts, ensure players are batting in correct order, etc. without additional distractions.
- 11. Players are not permitted to bring toys, friends, food or open top drink cups into the dugout.
- 12. Pick up after yourself, your player and your family members at practices and games. We don't want to be known as slobs.
- 13. We play enough baseball that there is no need to risk an unnecessary injury or your spot on the team by playing with another ball club once you are a member of our team. Plan to stay with our team and our family once you join it. We play spring, summer and fall baseball and expect team members to make baseball their priority.
- 14. Do not let pets, siblings or other things cause distractions or come onto the practice or game field.
- 15. Have your child eat, use the restroom, tuck in their jersey, insert their protective cup, remove jewelry and tie their shoes before a game or practice. Players should wear cleats, baseball pants and ball caps to all practices. Players should keep hydrated and bring drinks with lids to all games and practices. Player equipment should be labeled for easy identification.
- 16. There will be no one in the dugout except coaches, players and any persons designated by the coach.
- 17. Get along with each other and keep your outbursts positive or keep them to yourselves. Please remember things people say can hurt others and cause hard feelings. Additionally, our children often hear and repeat things that are said, so keep your comments positive. Do not hurt or insult anyone in our team family, we are very protective of it.
- 18. Negative outbursts, rumors, gossip and hateful remarks will <u>not</u> be tolerated. If you have problems, concerns or suggestions, please approach a coach and we will do our best to address them. If there are repetitive problems in this area with parents, family members, invited guests or players, their player will be asked to leave the team no questions asked.
- 19. If you are in the presence of anyone that is gossiping or otherwise talking inappropriately, get up and leave. It is <u>not</u> enough for you to say, *"I wasn't the one saying it"*. Don't give them an audience or you are contributing to the negative behavior.
- 20. You will be ultimately responsible for the behavior of your extended family and invited friends at games and practices. Make sure they understand what sort of behavior is expected at team functions.
- 21. Fundraisers and corporate sponsorships are our primary source of income and keep parent and player costs to a minimum. All families are expected to equally contribute in their fundraising efforts or make up the monetary difference. All families can utilize existing relationships with corporate entities to seek sponsorship support for the team. Participation <u>above and beyond</u> the minimum is strongly encouraged as it permits the team to provide more things like parties, jerseys, additional tournaments, team equipment, tournament travel, professional training, etc.

Child signature	
Parent signature	
Printed names	

Date