



## Mercs Manifesto

These are rules I will embrace to help me become a better player, teammate, and person.

1. **I will always hustle.** I will hustle on and off the field, on every ball I hit, on the bases and in the field.
2. **I will respect my coaches and parents and do as they ask.** I understand that they come from a place of experience and want to help me become the best I can be.
3. **I will not use profanity, drugs, alcohol, or tobacco.** I will always set a good example and represent my team with class.
4. **I will practice good sportsmanship before, during and after games.** I will appreciate the good play of our opponents and remain humble during my shining moments.
5. **I will treat all opposing players, coaches, and fans with respect.** The only difference between us is that they are pulling for the other side.
6. **I will respect decisions made by the umpires.** I cannot change their decisions, and I recognize my reaction may reflect poorly on both me and my team.
7. **I will handle winning with class and losing with grace.** A player's true character is shown in handling both winning and losing with similar reflection and appreciation.
8. **I will never quit.** No matter the score, inning, or number of outs, I will always give my best. My teammates deserve nothing less.
9. **I will work hard when no one is watching.** My work ethic is based on the hard work I put in during games and practices as well as at home.
10. **I will never throw a bat or other equipment in anger.** Not only is this unsafe, but it is a selfish display of poor self-control and bad sportsmanship.
11. **I will always prioritize safety of myself and others around me.** I will be properly equipped and aware of my surroundings when throwing a ball or swinging a bat.
12. **I will treat practices seriously as an opportunity to become the best player I can be.** Practice is my time to polish my tools while the game is my time to shine.
13. **I will practice self-control, setting a positive example for others.** I will not get down on myself when things are not going my way.
14. **I will always support and encourage my teammates.** I will be helpful and courteous, treating my teammates the way I would want to be treated.
15. **I will respect the facilities we are provided for practices and games.** I will not damage equipment; I will clean up when we're done, and I will treat it as I would my home.
16. **I will represent my team with class.** I understand that how I behave and present myself will reflect either positively or negatively on my teammates and coaches.
17. **I will always remain in the dugout during games, unless approved by a coach.** My focus needs to be between the lines.
18. **I understand my grades in school and behavior at home and outside of baseball may impact my position on the team.** There is more to life than baseball.
19. **I will embrace my role, position on the field and in the lineup, and I will not complain or feel sorry for myself.** This is a team, and I will always do what is necessary for the team to be successful.
20. **I will learn from my mistakes.** I will make mistakes, but I will use them as opportunities to learn.

I will always do my best to follow these rules. My coaches, parents and I understand that I am not perfect, but repeated violations can and will impact my standing on this team. Depending on the severity and frequency of my infractions, I may see less playing time, a diminished role or complete removal from the team.

I understand these rules and I will do my best to always represent my teammates well.

Player Signature \_\_\_\_\_