



Arizona Baseball Club Player/ Parent Packet

“Teaching Character, Leadership, and Life Lessons
through the game of Baseball”

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MISSION & VISION

Mission Statement:

We are an organization that will focus on encouraging and educating young men in the sport of baseball and to foster development and growth in the athletic arena as well as character off the field.

Vision Statement:

Our aim is to create a structure which is easily broken down into repeatable steps and repeatable progressions so that the opportunity for success is greatly improved.



AZBC Baseball Philosophy:

I understand that as a AZBC Baseball Team, **we will be involved in competition, sport specific training, team-building events and a character & leadership development program. We will focus on the development of our young men & women from a physical, mental, emotional, & relational standpoint.**

I further understand and agree with the goals of AZBC Baseball Team, which are:

1. To provide systematic baseball instruction.
2. To workout, train, practice and compete with the productive attitudes, approaching the game with a passion to be the best at everything you do.
3. To facilitate an environment that teaches athletes how to work smart by developing a plan for success and working hard to implement that plan.
4. To provide a positive “team” experience, emphasizing the importance of unity, encouragement and teamwork.
5. To prepare players for high school and college Baseball programs.
6. To prepare the players and coaches for life both on & off the field by: • Emphasizing character & leadership development. • Using game experiences to teach life principles. • Teaching athletes how to be positive role models. • Helping the athletes along their journey to adulthood.
7. To facilitate an environment where the families learn and grow with the athletes.
8. To provide opportunities for the athletes and coaches to reach out to the community.

In order for our team to fulfill the goals stated above, I hereby commit myself to:

- A. Maintaining a teachable spirit and flexible attitude...to be a listener and learner.
- B. Willingly follow the leadership entrusted with the responsibility of managing, coaching, instructing and developing this team, by following the policies and goals stated in the AZBC Code of Character and Conduct.
- C. Paying the entire amount of my share of the team expenses and helping to the best of my ability with fundraising if necessary.
- D. Making my life available for growth through whatever demands and opportunities this team may bring. I am committed to growing in my Baseball abilities, personal character and skills for living.

PLAYER CHARACTER AND PROPER CONDUCT

- Actions speak louder than words!
- HUSTLE at all times during games and practice.
- Work Hard! Put forth 100% effort all of the time. Do your “work” with all your heart, strength and mind. Practice Makes Permanent. Preparation Produces Results!
- Stay Focused! Keep your head in the game. Pay attention during practice and games.
- Have Fun! Enjoy the process. Keep a sense of humor, but know when to be serious. Remember, Baseball is a game!
- Take pride in how you play the game, how you approach the game, how you wear your uniform, etc. Have “Class” in all that you do! Play sharp, look sharp, be organized, be neat and clean.
- You’ve got to have Heart, Desire, Drive, Motivation, Dedication, and Intensity.
- Play the game with Energy & Quickness. Have a little “spring & bounce” to your game.
- Be Confident, not cocky. Remember, pride comes before the fall. There is much strength in humility!
- Be a Positive Role Model and Example. Remember, others are looking at you, so influence them in a positive way. Some of the greatest impact AZBC teams will have is in the area of their conduct both on and off the sports field.
- Use Proper Communication both on and off the field. Develop communication skills whenever you can.
- Be Respectful of: Umpires, Coaches, Teammates, Opposing Team Members, Parents and the game itself.
- You must agree to Submit Willingly and Cheerfully to the Leadership of this Team, even when you do not agree with their decisions.
- Overcome Adversity! Deal with the circumstances you are dealt. Develop the courage to persevere. Never give up or quit.
- Demonstrate Self Control! Strive to improve on this in the heat of competition. If you disagree with the officiating, or make an error or strikeout...pray for self-control! There are certain things you cannot control, however, you can control your effort, attitude & behavior! SMILE, work hard and compete with the proper intensity.
- Don’t complain about anything! Your strong reaction to something could offend someone. Be sensitive to others’ feelings. Keep your remarks to yourself regarding such things as: – Umpire calls – The weather – Field & facility conditions – Coaches decisions – Game circumstances - Opposing team members – Teammates
- If you have a complaint or problem with someone, go to that person directly and work it out.
- Be Positive...not negative, critical or judgmental.
- Be a Team Player...not an Individual.
- Focus on stats for the good of the team, not yourself. Do what it takes for your team to win, not to boost your own stats and ego.
- You will be Expected to Participate with your AZBC Baseball team as much as possible during all sports and non-sports functions, including special team-building events, team meetings and socials...unless approved by your team leadership.
- ENCOURAGE your teammates and your opponents.
- Expect Errors, Mistakes & Failure, but don’t be satisfied with it – strive for perfection and excellence. Remember baseball and life are difficult “games” to master. It’s a process and nobody is perfect. Extend yourself some grace in failure; don’t let it get you down or discouraged. Get right back up and be ready to go after the next one, competitively and with the proper intensity!

- Try to reduce the amount of “physical” errors during a game and set a goal to make even fewer “mental” errors. This is a good goal for life, too!
- Seek to improve as a player and person. Be a Learner! Try to learn something every day, in every game, at every practice session and in every circumstance – win or lose...good or bad...easy or difficult.
- Demonstrate Class at the end of a game in both victory and defeat...shake hands, look the opposing team members in their eyes, and keep your head up high because of the effort you put forth.
- Safety needs to be a top priority:
- For your personal protection, if at all possible, make an effort to be with at least one other teammate when you go to the concession stand, restroom, or just walking around a sports complex (use “The Buddy System” for young teams).
- All injuries, illnesses and emergencies must be reported IMMEDIATELY to the coaching staff.
- Stay alert, use common sense, and make good decisions and choices.

