



**BILLINGS AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL PROGRAM - POST #4
PLAYER INTENT FORM AND CONTRACT**

Name of Participant: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Address (if different on April 1st): _____

Phone: _____ Grade: _____ School: _____

Height: _____ Weight: _____ Throws: _____ Bats: _____ Allergies: _____

GENERAL RULE:

Participant hereby certifies that he will abide by all the rules and regulations of American Legion Baseball (ALB) and that his participation with other extracurricular activities will not interfere with his ALB activities. Participant's service will be available for the entire season and shall remain available to play in the post season tournaments.

Participant fully understands that he is required to attend all practice sessions and games, unless granted permission to be excused by my Manager or Coach and if he does not obtain permission, he is subject to disciplinary action.

Participant understands that he is subject to discipline or expulsion if he uses any form of alcohol, chemicals or tobacco products, in accordance with the BALB's Drug and Alcohol Policy and Drug Testing Policy set forth below. Participant also understands that he is subject to disciplinary action or expulsion for using profanity, acting ungentlemanly or using unsportsmanlike actions that would reflect negatively on the BALB Program, including without limitation any violation of BALB's No Hazing Policy set forth below.

Participant shall be responsible for the care of any equipment and uniforms issued to him, and except for normal wear and tear, will return same to his Head Coach at the end of the season.

Participant shall comply at all times with the Team Rules set forth below.

BALB DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY:

The Billings American Legion Baseball (BALB) Board of Directors firmly believes the participation in the BALB Program is a privilege and not a right. Participants volunteering to participate in the Program are expected to accept the responsibilities of this privilege.

The Rule: No Participant shall possess or use drugs, alcohol or tobacco at ANY TIME from the effective date of this contract through the final game of their career including the offseasons, with the exception of physician prescribed medication for a valid medical condition taken as prescribed.

Responsibility: It shall be everyone's responsibility to report violations of this policy to the head Coach or his staff. Participants seen by a member of the coaching staff or an adult in a position of authority (police officer, school official, teacher, etc.) using or possessing drugs, alcohol or tobacco, or in possession of drug paraphernalia (as defined by State Law), at ANY TIME from the effective date of this contract through the final game of their career including offseasons, shall be subject to the Disciplinary Enforcement contained herein. Where another person, such as another participant, family member, or fan, reports a violation of this Policy, the violation shall be investigated on a case by case basis. If the person reporting the violation provides a notarized written statement, and/or is willing to testify in court (if needed), the report shall be treated as if the violation was observed by the coaching staff or an adult in a position of authority.

Disciplinary Enforcement: **FIRST OFFENSE** shall result in the Participant's suspension for **5** consecutive games immediately

following the offense (continued practice participation during suspension is at the coach's discretion). **SECOND OFFENSE** shall result in immediate **EXPULSION** from the Program. If a Participant commits an offense while on a road trip, that Participant shall be sent home at his own expense. All offenses are cumulative from the effective date of this contract until the Participant is no longer in the Program.

BALB DRUG TESTING POLICY:

For purposes of enforcement of aforementioned Rule, the Program will conduct drug testing under any of the following circumstances:

Random Testing: Participants may be selected at random for drug testing at any time during the season.

For Cause Testing: The Program may ask a Participant to submit to a drug test at any time it feels that the Participant may be under the influence of drugs including, but not limited to, the following circumstances: reasonable evidence of drugs within the Participants possession or control, unusual conduct that suggests impairment or influence of drugs, negative performance patterns, or a failure of, or refusal to submit to, any test administered hereunder.

Administration: Testing will be handled by a local hospital or by a member of the coaching staff using at home drug tests. All testing and the drawing from the participant pool for the random tests will be at the expense of the Program; provided, however, that if a participant fails or refuses a test, then the cost of any subsequent test shall be at the expense of the Participant (or the Participant's parent/guardian in the case of a minor participant). Drug-testing results will be disclosed only for the purposes related to enforcement of this policy. Any positive test will cause a meeting with the parents and player before any punishment is invoked under the Disciplinary Enforcement section of the Player Contract. It is understood there may be circumstances with any individual which may cause a positive test without the use of recreational drugs

Refusal to Submit: If a Participant refuses a request to submit to testing under this policy, the refusal will be considered an OFFENSE, whether first or second as the case may be, under the Disciplinary Enforcement section of the Player Contract, thereby resulting in either suspension or expulsion, as applicable. Provided, however, that in such a case, the Participant will be given an opportunity to explain the circumstances prior to any final disciplinary enforcement becoming effective. Furthermore, in the event of a refusal to submit which is deemed a first offense, the Participant will be required to submit to a subsequent test at the expense of the participant (or the participant's parent/guardian in the case of a minor participant), in which case a second refusal to submit shall be grounds for expulsion.

Participant Consent: By signing this form, you (or the parent/guardian in the case of a minor Participant) affirm that you are aware of the Program's drug-testing policy, and you hereby agree to allow the Program to test you (or the minor participant in the case of a parent/guardian) at anytime during the season in accordance with the aforementioned policy.

