

# MVAA BASEBALL



**MATURITY. HONESTY. DISCIPLINE. LOYALTY. ADAPTATION. COMPASSION. SELF-ESTEEM. TEAMWORK. RESPECT. SACRIFICE. HUMILITY. PATIENCE. DILIGENCE. COURAGE. TRUST.**

The game of baseball gives its players the chance to test and refine the qualities that make up a well-rounded life experience. The MVAA Baseball program hopes to not only teach the game of baseball, but to help your child achieve his/her full potential. To this end, we have and will continue to institute changes for the betterment of the program. Please visit the other links on our website for additional information regarding the baseball program. The 2011 MVAA Baseball Guidelines document explains recent changes in the program and procedures for the upcoming evaluations / try-outs.

## ***Mandatory Player Evaluations***

The location, date, and time of the mandatory player evaluations will be announced shortly after sign-ups.

For the evaluations, all players should bring/wear:

- Baseball glove
- Baseball bat (optional)
- Baseball hat
- Baseball pants or sweat pants
- Sneakers or Gym shoes
- Protective cup

Your child's coach will contact you within 4 weeks after evaluations.

## ***Practicing With Your Child***

It is the intention of the MVAA baseball program to give each child enrolled the very best baseball education possible in an all-volunteer organization. In order for each child to enjoy their baseball experience it is necessary for them to develop the essential physical skills of catching, throwing, batting, and running bases to the best of their ability. It takes a great deal of work and repetition to master these skills, and parents should be prepared to spend time practicing with your child. If you feel you are not familiar enough with the game to do this, you are invited to learn along with your child at practice.

## ***Volunteering to Help With Your Child's Team***

As in any volunteer organization, there must be volunteers to make it work. All parents with children in MVAA baseball are expected to help. It takes a huge number of people to have a successful program. Each team needs as many as 6 adults to run a successful practice. During a Machine Pitch home game, 6 parents are needed to field a team successfully; 2 parents are needed to umpire, someone has to keep score, 2 base coaches are required, and someone must keep the players organized on the bench. Additionally, there are team website duties, and the field needs to be raked and lined before a game and raked after each game. You will be called upon to help and you must be open to doing so. A team is just that, a team. Players learn how to be part of a team through example.

## ***Travel Teams***

Membership on a Travel Team at any level represents additional commitment in both time and money. Travel Teams typically practice more frequently, play more games, and incur additional costs in the form of equipment, tournament fees, and travel expenses. Parents and players interested in Travel level play must be willing to accept and commit to these additional demands.

## ***Mandatory Coaches Meeting and Clinic***

The location, date, and time of the mandatory coaches' meeting and clinic will be announced shortly after sign-ups.

## ***Behavior***

MVAA Baseball has no tolerance for inappropriate behavior on the part of Coaches, Parents and Players. Good sportsmanship is the rule. Please, if it's not positive, keep it to yourself.

## ***Addressing Issues/Concerns***

Please make every effort to resolve any issues you may have by speaking directly with your child's coach in a rational, adult manner. Coaches should be approached either before or after practice, preferably not before or after a game and never during a practice or game. If you are still not satisfied after speaking with the coach, please contact the coordinator for your child's age division (if assigned). If the division coordinator cannot address your concern please contact the Director of Baseball. Please remember that we can disagree without being disagreeable.

I look forward to a great year!

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