

## Mission Statement | Goals

### WE ARE A TEAM FIRST ORGANIZATION

Our goal is to provide our players and parents a great baseball experience with a professional feel and environment. This is only feasible with the cooperation from our parents who must first put their trust into our organization and our developmental philosophies.

#### **Mission Statement**

Our mission within our baseball organization is to provide players the opportunity to not only succeed on the field but more importantly help them build character traits that will be essential in being successful in life. We hope to help our players understand the value of earning their opportunities.

#### **Philosophy**

Fear is the biggest obstacle in the game today. Parents, our players need your support not your critiques. Allow them to play without fear, give them the space they need. We feel it is vital to develop a great work ethic. As an organization we are constantly looking for ways to help everyone achieve this goal.

We need our parents/fans to applaud and be supportive of each other's accomplishments.

We respect the game of baseball

We win with class and lose with class. Our goal is to provide a "no nonsense" approach for our ball players. We need to keep eliminating the following distractions from parents, coaches or players that include: Player or parent bullying, Delinquency/no communication, coaching from the stands, negative social media, throwing equipment, and ego's.

#### **League Ball**

At our 12u and below levels, we do not discourage anyone from playing with their local league. Please keep in mind, it will be difficult to get better as a team if players are not attending our practice during the regular season. Committing to play in our organization means you're committing to practice

#### **Pitching Philosophy**

Our overall goal is not to win championships at a young level, but to teach our players how to play the game the best way possible with respect and good character. We will not over use a player to pitch. We will have certain pitchers on each team that will throw more than others, but still follow pitch counts and pitching policies that are in the best interest of each player.

The best way for our catchers and pitchers to develop into proactive thinking baseball players is to call their own game. Using this method, our pitchers and catchers will make mistakes and make wrong pitch calls and pitch selections. This is perfectly normal and will be accepted. We will educate our pitchers and catchers as best we can, on how to call correct pitches in certain situations.

We are very mindful of arm health and pitch counts. If a pitcher throws less than 30 pitches in an outing, that pitcher will be available to pitch the following day, if agreed upon by the parents and the player.

### **Fundraising**

Listed below is fundraisers we setup for our players and teams to help cover expenses. Most all of our players use these fundraisers to pay for the majority if not all of the fees.

#### **-Pork Loin Fundraiser**

Half pork loins sold at \$25 per. Each pork loin sold will yield a \$13 profit

#### **-Raffle drawing**

We will raffle a chance at: Cash, Side-by-side, Golf Cart or Lawn Mower.

**Please note- The only fundraiser required is the raffle. Each player is required to buy/sell at least 10 tickets at \$20 per ticket**

Each ticket will be sold for \$20 per ticket. Credit from raffle tickets sold range between \$15 and \$18. This amount is decided by the amount of tickets each team has sold. Divide the organizational amount of tickets sold by the amount of tickets each team has sold. This will leave us with a percentage we can use to find credit for each ticket. Example, 12u sells 100 out of 1000 tickets sold = 10% of total tickets sold. Making the 12u club responsible for 10% of the cost of the prize. 10% comes out of each ticket, resulting in each ticket yielding \$18 for credit towards a players balance.

#### **-Gun Raffle**

This is one is self explanatory. The best fundraiser we have. It works like the Raffle Drawing listed above except there is no requirement to sell tickets. Players are able to sell as many tickets as they'd like!

#### **-Team banners**

Each individual team will be given the opportunity to sell advertising space on a traveling banner, as well as a banner that will hang inside of Britton's Bullpen. Each space will sell at \$150.

Sponsors will have the opportunity to purchase an entire banner for \$500 Business names, family names and memorials will be allowed on each banner.

It will be mandatory that each team hang the traveling banners at each event/tournament/ball game.

Banner sales yield 100% profit. 3 logos per banner = \$450 credit towards a players balance

#### **-Laundry Detergent**

Each individual team will be given the opportunity to sell laundry detergent. 50% of the total detergent sales will go towards the individual fundraising share obligation. Example... Player sells \$1,000 of detergent, \$500 of the \$1,000 is credited towards that players balance.

#### **-Pizza Fundraiser**

Players will be given the opportunity to sell Joe's Frozen Pizzas.