BALB NO HAZING POLICY:

Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe, positive environment for all individuals, athletic participants, coaches, employees, volunteers and staff ("individuals") that is free from hazing. Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the goals of the BALB Program ("Program") and are prohibited at all times.

Definitions: Hazing is any action or situation which recklessly or intentionally endangers mental or physical health, or creates substantial embarrassment, harassment or ridicule, or involves the forced consumption of food, alcohol or drugs in the course of initiation or continuing affiliation with an organization. Individuals violating the Program's Hazing Policy shall be subject to disciplinary action. Hazing includes, but is not limited to, the following list of activities: (a) Participation in or creation of situations which cause physical harm or emotional strain, such as causing an individual to be the object of malicious amusement or ridicule; (b) Forced, required or implicitly coerced participation in physical activities such as calisthenics, exercises or games. (This does not include physical activities required by coaches); (c) Participation in activities which involve illegal acts such as kidnapping or stealing, or acts that may amount to criminal activity; (d) Creation of excessive fatigue or distress through deprivation of privacy, sufficient sleep or decent and edible meals; (e) Use of physical brutality or force (including paddling, striking with fists, open hands or objects); (f) Forced, required, condoned or implicitly coerced behavior resulting in lewdness or potential ridicule or bodily harm (such as forced nudity or partial nudity, including coercing an individual to dress in a degrading manner as part of initiation or affiliation); (g) Forced, required or implicitly coerced consumption of any food, liquor, drug or any other substance; and (h) Permitted consumption of excessive amounts of alcohol. Hazing does not include the following: (a) Coaches requiring individuals to perform necessary functions such as cleaning, carrying equipment and/or field maintenance; (b) Coaches requiring physical activities such as calisthenics, exercises or cardiovascular activities.

Authority: The Board does not condone any form of initiation or harassment, known as hazing, as part of any activity. No individual shall plan, direct, encourage, assist or engage in any hazing activity. The Board directs that no individual shall permit, condone or tolerate any form of hazing. The Board, with the assistance it deems necessary, will investigate all complaints of hazing and will administer appropriate discipline to any individual who violates this policy. The Board encourages individuals who have been subjected to hazing to promptly report such incidents to their immediate supervisor, coach or the Board.

Delegation of Responsibility: Coaches shall investigate promptly all complaints of hazing and administer appropriate discipline to any individual who violates this policy. Individuals shall be alert to incidents of hazing and shall report such conduct to the immediate supervisor, coach or the Board.

TEAM RULES:

ALB is the oldest and best disciplined amateur baseball program in the country. The American Legion, an organization comprised of veterans, believes operating a well-disciplined baseball program with emphasis on sportsmanship, team loyalty, and the highest level of sportsmanship and individual leadership. Our coaches will insist on these positive qualities throughout the season and encourage them year-round. There are several rules (Team Rules) that all players are required to follow in order to be considered eligible for BALB competition. Unless otherwise indicated, and subject to any BALB policies, the penalties for violation of any of the following rules will be decided by the applicable coaching staff, which may include an immediate suspension of practice/playing privileges, or dismissal from the team. All coaching staff disciplinary decisions are final. Conduct is expected to be positive and becoming, in accordance with the following Team Rules:

Sportsmanship: Foul language, throwing or other abuse of equipment, heckling of any kind, unnecessary roughness, or any other unsportsmanlike conduct is prohibited on or off the field. In the event that equipment is thrown/abused and damaged, the player will be expected to reimburse BALB for replacement costs. Participants are expected to uphold the ALB Code of Sportsmanship at all times. In short: Participants will: Keep the rules; Keep faith with teammates; Keep tempers; Keep a stout heart in defeat; Keep pride in victory; Keep a sound soul, a clean mind and a healthy body.

Appearance: Haircuts are expected to be tasteful. No earrings or jewelry are allowed at practice or during games. Uniforms should be kept clean, in good repair, and tucked in at all times while worn. Hats should be worn correctly (i.e. straightforward) at all times. Rally caps are acceptable when appropriate.

Food and Drink: No outside food or drink is allowed in the dugout during a game. Ice water, or other sports drink (Gatorade®, Powerade®, etc.) may be provided by the team. "Game" is defined from the time team warm-ups begin until the last out.

Spectators: No spectators are allowed in the dugout during a game. This includes parents, family members, friends, girlfriends, scouts, etc. (nor is any non-player allowed to visit with you during a game), except in the case of player injury or other emergency.

Dugouts: Players are allowed to leave the dugout during a game for the following reasons only: to retrieve a foul ball, go to the bathroom, warm up/stretch/throw, or in a medical or weather related emergency. Players are expected to perform the necessary function and return to the dugout without incident. Any other request to leave the dugout should be discussed with and approved by a member of the coaching staff.

Hustle: Players will sprint to and from their positions. Players will run at full speed on all ground balls and fly balls, no matter how "inevitable" a putout might appear.