INAPPROPRIATE CONDUCT

The following behaviors will not be tolerated; disciplinary action will be taken:

- Attitude problems.
- Back-Talking a coach or parent.
- Crude, profane or vulgar language.
- Throwing of equipment in a display of anger or frustration; outward expressions or demonstrations of anger or frustration.
- Outward displays of displeasure with the officials. Questioning umpires in a clearly visible and inappropriate manner (verbal & non-verbal).
- Trash-talking and outward acts of pride directed towards the opposing team.
- Critical, judgmental, or negative talk directed toward teammates.
- Leaving the dugout or bench area. (Remain in the dugout or in the bench area during games, unless there is an emergency or you receive permission from one of the coaches).
- Horseplay, messing around or silly antics.
- Use of tobacco products.
- Consumption of alcohol and/or drugs.

Consequences for the above actions and attitudes include:

- Sent home early from practice.
- Not permitted to participate in a drill or practice station (i.e. batting practice, infield workout, etc.).
- Some form of extra physical fitness exercise (i.e. running foul poles, push-ups, etc.).
- Removal from a game.
- Suspended from playing in up-coming games.
- Removal from the competition site.

These policies regarding character & conduct on a AZBC Baseball team have been established for your protection, well-being, and character/leadership development. In light of these principles, the final decision regarding any issue resides with your team leadership. The coaching staff's decision is final. AZBC Baseball Team Members who willfully and repeatedly disregard these policies and the leadership of the team may be temporarily suspended from games and other team activities or dismissed from the team. These decisions are at the discretion of the AZBC Baseball leadership Team. If you are dismissed from the team for a Code of Character and Conduct violation, you will be responsible for any additional costs, and NO refunds will be given.

TEAM FINANCES AND FUNDRAISING

- AZBC is a non-profit organization 501(c)(3). This means that companies and individuals can donate to our organization and also receive a tax write off as a result. We ask that all donations are accompanied by a AZBC DONATION SLIP so we can properly apply the donation credit to the referring party.
- There's an annual fee for each team in the AZBC, This money is used to pay for equipment, practice facilities, tournaments and staff. Each team and age level will have a different fee which will be explained directly by your head coach. This can be paid as a monthly fee or you can receive a discount if you yearly balance is paid in full at the time of invoice.
- No player will be allowed to participate in any games or practices if financial commitment is not paid according to the payment schedule established and set forth.
- If the player or parent decides to leave the team and/or no longer participate in games and/or practices for any reason, including but not limited to: injury, moving, lack of playing time, travel, discontent with coaching or instruction, amount of travel, or position/s being played, you are still liable for the entire tuition and no refunds will be given.
- If any payment made by personal check to the AZBC is returned for lack of funds, the player will be immediately declared ineligible to play in any game or practice in that season or any subsequent season until the player's account is paid up to date (in full) plus any bank fees accumulated.
- The AZBC have two fundraising categories. One is team/individual fundraising in which all monies raised (above & beyond expenses) are used to reduce/subsidize each player's tuition. It is your choice (on most of these type fundraisers) whether or not you want to participate. The second is an organizational/club fundraiser (ie. Pancake breakfast, etc.) in which every player must participate in. Proceeds raised on these events will get distributed amongst all teams to help subsidize games/tournaments that require overnight travel expenses (ie. Regional & National Tournaments, etc.). Every player is required to raise a certain amount according to that specific club fundraiser. Failure to participate in club fundraisers will result in each player being charged the amount they were responsible to raise for that fundraising event. Credit card processing will occur if arrangements are not made for payment because of lack of fundraising.

PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT & SUPPORT

The following policies regarding the conduct of AZBC parents are being established in support of the Player Code of Character & Conduct. We need parental support and participation as we seek to develop quality young men from boys through the game of Baseball. In consideration for your support of this Parent Code of Conduct, you can expect the coaching staff to abide by AZBC Baseball coaching policies and team philosophy. Some of these players will soon be in a position to try out for high school baseball teams, or they are hoping to play in college somewhere. They need to understand that playing time, positions played, athletic ability, effort, attitude, development and discipline are all key ingredients in how the coaching staff will determine the roster prior to, and during, any game.

- Be supportive of, and reinforce all elements of the player Code of Character and Conduct on and off the field.
- Don't complain about things! You would be surprised as to what trickles down from you to your child. – Umpire calls – The weather – Field & facility conditions – Coaches' decisions – Game circumstances – Coaches on opposing teams – Playing time
- If you have a complaint or problem with anyone on the coaching staff of this team, go to that person directly at the times specified by the coach in the beginning of the season and work it out. Do not let things build up.
- Please let the coaches instruct, position players, and handle the running of the game. Many times we use signals to set up defensive situations or possible plays, so we don't necessarily want to broadcast where we've positioned players.

INAPPROPRIATE CONDUCT

The following behaviors will not be tolerated:

- Allowing a player to leave the dugout or bench to sit with you (except in emergency situations). Send him back to the dugout. Be sure to provide her with ample fluids and snacks to sustain her throughout the game.
- Questioning playing time. Get used to this. High School coaches are not receptive to parent interference in the running of their teams.
- Use of crude, profane or vulgar language. • Outward displays of displeasure with the officials. • Consumption of alcohol and/or drugs.
- Critical, judgmental, or negative talk directed toward teammates and opposing team members.

Consequences for the above actions

Most often, you will be asked by the head coach to stop the inappropriate behavior. In some cases, particularly if you have offended an official or disrespected a coach, you will be requested to leave the field area. If you do not cease from the behavior or refuse to leave the field area when asked, your son may be pulled out of a game, temporarily suspended from participating in future games and other team activities, or possibly even dismissed from the team. These decisions are at the discretion of the AZBC Leadership Team. If you are dismissed from the team for a Parent Code of Conduct violation, you will be responsible for any additional costs, and NO refunds will be given.