

Jr. Rocks Baseball

Player/Parent Contract

The Rock Island Jr. Rocks Baseball Organization was created in 2012 when the Rock Island Reds, Red Sox, and Islanders merged together. The Jr. Rocks are a feeder program for Rock Island High School, which means we give preference to District 41 students who are willing to play at their grade level. We are a competitive, travel baseball organization that requires a year-round financial and time commitment from players and parents. Our goal is to build the future of Rock Island High School baseball by developing fundamentals and instilling outstanding sportsmanship.

I. Financial Obligations & Fundraising:

- A. Player Costs: Player fees are established by each Manager and approved by the Executive Board on an annual basis based upon costs of play, equipment, uniforms, and any additional costs necessary to operate a team.
- B. Fundraising: Fundraisers are established to reduce player fees. Parents who choose not to participate in fundraisers are still responsible for paying their fees according to the organization's schedule.
1. Organizational: The organization will conduct a series of fundraisers to help reduce individual player fees.
 2. Team: Individual teams, with Executive Board approval, may conduct fundraisers to further reduce their player fees.
- C. Sponsorships: All players will have the opportunity to sell organizational and team sponsorships to further reduce their fees. (50% to player fee and 50% to banners and advertising.)
- D. Payment Schedule:
1. A \$100 commitment fee is due to your team treasurer at the organization parent meeting in September to secure a spot on the team. (nonrefundable)
 2. The rest of the player fees are due according to the following schedule:
 - Second payment- TBD
 - Third payment- TBD
 - Fourth Payment- TBD
 - Fifth Payment- TBD
 - All payment times are subject to change with fundraising opportunities, all payments will be due the day of fundraisers.
 - Payment amounts are different for each team. Please refer to the budget given out at parent meeting.

The dollar amounts above are simply minimum amounts due at that time. Players always have the opportunity to fundraise or pay more of their fees ahead of time. Any player who falls more than one payment behind will be removed from their team and can only be reinstated by paying their fees in full.

E. Refunds: If a player chooses to leave or is dismissed from the team due to a disciplinary issue, their fees will not be refunded. If the team dissolves, any fundraised money will not be refunded. If a player fundraises an amount greater than their fees, they can be refunded any cash payments that were made, including their commitment fee.

II. Players

A. Player Participation

1. Players are expected to give 100% commitment to their teams, especially during the actual baseball season.
2. Practices are mandatory and only credible reasons for missing will be accepted.
3. Players must be at games and practices ready to participate at the specified times.

B. Player Conduct

1. Players are expected to treat all coaches, teammates, and umpires with courtesy and respect.
2. Each player has the responsibility to represent themselves in a positive way on and off the field. This applies to appearance, habits, and performance.
3. Players are expected to display positive attitudes, and give their maximum effort in practices and games.
4. Players are expected to display good sportsmanship at all times. This means not arguing with coaches, opposing players, parents, teammates, umpires, or using profanity on or off the field.
5. Treatment of Equipment:
 - a. Players are expected to take care of their own equipment and the team's equipment.
 - b. Players will not throw equipment, including but not limited to bats, helmets, and gloves.
 - c. Players are expected to help load and unload equipment for practices and games.

C. Dugout Behavior

1. No parents will be allowed in the dugouts.
2. No food will be served or eaten in the dugouts unless it is in-between games.
3. Players will remain in the dugout unless they have permission to leave.
4. All team members will help clean out the dugout and nobody will be allowed to leave until everything is picked up.

D. Failure to comply with any of the above will give coaches the ability to discipline players, including inning or game suspensions.

III. Managers & Coaches

A. Managers

1. Will be selected by the Executive Board and approved by the Head Coach at Rock Island High School and have the following duties:
 - a. Assist in tryouts.
 - b. Schedule and conduct practices.
 - c. Teach fundamentals of baseball.
 - d. Instill sportsmanship.
 - e. Select coaches.
 - f. Attend all games.

B. Coaches

1. Teach fundamentals of baseball.
2. Instill sportsmanship.
3. Attend all games.

C. Managers & Coaches

1. Shall comply with the USSSA code of ethics and any additional rules set down by the Jr. Rocks Board.
2. Are required to submit a background check.
3. Will have the safety and well-being of the players in mind at all times.
4. Will not intimidate, embarrass, or ridicule any player.
5. Shall not have any public display of poor sportsmanship.
6. Are required to attend any clinics held by the high school staff.
7. Are required to attend any coaches meetings throughout the season.
8. Are required to participate in any field clean up days.
9. Must communicate effectively and respectfully with other coaches, players, and parents.
10. Are subject to discipline for violations of the above by the Executive Board, including suspensions or removal from the team.

IV. Parents

- A. Must give a minimum of 2 hours to work on our fields or facilities.
- B. Must volunteer to serve on a committee or the Advisory Board.
- C. Must participate in the organization's major fundraiser, which is currently Trivia Night.
- D. May be asked to help with practice, score keeping, field preparation, and/or the concession stand.
- E. Are expected to work with their player to help them improve in the offseason and understand they have an important role to play on the team, regardless of their playing time.
- F. Will not be near the dugout criticizing or giving suggestions to coaches.
- G. Will be respectful to the opposing teams and umpires, and set a good example for the players.
- H. Will address any questions or concerns for a coach in an appropriate manner and time.
- I. Are subject to discipline for violations of the above by the Executive Board, including having their player suspended or removed from their team.

V. Guidelines for Dealing with Issues:

- A. Parents should wait 24 hours before discussing an issue with a coach.
- B. Try to resolve the issue at the team level.
- C. If the issue is not resolved, it should be taken to the Vice President of the organization.
- D. If the issue is still not resolved, it should be taken to the President and / or the Executive Board.

VI. Play

- A. Playing time will be at the sole discretion of the coaches.
 1. Players are not guaranteed equal playing time, but coaches are expected to help develop everybody on their roster.
 2. Players are not guaranteed equal time in the infield and outfield.
 3. During league games, coaches are required to bat all of their players and have every player in the field for at least 2 innings.
 4. During pool games, coaches are encouraged to bat all of their players and have every player in the field at least one inning.
 5. During bracket games, coaches are encouraged to get all of their players at least one at bat and have every player in the field at least one inning.

VII. Uniforms

- A. Teams will wear uniforms that are in keeping with the current colors of the high school. Each player will be issued a standard organizational uniform: 2 pairs of baseball pants, 2 jerseys, 1 hat, and 1 belt (first year only).
- B. Uniforms will not be issued until all fees are paid.
- C. The organization will have additional items for sale through an online store for the holidays and beginning of the season.
- D. Baseball bags, batting gloves, cleats and spikes (13 & 14U), fielding gloves, personal bats and sunglasses must be provided by the player.