Travel: When traveling to and from contests, the team will meet at a designated location. It is acceptable for players to travel to and from games with parents so long as it is approved by the head coach. Occasionally, the team will travel out of town and stay overnight at a hotel. Room assignments for players will be designated. Rooms are expected to be kept neat and clean. Any damage performed to a room is the financial responsibility of the player and his guardian. Players involved in such a situation, unless verifiably accidental, will be sent home and dismissed from the team immediately. Under no circumstance whatsoever will a female guest be permitted in a player's hotel room while un-chaperoned by an adult, coach or parent. Any player violating this rule will be expelled from the team.

Curfews: Coaches may implement a curfew at any time whether at home or on the road. Players are expected to follow all curfew rules. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action. If there are any applicable city curfews, all players will be followed these rules, especially on nights prior to competition.

Absences: All players/guardians are expected to call a member of the coaching staff in the event a practice or game is to be missed. If a player is late for a practice or a game without a proper excuse, the Coach may discipline accordingly (discipline may include running, cleaning, or other duties as assigned) If a player is absent without permission, the minimum penalty is an immediate suspension with a maximum penalty of dismissal from the team.

Criminal Offenses: Any player who commits a criminal offense AT ANYTIME (in or out of season) will be immediately suspended indefinitely pending the resolution of the case, and thereafter may face further suspension and/or possible dismissal from the team. The only exclusions from this policy are for either a traffic ticket or a misdemeanor offense otherwise covered by the aforementioned BALB Drug and Alcohol Policy, with proper court/legal supervision. Criminal offenses include criminal charges filed in a court of law without regard to conviction, dismissal or disposition of the pending case. After the resolution of case, the participant may be reinstated, further suspended, or dismissed from the team at the Coach's discretion, without regard to the conviction or other legal disposition of the case. However, in the event of a felony criminal offense, the participant shall be indefinitely expelled from the program for all future years of a player's eligibility, and may only be reinstated if the participant is completely exonerated from the felony charge.

Birth Certificates: All rostered players must submit a raised seal, certified birth certificate from the county/state recorder of deeds/vital statistics office prior to the first game of the season. Hospital certificates and/or photocopies are not allowed. These records will be returned to each player at the conclusion of the season. Any player who fails to submit a proper birth certificate is not ineligible for competition.

CAMP POLICY:

For those Participants who compete in more than one sport or activity which requires additional summer camps/training, BALB has a Camp Policy. It is with the understanding that student-athletes may be involved with other sports or organizations which may have an influence on the future these young men that this policy has been adopted. This policy recognizes the importance of commitment to American Legion Baseball and respect for the team and the team members. This policy is only in effect for the Royals and Scarlets and not enforced for the Bluejays and Cardinals.

1. BALB will allow a one-time excused absence, not exceeding 5 days, in order to participate in a specific camp.
2. A player must notify his respective coach by the first day of tryouts of that year in order for the coach to plan for his absence.
3. If a player notifies his coach by the date above there will not be an associated suspension for his absence.
4. If, however, a player decides to attend a camp without the proper notification described above, it will be at the coach's discretion as to the penalty for that player and may include dismissal from the team for the remainder of the season.
5. Any other unexcused absences will follow normal suspension policy.

This policy does not cover absences for school-related functions, medical or family emergencies. Billings American Legion Baseball will allow the means for players to attend such events, and will not penalize the athlete. However, if possible, as much advance notice as possible should be given the respective coach when a player may miss a practice or game.

INSURANCE:

BALB has accident, liability and medical insurance coverage policies for all rostered players and coaches. A copy of the applicable policy can be made available upon request.

GREIVANCE POLICY:

If you have a disagreement, complaint or other grievance regarding the BALB Program, its coaches, players, or any other persons related to the Program, we request that you bring this concern to the immediate attention of your Head Coach. Please try to approach him at a time and place that will allow him to properly listen to your concerns. If you have discussed this matter with him previously and you do not believe that you have received a sufficient response, we request that you present your concerns to a BALB Board Member (If you consider the matter an emergency, legal, ethical or safety issue, use your best judgment to expedite the complaint process). The BALB Board Member, or a committee of Board Members, may have a conference with you, your parents, and your Head Coach or with any of you individually. If the matter is not resolved after that conference, and you believe it still merits attention, it is requested that you immediately place your concerns in writing and bring the matter forward to the entire BALB Board at the next scheduled Board Meeting. Please indicate what the problem is, those persons involved in the problem, and any suggested solution you may have to the problem. The Board cannot promise that your specific grievance will result in the action you request or that you will be satisfied with the outcome of the grievance procedure.

PARTICIPANT'S CONSENT:

Effective as the date of signature, the undersigned Participant acknowledges, understands, and agrees to be subject to the above-referenced rules and policies, and expects to make every effort to live up to them.

Participant's Name: _____ Date: _____ Signature: _____
(Please Print)

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Date: _____ Signature: _____
(Please Print)

* I will be released from this Contract if I am unsuccessful in qualifying for the team, and I and my parents/guardian, understand that the American Legion assumes responsibility to players only to the extent of their insurance coverage.