



TYLER SPARTANS' GUIDELINES – PARENTS

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- Concerns will not be addressed unless sent via email (admin@tylerspartans.com) **24 HOURS AFTER THE LAST GAME OF THE TOURNAMENT**. Do not call or text coaches with issues you may have with the team. **Do not approach any coach at games/tournaments with team issues, all coaches have been instructed to not have a discussion with you at the tournament and to set up a phone call during the week.** Players **SHOULD** approach coaches at any time if they have questions about their playing time and/or position. Please teach your players how to have this conversation with a coach, we will explain everything in detail and provide a further explanation through email if needed. Playing time, positions, and/or how you think we should run the team WILL NOT be discussed with parents. We will however randomly select a few parents from each team at the end of the season to provide anonymous feedback that we take into consideration.
- If the current tournament fee is not paid before the start of the first game, the player will be benched until payment is received. It is your responsibility to log into the TeamSnap App to verify your tournament invoice is paid before the start of the tournament. We understand there are times when the e-mailed invoice may not be received. **ALL FAMILIES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR TOURNAMENT FEES REGARDLESS OF INJURY OR ABSENCE! YES, EVEN IF YOU ARE ON VACATION. WE SPREAD OUT THE TOURNAMENT COST AMONG ALL PLAYERS TO KEEP THE PRICE DOWN FOR EVERYONE.** (Depending on the severity & length of a player's injury you may not be invoiced; case-by-case basis.)
- Players will be benched if team dues are not paid by the TeamSnap Registration due date. If payment isn't received **5 days** after the due date, they cannot practice/play with the team. If payment isn't received **10 days** after the due date, the player will be removed from the roster. (Let us know ahead of time if you need financial assistance or an extension on dues and we will accommodate the best we can.)
- No gossip, drama, rude comments, accusations, slander, griping, yelling, or fighting amongst team parents, coaches, umpires, and/or tournament directors is tolerated. Please use social media responsibly. Represent the organization in a positive manner.
- No coaching from the stands. Please be careful how you say things around our team parents & players, no one is trying to make an error or mistake on the field. Other teams' coaches & fans, scouts, and tournament directors in attendance may have connections to help your player, do not ruin any opportunities for your child. Any such gestures or ejections from the tournament may result in loss of playing time for your player, suspension, or removal from the team roster.



- If you decide to leave the team, please do so in a respectful manner and communicate via email. We understand not every organization is going to fit your needs and it is impossible to make everyone happy. If you choose to leave, no refunds will be given for the current month, a refund may or may not be issued for future months if you have paid in advance.

COMMUNICATION

- **PARENT-COACH COMMUNICATION FIRST.** Player BAND groups will be created for teams 13U & up. Players are not required to join. Youth BAND groups will be used for posts ONLY, not group chats. High school BANDS will be allowed to have 1 group chat in BAND, players will lose the group chat privilege if it is not kept appropriate.
- Youth Players: Players should not text message coaches unless a parent is included in the text group. Players should use BAND/email to ask a coach a baseball related question or communicate, with parent's permission. Players should not communicate with coaches on social media, PS5, X-Box, mobile games, etc. For your player's safety/protection, you should always be monitoring your player's social media, messaging, friend groups, etc.
- High School Players: Players should communicate with their coaches via BAND, text as a last option for baseball related communications or emergencies with parent permission. Players should not message coaches/staff on social media, or add coaches/staff on PS5, X-Box, mobile games, etc. High school parents, you should also be monitoring your player's social media, messaging, friend groups, etc.
- Your coaches work full-time during the day, are in college, and have other obligations. Please give your coaches time to respond to texts/calls/emails. The Band App or team admin inbox is the best way to reach us. You can text/call us for lessons, or other private & urgent matters.