Player profits: Cheese \$2.50, Pepperoni \$4.50, all other pizzas \$5.50

-Candle Fundraiser

Players will be given an opportunity to sell candles this year. This is a new option this year and will have more details as we move forward.

-We are also open to new fundraising ideas. If you have a suggestion please let us know and we will look into it!

### **ORGANIZATIONAL FEE**

Once uniforms are ordered for a player the Organizational Fee is non-refundable

8u | \$400

9u | \$500

10u | \$600

11u-12u | \$700

13u-14u | \$800 (14u high school team starting in June is \$600)

15u-17u | \$700

Leadership with over 18+ years in professional baseball and instruction. An indoor facility outfitted with top of the line equipment to practice indoors during the cold months and when weather restricts us from being outdoors.

Free family membership is included to our indoor facilities including Boonville and Fort Branch Indiana locations

Tangible items included in this fee: Pinstripe top, Pinstripe bottom, Saturday Alternate, Hat, Helmet, Practice top

### **TEAM FEE PER PLAYER:**

Add \$150 for non-parent managers. Ex:\$350 + \$150 for a non parent manager = \$500 team fee

8u — \$450

9u — \$500

10u — \$500

11u — \$500

12u — \$500

13u — \$700

14u — \$700

15u — \$800

16u — \$800

17u — \$800

18u — \$800

Team fee money will go towards the following expenses: Fundraising, Raffle expense, Banner expense, Alternate jersey (optional), Tournament fees, Double headers or games (umpires), Field rental fees, Team baseballs and bats (optional), Pullovers, warm-ups, bags, Indoor practices, Line

up cards, Team meals, Field improvements, Approved team functions, Non-parent coaching stipend.

**TOTAL COST (Org. Fee + Team Fee)**

- 8u — \$850 (**\$1000** with non-parent manager)
- 9u — \$1000 (**\$1150** with a non-parent manager)
- 10u — \$1100 (**\$1250** with a non-parent manager)
- 11u — \$1200 (**\$1350** with a non-parent manager)
- 12u — \$1200 (**\$1350** with a non-parent manager)
- 13u — \$1500 (**\$1650** with a non-parent manager)
- 14u — \$1400 (**\$1650** with a non-parent manager)
- 15u — \$1500 (**\$1650** with a non-parent manager)
- 16u — \$1500 (**\$1650** with a non-parent manager)
- 17u — \$1500 (**\$1650** with a non-parent manager)
- 18u — \$1500 (**\$1650** with a non-parent manager)

**Payment Options for those who do not fundraise**

Online invoicing via Teamsnap app payable with a credit card.

Fundraisers are set up to help cover expenses. Balance is due by December 1 unless other arrangements have been made.

A discount of \$100 per sibling will be offered if multiple siblings are playing within the organization.

**Please note- Players are responsible for their own fee's. We provide fundraisers for our players to help pay their balance. Any remaining balance after fundraising has concluded will be due by Dec. 1st.**

**Tournament Locations**

Our goal at the 12u level and below is to play the majority of our ball games within a 70 mile radius. We feel it is important for our 12u and below clubs to play in 1-2 over night tournaments per year.

—The 8u-12u season goal is to finish by the first week of June, playing within a 70 mile radius

—The 13u and 14u season goal is to finish by the middle of June, playing within a 100 mile radius

—The 15u-18u showcase schedule will finish by mid July, traveling within a 150 mile radius, playing in college stadiums and campuses. Bloomington IL, Carbondale IL, Champaign IL, O'Fallon IL, Decatur IL, and others in the Central IL area. Diamond Sports Promotions has been great to work with and helps promote our ball players. This has been a great resource for us.

