

FCAA 12UA Cooperstown Advanced / All-Star Baseball **Information Packet**

To: All potential Advanced / All-Star Players and Parents

Thank you for your interest in playing Advanced / All-Star Baseball. Please realize this is NOT a recreational baseball tryout and the focus on competition increases dramatically. The philosophy of this program is to give youth opportunity to play baseball at an advanced level while preparing them to play at the next level.

With the 12UA player tryouts fast approaching, we would like you and your children to carefully read this information before committing to the Fort Caroline Athletic Association Advance / All-Star Baseball Program. While, the Advance / All-Star Baseball Teams are vastly rewarding and fun for all it requires a certain level of commitment from players and parents both.

Advanced / All-Star Baseball requires your commitment!

Parent involvement and participation is a critical requirement on every Advanced / All-Star team. With your child's selection to a team, you as a parent are also joining the team. When determining your vacation plans or other activities, you will need to consider the team's tournament schedule. Teams will participate in local and out of town tournaments as well as multiple scrimmages.

Advanced / All-Star Baseball practice begins and runs simultaneous with the Fort Caroline Recreational season. Each coach reserves the right to have a specialized training program on additional days, consisting of pitching, hitting, fielding, strength training, etc... at other facilities. A parent should contact their respective recreational baseball / softball head coach prior to tryouts to gain their experience of an Advanced / All-Star practice plan, if it is a concern to the parent. Advanced / All-Star Baseball is a team commitment. Every age will have a different schedule, depending on the coach's outline, and training plan.

Once a player is selected for a Fort Caroline Advanced / All-Star Baseball, the expectation is this team will be first priority over any other teams or sports. The expectation is the player is making a commitment and should not miss practices, games or team functions to play for another baseball or other sports organizations. However, consideration will be given due to participation in local school ball teams. Should a commitment issue arise, the team manager will initiate a conversation with the parent/guardian to address appropriately, including but not limited to dismissal from the team. It is understood that other priorities may come before a team practice or a game with just cause and this should be discussed with the team manager ahead of time.

Individual costs:

Individual Player costs are determined by each manager based on uniforms, equipment, tournament participation, umpire fee's, etc... The per team cost ranges anywhere from \$3,000 to \$4,000 per player normally. Fees involved are directly formed from the team's expenses which can vary widely. Individual player costs do not include travel expenses. All travel expenses are the responsibility of the player. Some or all player/travel costs may be offset by funds raised by the team. All costs will be discussed with the team manager.

Parent/Player Conduct Policy Expectations:

If your child is selected for a team the following are the parent/player expectations but not limited to:

- Parents will refrain from giving the children instructions during practices and games – please allow the coaches to manage the team.
- Parents will refrain from dugout visits during practices and games.
- Parents should set a good example. Children learn best by YOUR example.
- Parents should not publicly question an umpire's judgment. Coaches only should engage the umpires as needed.
- Parents should recognize the value and importance of volunteer coaches. Without them, there would be no baseball program.
- Should you as a parent have a problem/conflict with the Manager or Coaches, do not approach them during or after a game. Call the coach or set a meeting with the coach to discuss the matter.
- Parents shall accept the coaches' decision regarding playing positions and the amount of playing time. Understand that this is a Competitive Team and there are no guarantees for equal playing time or position.
- Players will be prepared for all practices and games with ALL my gear and in the proper uniform. (shirts tucked in at all times, hat facing forward). I will show my gear respect and take care of it. This is my responsibility, NOT my parents.
- Players understand that practices are meant to improve our skill and knowledge of the game. The only way to do this is to be completely focused at all times of practice.
- Players will not at any time bring a negative attitude into the dugout. Regardless of what happened today at school, home, etc... When I walk through the dugout I'm focused on the TEAM only.
- Understand that the Ft. Caroline Baseball/Softball Program reserves the right to release any player from the team for poor sportsmanship by the player and/or the player's family during games or for other reasons to include but are not limited to lack of cooperation, poor attitude, lack of commitment, effort or attendance.
- Understand that any removal of your child and/or a family member from a game will result in a two (2) game minimum suspension for the child and your family. Child must attend and sit on the bench for the two suspended games in full uniform.
- Understand that negative comments or ridicule of another player, family and/or manager or coach using any social media outlet is grounds for immediate removal from the program
- See FCAA Conduct Policy for additional guidance.

Tryouts:

The tryout will be a 3 day tryout.

During tryouts, parents are asked to stay in the bleachers and away from the players unless requested. This will minimize the distraction to the boys and allow the evaluators to do their jobs. Some parents may be asked to help out with the younger children within the dugouts. This will be for safety reasons, as we don't want them swinging bats and throwing balls without direct supervision.

Roster Announcements

We anticipate that the final selection process will be completed with-in a few days after tryouts are complete. Due to every team being a little different, amount of kids trying out, it may take certain teams a little longer than others. It is the responsibility of the player's parent / guardian to ensure that the league has been given the proper email / phone number etc. during or prior to tryouts. **The final rosters will be posted on our website at www.gofcaa.com with-in 3 days. Click on Advanced Baseball for Fall Selection.**

Once the rosters are announced the decision of the selection committee will be final. Any questions following the selection process can be addressed to your recreational league head coach.

See FCAA Advanced Ball (AB)/All-Star Selection Procedure and FCAA Conduct Policy for additional guidance at www.gofcaa.org

By Signing Below, I / We acknowledge that we have fully read and understand:

- There is a significant time commitment to the team and teammates.
- There is a significant cost commitment to the team and teammates.
- There is a significant conduct commitment to the team and teammates.
- This is NOT a recreational tryout and there is NO minimum playing time or sit requirement.
- Practices and games unless previously discussed/arranged with the team manager are mandatory. Being late for games / practices or missing games / practices can and will affect playing time.
- This is a tryout only and in no way is my child guaranteed a spot on any team.

Participants Name and Age

Date

Parent/Guardian Name Printed

Parent/Guardian Name Printed

Parent/Guardian Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature