



## PARENT/PLAYER 2023 GUIDELINES

Hey guys, very excited to have you on board! Just wanted to set our ground rules before the season gets started. Looking forward to another great season!

Under no circumstance is any parent to speak to or approach our coaching staff about playing time or game strategy. We are more than willing to discuss this with players. We encourage our players to come to us if there is something they want to ask about. We encourage responsibility and communication in our guys, as this is necessary with both high school and college coaches. So we communicate with players on this, not parents. Please encourage your players to ask us any questions.

Please do not text any of our coaches with questions concerning *day to day* info (Our phones would never stop ringing). This includes small questions like what kind of bats to use, what kind of cleats are allowed, when are games, what field we are on, etc. The players and coaches are all in a group message, please post this question there and someone will be happy to answer, but we will not be able to reply to questions like this simply due to the volume we would receive. Parents will receive all season updates via email. (Also follow us on FB for last minute updates).

Please understand that rosters and positions can be very tricky in summer/fall ball. We do everything we can to set balanced and competitive rosters and this often involves moving players into positions they may not normally play. Please understand that this is not only necessary, but is beneficial for players. The worst thing a player can do for his long term career is limit himself to only playing one position. If you can only play catcher, or 1B, then your chances of making a starting lineup in college or high school are limited. The more versatile you are, the better chance you have. So please be flexible with us as we work guys in at multiple positions and potentially make roster moves as needed throughout the season due to necessity, injury, balance, etc.

We are often up until midnight every day of tournaments setting lineups and pitching assignments. So if you plan to miss a game, you MUST let our coaching staff know ASAP. **The night before or morning of is UNACCEPTABLE.** This is to be posted 3+ days in advance in the player groupchat as follows – “Trent Jones, 15u Premier, will miss Friday Game May 1st”. Again, please have your player post this in the groupchat as listed if he plans to miss a game (which is totally fine, as long as we get a heads up). In addition, we have lowered our roster sizes to get our guys more playing time. If you guys kill us with constant last second absences, causing us to scramble to get fill-ins, we will need to increase roster sizes going forward to avoid that problem. So help us help you all. Additionally, if you tell us several months or weeks in advance that you will be absent for a day or event, please remind us again the week of.

Please understand that the nature of these tournaments is often chaos with schedules. Just know that the moment we get an update, we will have it sent out via email to parents and posted on the group chat for players within minutes. If there is a late update or change to a schedule, which is extremely common, please know that this is not on us. This is always beyond our control. We are just relaying info to you guys as soon as we get it. Please plan for flexibility with schedules, rain delays, consolation and playoff game times, etc.

We will have two jerseys for the season. One Navy and one White. We will always wear White on the first day of the event, then Navy for the second day of the event, White for third, and alternating each day for the duration of the event. (If you are ever in doubt, bring both). We will always wear White pants with

**Navy belt.** Players supply these. If players wear high socks, any style is fine as long as they are Coastal Stars colors. We allow players to supply their own pants as we have found players can be very picky.

Arrive at least 1 hour before all games. Sometimes we will have access to cages to hit in prior, sometimes we will not. If you are running late, post it in group me. (Plan to leave early for Lakepoint games on weekdays, as traffic on I75 will almost always be tough). Occasionally our coaches will get to fields even prior to one hour before to allow players to get extra work in. Our coaches will post in the player groupme if this is the case for a specific day/game.

If you are feeling sick, **please stay at home.**

Parents – the manner in which you conduct yourself in the stands reflects on our team and your player. We have seen coaches turn down high school prospects before because of parents who were nuts in the bleachers. Direct quote from a college coach to us -“I also have to have those parents in the bleachers at our home field for four years.” You too are being evaluated. Please keep all cheering positive and directed at our players. Please do not try to coach from the bleachers. Within the fences of the field with our jersey on, they are our players to coach.

We believe the following are the roles of parents at games:

1. Support your son
2. Support your son's teammates
3. Support your son's coaches
4. Treat the opponent, their fans and the umpires with respect
5. Let the coaches do the coaching
6. Act like an adult
7. Sit back and enjoy watching your son play- there will come a time when he no longer will
8. Encourage other parents to do the same as listed above

Players – Clean up social media. Coaches will check this. Do not have anything on here that you would not want to show your parents. Please have a professional voicemail as well. All players will receive a link via GroupMe for a recruiting questionnaire before the first tournament. This document must be filled out so we can have up to date contact #'s, email, GPA, etc. to give to any interested college coaches.

In game behavior for players: we have a zero-tolerance policy for profanity, arguing with coaches or umpires, tobacco use, equipment abuse, etc. Any player who violates these rules will be benched and/or asked to leave the team.

Players – In our preseason events you will be taught our team signs and info. It is your responsibility to know these. Ask any questions you may have to coaches.

(Summer only)- We have now capped all our summer rosters. I am still getting people calling me every day looking for spots. Because of this, we will be opening the Fall season registration in the next month. If you are interested in this, please let us know and plan to sign up for that soon. There will be a deposit option so you guys can reserve a spot without paying in full. Fall spots will likely fill up before we are done with the summer, and we will have to turn people away as we are doing for the summer right now. Plan appropriately! If you would like to see a tentative Fall Schedule, you can visit our website and see our Fall 2022 schedule for comparison. We will have a similar schedule this Fall.

If you ever send us an important question via text or email, and we do not respond, please know that we are not ignoring you, we are likely just extremely busy and will get to it as soon as we can.

Thank you everyone! We are looking forward to a great season. -Trent and Justin Jones