**Breakdown of team expenses**

**8U - 11 man roster**

1 fall tourney

3-4 spring/summer tourneys or 12-15 games

*Season Cost Breakdown*

4-5 tourneys @ \$400 per = \$2,000  
Insurance = \$200  
10 indoor practices @ \$100 per = \$1,000  
Player gear package \$250 x 11 players = \$2,750  
Misc Team Expenses = \$500  
Projected team total expenses = \$6,450

**9U - 11 man roster**

1 fall tourney  
3-4 spring tourneys or 12-15 games  
*Season Cost Breakdown*  
4-5 tourneys @ \$600 per = \$3,000  
Insurance = \$200  
10 indoor practices @ \$100 per = \$1,000  
Player gear package x 11 players = \$2,750  
Misc Team Expenses = \$500  
Projected team total expenses = \$7,450

**10U - 12 man roster**

1-2 fall tourneys  
3-4 spring tourneys or 15-20 games  
*Season Cost Breakdown*  
5-6 tourneys @ \$600 per = \$3,600  
Insurance = \$200  
10 indoor practices @ \$100 per = \$1,000  
Player gear package \$250 x 12 players = \$3,000  
Misc. Team Expenses = \$500  
Projected team total expenses = \$8,300

**11U - 12 man roster**

1-2 fall tourneys  
3-4 spring tourneys or 15-20 games  
*Season Cost Breakdown*  
5-6 tourneys @ \$600 per = \$3,600  
Insurance = \$200  
10 indoor practices @ \$100 per = \$1,000  
Player gear package \$250 x 12 players = \$3,000  
Misc Team Expenses = \$500  
Projected team total expenses = \$8,300

**12U - 12 man roster**

1-2 fall tourneys  
3-4 spring tourneys or 15-20 games  
*Season Cost Breakdown*  
5-6 tourneys @ \$600 per = \$3,600

Insurance = \$200  
10 indoor practices @ \$100 per = \$1,000  
Player gear package \$250 x 12 players = \$3,000  
Misc Team Expenses = \$500  
Projected team total expenses = \$8,300

### **13U - 13 man roster**

1-2 fall tourneys  
4-5 spring tourneys or 20-25 games  
*Season Cost Breakdown*  
6-7 tourneys @ \$600 per = \$4,200  
Insurance = \$200  
10 indoor practices @ \$100 per = \$1,000  
Player gear package \$250 x 13 players = \$3,250  
Misc Team Expenses = \$500  
Projected team total expenses = \$8,950

### **14U - 13 man roster (8th grade team)**

1-2 fall tourneys  
4-5 spring tourneys or 20-25 games  
*Season Cost Breakdown*  
6-7 tourneys @ \$600 per = \$4,200  
Insurance = \$200  
10 indoor practices @ \$100 per = \$1,000  
Player gear package \$250 x 13 players = \$3,250  
Misc Team Expenses = \$500  
Projected team total expenses = \$8,950

### **15U-18U up to a 14 man roster**

1 fall tourney  
3-4 summer tourneys 15-20 games  
*Season Cost Breakdown*  
5 tourneys @ \$1,200 per = \$6,000  
Insurance = \$200  
10 indoor practices @ \$100 per = \$1,000  
Player gear package \$250 x 14 players = \$3,500  
Misc Team Expenses = \$500  
Projected team total expenses = \$11,200

Tournament/Game cancellations due to inclement weather or not having enough players is something we cannot control. We will do our best to make-up scheduled games but we cannot guarantee it.

### **Parent Code of Conduct**

Any questions or situations must first be addressed or communicated by the player with the manager of the team. The team's manager will handle all issues or situations for each team and report each issue to the management team as needed. We will absolutely not entertain any type of

dramatic issues that are a distraction from our overall goals. We will not tolerate any parents, fans, or players yelling or screaming at teammates, umpires, players from another team, coaches of another team, or fans of another team. Doing so may result in a suspension or a termination from the team. Playing with class is one of our main priorities, and if our players or parents act in a disrespectful, classless way at the ballpark, appropriate actions will be taken. We may ask a fan to leave the seating area if a fan become a distraction. Our goal is to set up an environment for each player to succeed and gain more knowledge of the game with good sportsmanship and character. Outside distractions will hinder the development of our players and will not be tolerated. The manager of each team will have the authority to ask a parent to leave the seating area if he/she feels it is in the best interest of the team.

### **Playing Time**

Only the players will be able to communicate their playing time concerns with the manager. This will not result in more playing time immediately, but will give our players an opportunity to learn what they can do to help the team and better themselves. We do not guarantee equal playing time. We do our best to play everyone as much as we can but certain players will play more than other players at certain times.

### **Social Media**

Any negative comments, pictures or gestures referring to the Southern Smoke Baseball Organization, tournament hosts/directors, other teams or players will be grounds for immediate removal from our club.