PRACTICE

- We expect all players to make practices as much as possible. Players and/or parents should communicate directly with the head coach of their team at the earliest opportunity if they are going to miss practice or a game. Significant time is invested by coaches in making practice and game plans. If one player/parent does not communicate it can cause an adjustment to either of these, which ultimately affects the team.
- If your area is experiencing inclement weather, please stay home. We don't want your family involved in an accident trying to get to baseball practice. Generally, if schools are closed, we will cancel practices as well.
- Optional practices are optional, it is NOT a test to see who will show up. You can, but you do not have to check in with us to let us know you will not be there.



GAMES

- **Please do your best to schedule family vacations outside of the spring/summer season.** We do our best to keep roster numbers low, but we will increase roster size to deal with absences and injuries, so we do not have to cancel tournaments or find guest players. Send all planned vacations and absences at the beginning of each season to admin@tylerspartans.com so we can plan for the tournament. Also, communicate with us as soon as possible if you have any other unplanned absences/emergencies that come up.
- **In game dugout visits will result in a loss of playing time for your child (Injuries/emergencies only).** Get all drinks and/or snacks to the players before they enter the dugout, or before the game of a double-header. Players should advise the coaching staff if they need anything outside of the dugout. **PLEASE STAY OFF THE FIELD AT PRACTICES & GAMES.**
- Team huddles/meetings before & after games will be for the players only, please keep your distance and let extended family/friends know as well.
- Do not bring any GameChanger complaints to anyone about hits, errors, or how something may have been scored. No one looks at the full team stats besides the coaching staff and we do not make every coaching decision based on numbers.

HOTELS & TRAVEL

- Parents can set up team hotels amongst each other, the coaching staff will usually be staying at a separate/central location if multiple teams are playing across the area.
- If a tournament host requires a team block of rooms to play in their tournament, i.e. "Stay-To-Play", we will coordinate with the tournament travel agency and provide with you the hotel link to book your rooms. If there is an extra tournament fee to remove the "Stay-To-Play" requirement, we will likely always choose this option so you have the freedom to drive back and forth or stay where you would like.
- Players riding with a coach should be last/emergency option, please coordinate with someone on the team before asking the coach for rides to and from practices and games.

PITCH COUNTS

- Players' pitch counts for the weekend will be monitored; you do have the right to approach a coach mid-game if we miss our pitch-count limit for your player. Players will follow tournament guidelines for rest days. These are guidelines, every pitcher's physical maturity & stamina are different and come into play when making decisions. We will prioritize safety over winning.
 - 11U/12U - 75 pitches per game
 - 13U/14U - 85 pitches per game



- 15U/16U - 95 pitches per game
- 17U-18U - 105 pitches per game, or at parent's discretion. (We will never exceed 120 pitches in a game)

GUEST PLAYERS

- Players **CAN** guest play on our off weekends if they are playing up a level and/or age group with a notable program. High school players can guest play on our off weekends on teams the same age or higher, must be a notable program **AND** major event.

Youth

Ex: A 13U AAA player guest plays for a 13U Majors team, or a 13U Majors player guest plays for a 14U AAA/Majors team.

High School

Ex. A 16U player picks up with "Banditos Scout Team" in the PG WWBA in Georgia.

You are required to speak to your head coach before guest playing and get their approval.

Players missing our scheduled practices and games to join another team will be removed from the roster. We will not be adding/removing players from tournament rosters every off weekend to accommodate your guest play schedule. We will limit guest play opportunities if this becomes a problem.

Tyler Legacy baseball players cannot go play for the Lindale baseball team on their off day because they feel like getting extra reps. We understand we have an old-school approach to this, and we are trying to be flexible. We as coaches grew up being taught loyalty to a team and organization, not the new school Transfer Portal mindset. Youth baseball players will get better from extra practices than extra games. Consider "guest practicing" on our off days, instead of "guest playing".

Before our first practice of the season and after our last game of the season, you are on your own and free to play anywhere you'd like.

We generally do not pick up guest players unless we are expecting low attendance from our rostered team, or we are in a 3+ day tournament that requires more players and pitching.

If you need clarification or have any questions reach out to the organization President, Chris McFarland chris@tylerspartans.com