



Ohio Bison Baseball - Parent/Player Contract

The rules, philosophies, and procedures that The Ohio Bison Baseball will operate under are outlined in the following pages. Please read through each page closely, as we want you to be fully aware of what is expected of our players and parents. Our goal is to make Bison Baseball a premier organization for individuals dedicated to their craft, community and development.

Mission Statement and Purpose: Ohio Bison Baseball is a travel organization based out of Licking County, Ohio. The program consists of positive coaches with the right experience, whose goal is to promote development and character so that players will be prepared to take their game to the next level on and off the field. We are dedicated to providing committed athletes the opportunity to improve upon not only their fundamental skills as an athlete but also as a positive member of the community.

Colors: Our team colors are vegas gold, teal and black (primary) but we may have alternate uniform variations that include white, grey, or colors that support a specific cause (Example: Pink for breast cancer awareness).

A. FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS:

Player Fees: Each player (family) is responsible for:

Age Group:	Total Fee Due:	Deposit Due:	Remaining Balance:
8U-18U	\$850* Team Fee \$150* Required Fundraising	\$450* (due upon signing)	Card is required to be kept on file. Payments can be made in any increments

*Subject to change

The non-refundable deposit is required when the contract is signed and submitted; this fee and contract must be submitted within two weeks of contract offer to secure a spot on the roster. The complete team fee listed above must be paid in full by January 1, 2020. The deposit will count toward your total fees. If the fee is not paid in full before the date established above the player will be ineligible until their obligations are filled. Fundraising or financing options are

“Join the Herd: Be the Thunder”

available to cover all or some of this investment, the parent should inquire. All payments are non-refundable unless approved by The Licking County Family YMCA.

Player fees cover the expense of tournament fees, league fees, facility fees, player and coach gear, baseballs and various training equipment, coaches pay, training, designated camps and clinics, practices, practice field maintenance, insurance, indoor facility use, administrative expenses, office expenses and facility memberships and etc.

Additional Costs: Personal equipment costs such as personal helmets, gloves, bats, cleats etc. will be paid by the player/family. We strongly encourage players to wear our team colors or neutral colors that do not clash with our program's colors. Discounts are available on select brands/products through our organization. All travel expenses, meals, facility admission charges and other miscellaneous expenses related to travel athletics are the responsibility of the player/family unless otherwise noted.

Bison Baseball - Parent/Player Contract

If your player chooses to leave the program, or is dismissed from the team due to rule violations or disciplinary reasons, these fees and all money paid are non-refundable. In addition any player that chooses to leave or that is dismissed they will not be granted a release from our roster via Nations, COYBL or any other sanctioning or governing body which our program is associated with.

When your team is playing out of town, each parent is responsible for meals and lodging, or makes other arrangements if they are unable to accompany their child on trips. It is not the coaches' responsibility to do so. In some instances such as large out of town events, we may block rooms for our organization to stay at the same hotel, but it's the parents' obligation to fulfill the financial costs.

B. TRAINING AND COACHING ASSIGNMENTS

1. Practices, camps, and games will be conducted by the Bison coaching staff. Players will have access to seminars, camps and showcases through the organization at a free or reduced rate. This training is to benefit you, and players are responsible for the material presented.
2. Tournament games are conducted by the game coach. Game coaches are required to report the results of each game to the Director/Coordinator of the program.
3. Game coaches will be selected by the Program Director. Each team is different based on the uniqueness of the team. Head coaching assignments may shift after the end of spring, summer, and fall seasons.

“Join the Herd: Be the Thunder”

C. PARENTAL PARTICIPATION – Expectations & Rules

The success of this program depends heavily on the commitment of everyone in our organization. Parents are encouraged to attend practices and games. You may be called upon to help with practice drills, scorekeeping and other items. Game coaching responsibilities are assigned by the director to officially designated persons only. Coaches and Bison staff have final say on whom is allowed to be involved in team functions including camps, seminars and games.

Bison Baseball - Parent/Player Contract

Rules for Parents:

1. The Ohio Bison will be known as a “Class Organization” We ask that parents, relatives, and friends attending the games **absolutely do not abuse umpires, opposing coaches or players as well as our own players in any way.** Allow the players to play the game as they have been coached. **This rule will be strictly enforced, any violations of this rule by players, coaches, parents or fans can result in expulsion from the team or team activities. THIS IS A ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY.**

2. During games, parents are respectfully asked to remain at least ten feet away from the dugouts unless asked by the coaches. Players are instructed not to talk to their parents and friend outside the dugout while a game is in progress. Please allow the only adult contact with your child during a game to be the coaching staff. This rule is in place in order to promote an environment that promotes focus and awareness to the game for the players, while also allowing the coaching staff to effectively due their job.

3. Any parent challenging the authority of a Bison coach will be asked to leave the game and or team. **Verbal or physical abuse of coaches will not be tolerated.**

4. Parents that have concerns or questions are required to follow proper procedure.

*Never address the coach before, during, or immediately following a game or practice. Make an appointment, all contact with Bison staff to address issues outside of player safety or well-being must wait a minimum of 24 hours before any appointments can be made. (This includes, text messages, phone calls, all social media as well as in person communication) These are very busy times for coaches and they must stay on schedule.