### **Hotel**

Any issues with the hotel staff needs to be reported to the manager as soon as possible, it is not the parent's responsibility to take care of team issues at the hotel. The manager will resolve the issue.

Parents and players will not be allowed to use hotel property for other uses than what that object is intended for.

Player curfew is to be determined by the manager

Everyone who is checked into the hotel will be responsible

for the actions of their own children. Respect other residents at the hotel. Parents will be asked to leave the lobby of the hotel by

11:00p unless directed otherwise.

We need to keep our alcohol poured into cup. We can't have beer cans and trash laying around the lobby of the hotel and seating area.

### **Ballpark**

Any issues at the ballpark involving the host of the tournament will need to be reported to the manager of each team. It is not a parents responsibility to take care of issues involving tournament directors or tournament hosts.

Never enter the dugout or playing field for any reason, this includes player siblings. Understand that players are not allowed to leave the dugout during the game.

Players take care of their drinks and snacks before the game starts. This will avoid the parent/player distraction during the ball game

Never coach or call pitches from the stands.

Players need to take care of their drinks and snacks before the game starts vs. having their parents bring them to the dugout during the game. This is a standard at every level of baseball high school and above, keeping parents at a distance and players focused on the game.

### **Umpires**

Our manager will be the only individual to communicate with umpires, regardless of the situation. We cannot have parents yelling, screaming or making sarcastic remarks to umpires. This is selfish and hurts our ball club.

We teach our players to ask and know each umpires individual name. We ask our players to try to build relationships with umpires and communicate well with them. The manager will take care of any concerns with umpires as needed.

If an umpire communicates with a manager about a fan being disrespectful, you will be asked to leave immediately.

### **Opposing Players**

We will not tolerate any of our fan(s) taunting, jeering, yelling or screaming at other players, regardless of the situation.

We encourage our fans to applaud great plays made by opposing teams as well.

If there are opposing players disrespecting our team's property, or our players, report it to our manager of the team and proper action will be taken. It is not our parents responsibility to address opposing team issues.

### **Our Players**

We encourage our parents to help remind our players of our code of conduct and dress code when we are together as a group. Our code of conduct and dress code policy is only as good as our parental support. As a staff, we are not able to see everything that happens good and bad, but with the help of our parents (and the ultimate goal being to help build good character and develop great work ethics); it is common sense to work together as a group to help each other out when needed.

### **Disciplinary Action**

Our overall goal is to go out and play good baseball and enjoy the summer. Respect the game, our organization and how we do business or we both go our separate ways.

### **Player Code of Conduct**

Our players will be held accountable for their actions. Our player code of conduct only works if our parents help enforce and demonstrate respect of it.

We will teach our players to respect each other on and off the field.

### **Hotel/Travel Dress Code**

Players will be required to wear collared shirts and closed toed shoes to all team functions unless a staff member directs them otherwise. No athletic shorts can be worn with collared shirts.

Examples of places that our dress code must be followed but not limited too: When a player enters or exits the hotel (players will change into a uniform in the dugout or in their vehicle).

Any time we go out to eat in a public place before or after a game.

Any team function unless otherwise directed.

Shirts and shoes will be required at all times when entering and leaving the swimming pool area.

### **Dugout behavior**

Players are to not leave the dugout during a game. Distractions in the dugout will result in limited playing time and disciplinary action.

### **Running Late**

We know players will be late for practice and even games. We will not penalize players for showing up late as long as the player, not the parent, has communicated with the coach they will be late and what time they will be arriving. When a player is late, the player will need to hustle and catch up with a run/stretch/throw. If a player is habitually late, this could effect playing time as it will eventually effect team chemistry.

### **Practice Attire**

Each player will be required to wear grey pants and our team workout jersey unless notified otherwise.

### **Parent and Group Participation**

We will need parent participation and volunteering to help meet our overall goals for the season.

Listed are a few scenarios in which we will ask parents to help but are not limited to:

Traveling with banners and making sure they get hung at games & removed, field work, transporting teammates, housing players during weekend tournaments, working fundraisers, keeping a scorebook and organizing between-game meals for our players.

PLAY BALL!