

New Coach's / Old Coach's

What to expect?

Every coach must fill out a **coach's application**. A back ground check will be conducted on each coach.

The next step is, to conduct a **draft**? This is a process that we go through every year for every sport. It is a process to try and split each team up as equally as possible. We send each child through a couple of drills to evaluate their skill level. Then all the head coaches will go into a closed door meeting to divide the teams up.

Practice Schedule Each team will receive a practice schedule. It is the job of the head coach to make sure everyone on his roster is called or emailed and aware of their practice date, time and location, as well as let them know your name, team name and your phone number.

Communication is your best friend when coaching. Parents never complain when they are well informed of games or practices.

We provide each team with catcher's **equipment** and one dozen baseballs. Please inform all of your parents that each child must have their own batting helmet and glove. Bats (used) can be provided if needed. It is highly recommended that each male player (7 & above) wear a protective cup during practices and games.

Uniforms (shirts and hats) are provided by WPRD. Gray pants are required for all the boys. Girls will wear either gray or black pants.

Have a **parent meeting** at your first practice. Make the meeting before your first practice and keep it brief. Introduce yourself, lay out your standards, hand out your practice schedule and most of all don't promise anything that you can't keep. Make sure you give your parents a way to communicate with you, either cell phone or email. Always keep your line of communication open to your parents. Once you get your game schedule, go ahead and assign your parents to a drink and snack list. It is also best to go ahead and discuss trophies. It is the responsibility of each coach or team to order their own trophies, if they want them.

Be organized at your **practices**. Have a plan and stick to it. The best thing to do is utilize your assistant coaches. Kids get bored at practices when they are standing in lines. So, keep them busy. Have a backup plan for your practice. If you see that your core players are missing, go back to the fundamentals. The last thing you want to do is give a parent or player false hope that they will play a key position. Each practice is 90 minutes long. Please try and stick to the 90 minutes. Make sure all kids are picked up after practice before you leave. The last 10 minutes of your practice is the best time to play a game and have some fun. Even if the practice was tough, a game that was fun in the last 10 minutes is what will keep them happy and looking forward to the next practice.

Game day Come to the field early and prepared. Have a time set for your parents to have their child at the field. Make sure you have all of your catchers gear. It is a good idea to check your gear after every game. If something is broken you have some time to get it fixed or ask us to replace it. You will be asked to turn in a line-up card 15 minutes prior to game time. In all our leagues we bat a continuous line-up. Which means you put everyone present in the line-up. When it comes to defense, you are able to change them up each inning without reporting the change. The only one we keep up with, is the pitcher, for 9 and above. To keep you out of the hot seat, we recommend that a child never sits consecutive innings. I will try my best to only put 12 or less players on each team. It is so easy to lose your cool on the ball field. It happens to the best of us. Remember that you have little players watching your every move. Also, please keep in mind that the officials are human and are trying their best to make the right call. I can promise you, an official will not change their mind when you try and show them up over a call. They are approachable, but only when you do it in a proper manner.

End of Season Most teams will have a small end of season gathering after the last game. It is best to try and discuss this early with your parents or assistant coaches. It is all up to you as the coach.

Examples:

Reserve the picnic shelter (free) after your last game for a party.

Go to a restaurant for your party.

Have it right after your last game.

Some, have access to swimming pools and do a pool party.

Reserve a room at the Community Center (free) and have a pizza party.

All-Stars Kids that are 7 and above have the opportunity to be picked for the Wendell All-Star team. Here is the process that coaches will go through:

1. Nominate as many players from their own team.
2. Attend the all-star meeting and talk about the players that you nominated.
3. Then you vote on your top 9 players and the all-star coach will break the tie if there is a tie. The all-star coach also, gets 2 coach's picks to complete the 11 man roster for the team. If we are picking 2 teams in the same age group, we would do the process again for the second team.
4. There will be a practice schedule for the all-star team.
5. They usually have 2 tournaments to play in and sometimes more.
6. The all-star uniforms are each team's responsibility – shirt and hat. Each team will wear gray pants for the boys. Girls will wear either gray or black pants.
7. The tournaments are in July.

I get the best compliments on coaches that communicate with their team. Some parents need you to be blunt about their child. No matter what, keep the lines of communication always open.

For a free website for your team visit: www.stadiumroar.com.