* Always follow proper chain of command if you have any issues: Player to Coach → Parent to Head Coach → Parent to Coordinator → Parent to Director * Never discuss other players when addressing a concern with a coach.

“Join the Herd: Be the Thunder”

D. PLAYING TIME

Bison Baseball strives to provide every participant an equal opportunity to demonstrate their skills before competition. A system will be in place to track how many practices, workouts, and individual work sessions an individual put in. These results can be used to determine playing time. **The Ohio Bison is a competitive travel organization, we do not guarantee any amount of playing time. It is the job of our coaches to put the players in positions individually and as a team that allows them the best opportunity for success as a unit. No issues regarding playing time will ever be discussed with any Bison staff.**

The coach, with the direction of the coordinator and the director, will determine the best playing positions for each player. It is the goal of the organization to put players in the best positions in which we feel they will have the best opportunity for success.

E. PLAYERS – Rules and Expectations

Every member of the team should recognize that The Ohio Bison is a premier organization for individuals dedicated to their craft, community and development. Participants of all kinds will acknowledge they are representing The Licking County Family YMCA, Licking County and The Ohio Bison at every game, event and function in which they participate on a Bison team or wear a Ohio Bison embellishment; and they will do their best to represent the organization in manner that bring respect and pride to the whole organization.

Rules

1. **Be on time, early is always better than late.** Being absent or tardy without a minimum of 48 hour notification will create problems for you and the coaches, who account for each player in the practice/game plan.
2. **Use positive language, no profanity or vulgar remarks.**
3. **Be a part of the solution, not the problem** (don't criticize, condemn, or complain). Always do your best (see definition of success below).

Player Expectations

Definition of Individual Success: Peace of mind, the self-satisfaction of knowing you truly did the best you are capable. No Voodoo coach, staff member or administrator will ever ask you to anything outside of your ability. We simply ask that you give us 100% effort at all times, regardless of your ability.

“Join the Herd: Be the Thunder”

Body Language: **Always maintain positive body language**, no matter what. Not over-confident, head up shoulders back, look coaches and teammates in the eye, positive.

Know our signs, calls, team goals, and routines by heart, players may be assigned specific duties to lead in practice/games.

The Rules to Winning:

1. Pitching: Throw Strikes – 60% or better first pitch strikes, and 60% or greater overall strikes. This gives our defense a chance to play, we can't defend a walk.
2. Fielders: Make routine plays - through the practice of repeating fundamentals consistently. Any "highlight reel" type plays are a bonus.
3. Hitters: Quality At-Bats, or "QAB". QAB's are a better indicator of success of the individual hitter and team success. There are 9 ways to have a QAB.

F. ENFORCEMENT OF RULES AND VIOLATIONS

The rules and expectations listed herein are in place to ensure the quality development of our teams while maintaining the integrity of our organization. Any (parents or players) violations of these rules will be handled by the following manner, and can be adjusted based on severity.

1. A formal warning will be issued and documented.
2. A suspension from participation in at least one (1) game but no more than two (2) weeks will be issued and documented.
3. Possible expulsion from the Bison Baseball Program.

Bison Baseball - Parent/Player Contract

- G. BIRTH CERTIFICATE:** Players must have a copy of their birth certificate or photo ID available. Any team can challenge the age of a team member, if there is no record of birth certificate players can be removed from participating and games forfeited. We ask that you email a digital copy of the birth certificate/ID with this contract to your players coach with the player's name and date of birth in the subject.

WAIVER and RELEASE: I hereby give permission to treat with medical attention. By turning in this signed form you hereby absolve The Licking County Family YMCA, Bison Baseball, its' staff, and all affiliates, from any injury or damage caused intentionally or unintentionally before, during, or after any organizational related activities. I KNOWINGLY AND FREELY ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS, both known and unknown, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES or others, and assume full responsibility for my participation. The LCFYMCA or Bison Baseball is not responsible for any injuries or damage to property.

“Join the Herd: Be the Thunder”

Volunteer Hours: Each player will be required to volunteer a minimum of 6 community service hours. Volunteer opportunities will be made available, and a hours sheet will be assigned to track hours. This is an initiative to give back to our community through our “The Herd Cares Program” which allows us to make a greater individual contribution to our county and community.

“Join the Herd: Be the Thunder”



PARENT / PLAYER CONTRACT SIGNATURE FORM

Please fill in and sign below. Return this page to:

Licking County Family YMCA/Ohio Bison Baseball – 470 W. Church St, Newark OH 43055 as soon as possible after reading and agreeing to the terms of the contract.

_____ (Print Player Name) hereby
accepts the foregoing contract including items A. through G., and all terms and conditions
thereof. Date of Birth verification _____ (mm/dd/yyyy). On May 1st of the
upcoming baseball season, this player will be _____ years old, and High
School Grad Year is: 20_____

Player Signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

_____ (must have this checked) I have submitted my nonrefundable deposit to make this
contract official. I understand fundraising and financing options are available any/all player dues
but it is the responsibility of the parents to inquire about such options, please email:
adam.jenkins@lcfymca.org . Parent/Guardian Contact information Parent(s) Names

Address _____ Home _____

Phone _____ Cell _____ Primary _____

Email(s) _____

THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING Ohio Bison Baseball!

“Join the Herd: Be the Thunder”