

2021-2022

Las Vegas Wolfpack Baseball Club

Coaches Contract

I, \_\_\_\_\_ hereby commit to be a coach of the Las Vegas Wolfpack Baseball Club. As a coach, I understand that how I carry myself on and off the field is critical – my behavior is modeled by players and parents while it may be dissected by the opposition. As such, I will do my best to follow these rules. Any violations of these rules will lead to immediate disciplinary action up to and including termination.

**1. I will set a good example by modeling the same basic expectations set for players and parents.** If an expectation is reasonable for a parent or player, I should also be expected to follow those same standards.

**2. I will practice high ethical standards and only direct my team to play within the rules.** We will always attempt to play within the rules of fair play, regardless of whether they are enforced.

**3. I will have a thorough understanding of the rules of the game and those applicable to the tournaments we play.** I will be a student of the official and tournament rulebooks so that I am properly prepared.

**4. I will do everything I can to best prepare my players for the situations they will face.** We will use practice as a time to thoroughly cover situations so that players are positioned to succeed.

**5. I will have clear, written team rules and expectations for players, parents, and coaches.** It is unfair to all if the rules and expectations are not in writing.

**6. I will consistently enforce team rules.** While severity, frequency and context will matter, it's important to enforce rules fairly.

**7. I will have clear, written expectations for players regarding team philosophy and approach.** Beyond rules, players need to have a clear understanding of how we as a team will consistently approach the game.

**8. I will enforce gameplay discipline due to mental and not physical mistakes.** Players will make mistakes, particularly physical ones. Mental mistakes are a sign of poor preparation or approach and need to be corrected and prevented.

**9. I will not enforce gameplay discipline due to mental mistakes if I did not adequately prepare the player for that situation.** If a player was not properly prepared to handle a situation, I can't be disappointed in his decision. Correction and preparation – not discipline – are required.

**10. I will consciously provide more positive than negative reinforcement.** I understand that this significantly impacts a player's passion to play the game and ability to learn.

**11. I will treat all kids fairly, including my own.** I will do my best to evaluate players and assign roles in an unbiased light.

**12. I will treat all our players with the respect they deserve.** My role is to teach the game of baseball and some life lessons along the way. These are kids developing into young adults, and they all deserve my respect.

**13. I will always be physically and mentally prepared.** I will provide proper equipment and do my best to be prepared for any situation at any time.

**14. I will determine roles, positions, lineups and playing time in good faith.** These things will be determined based on an honest assessment of ability, effort, teamwork, preparedness, execution and fulfillment of team rules and philosophy.

**15. I will arrive early to practices and games to be sure that I am prepared prior to players arriving.** Players should never wait for their coach to arrive with equipment and instruction.

**16. I will enforce safety at all times, including but not limited to proper use of equipment.** Roles will be assigned with safety in mind, giving positions to players who show their execution of that role will keep themselves and others safe.

**17. I will not risk the health of a player's arm in an effort to win.** I will obey pitch limits, remove a player who complains of a sore arm and practice caution to prevent arm injury.

**18. I will take lightning seriously and will not risk the safety of my team, coaches and families.** If lightning is close by, the game or practice is no longer important. The players, coaches and families must be removed.

**19. I will respect decisions made by the umpires.** I will not always agree with them, but I will do my best to have respectful discussions with a calm demeanor when those situations arise.

**20. I will be a role model for my players regarding good sportsmanship, teamwork, and self-worth.** I realize that players and families will often follow my lead. It is important that we all practice good sportsmanship and respect of others and ourselves.

**21. I will respect the opposing team, coaches, players, and fans.** While games can get intense, we will practice friendly competition and show respect for our opponents.

**22. I understand that winning is important, but the primary objective is promoting an environment of growth and learning.** We will always try to win the game but winning will be secondary to a commitment for our core values.

**23. I will handle winning with class and losing with grace.** Winning is exciting, but I will not forget the pain and disappointment that are often felt on the other side. Likewise, as a team we will keep our heads up high when we lose and show respect to the winning team.

**24. I will practice self-control, setting a positive example for others.** The game is full of exciting moments and passion, but as the coach I have a responsibility to remain calm.

**25. I will clearly communicate schedules and team info with families in a timely manner.** I will use timely email, text messaging, software, handouts or whatever means necessary to keep families properly informed.

**26. I will promote an environment where I am approachable for fair and open discussions with players and parents.** While parents and players will not always agree with my decisions, it is important that they see their coach as someone they can approach with an open dialog.

**27. I will make an effort to get to know all kids and families personally.** Throughout the season, we will become a baseball family. It is my responsibility as the coach to get to know these kids and families outside of their baseball world to better understand and communicate with them.

I will always do my best to follow these rules. While I am not expected to be perfect and we will all have our weak moments, the main thing is that I will make a consistent effort to help nurture a positive environment for all.

However, I will not consistently neglect or ignore these rules. Depending on the severity and frequency of my infractions, I understand that my actions may impact the standing of myself on this team.

I understand these rules, and I will do my best to always represent this team.

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Coaches Signature

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