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Britton's Bullpen Baseball Organization
Parent/Player Handbook

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Mission Statement | Goals

Our goal is to provide our players and parents with a great baseball experience, with a professional feel and environment. This is only feasible with the cooperation from our parents, who must first put their trust into our organization and our developmental philosophies. We are driven to lead our parent managers and parent coaches in the development of our players, on and off the field.

Mission Statement - Our mission within our baseball organization is to provide players with the opportunity to succeed on the field of play, but more importantly, help them build character traits that will be essential in being successful in life.

Philosophy - We feel it is vital to develop great work ethic. As an organization, we pride ourselves in developing our player's work ethic and demand a great effort from each player. We are confident in our teaching techniques and realistic approach for each individual player. We believe it is also important that each player is given a transparent view of playing time and playing situations.

A great work ethic + good character + extensive player development + supportive parents = Winning

- We will respect the game of baseball
- We will win with class and lose with class
- We emphasize working hard and at the end of the year, we should have more wins than losses
- We feel it is more important to teach our players how to deal with defeat, rather than emphasize a loss
- We accept losing, only with a good effort. We will never condone losing with a poor effort. We will not dwell on a loss, but only talk about situations in which we could have been better prepared and how to handle situations differently in the future

Our goal is to provide a "no nonsense" approach for our ball players. We will not entertain any type of the following distractions from parents, coaches or players that will include, but are not limited to:

- Player or parent bullying
- Delinquency
- Crying
- Throwing of equipment
- Showing up a coach, teammate or opponent
  - Including trash talk, bat flips, excessive celebrations

- Player tardiness
- Theft
- Jealousy
    - Our parents will applaud, and be supportive of each other's accomplishments
    - There is no room in our organization for jealousy of fellow players, or fellow players accomplishments

To protect the best interest of the business, we may make mid-season changes or moves that could include:

- Field staff positioning
- Players
- Parents

Our goal is to find the best fit for each individual player. This will sometimes mean that the best fit for that player may be removal from a team. If we have one individual player or parent negatively affecting the rest of our team or organization, we will remove them from our organization without hesitation. We do not, and will not tolerate any manipulative actions by parents or players in our organization. This is a business and we must protect the best interest of the business first and foremost.

We ask players to hold each other accountable for each other's actions. This includes on the field as well as off the field. We will encourage our players to speak up and be leaders. This does not mean that everything our players say and do will be correct, but the emphasis is to teach them to be leaders and be vocal. We will help correct our players as we progress throughout the season, but please be understanding of this process.

Statistics

- Each team will have the option of keeping a book, whether it be paper or *iScores* (to which a team *iPad* will be provided).

League Ball

- We do not discourage anyone from playing with their local league. Please keep in mind, it will be difficult to get better as a team if players are not attending our practice during the regular season. Committing to play in our organization, means you're committing to practice

Pitching Philosophy

- Our overall goal is not to win championships at a young level, but to teach our players how to play the game the best way possible with respect and good character. We will not over use a player to pitch. We will have certain pitchers on each team that will throw more than others, but we will follow strict pitch counts and pitching policies that are non-debatable
- Our number one job for our pitchers is to protect their arms and give them a chance to pitch at a higher lever later in their careers
- We will condition our pitchers after outings where a certain pitch count has been reached. This means that more often than not, a starting pitcher will be removed from a game in order to condition and take care of their arm
- Any managers or coaches who do not follow pitch counts will be subject for removal. No questions asked.

Management Team

Phil Britton (618-388-1000)
- Owner and President
- General Manager
- Roving Instructor

Andy Britton (618-843-0994)
- Owner
- Head Grounds Keeper
- Sound Technician

Brenda Britton (618-843-0996)
- Owner
- Special Assistant to the General Manager

Micah Jo Britton (618-388-1007)
- Treasurer & Head of Fundraising
- Marketing
- Design
- Special Assistant to the General Manager

Michelle Schafer (618-562-3960)
- Assistant General Manager
- Field Staff Coordinator
- Recruiting coordinator

Shawn Nix (618-204-8471)
- Scheduling Coordinator
- Traveling Secretary
- Recruiting coordinator

Job Titles and Descriptions

General Manager | What to expect:

- Honest and realistic answers, to questions asked
- Evaluate players and their progress
- Evaluate manager and coaches progress
- Create workout routines for each team
- Create structured practice plans and enforce those plans
- Host coaching clinics for the managers and coaches with mandatory attendance
- Make sure each individual player gets the opportunity to play at the offered positions agreed upon by the organization and the player before the start of the season
- Maintain a productive atmosphere for our players to succeed
- Educate our coaches and parents on why certain decisions baseball decisions are made
- Perform coaching interviews

Assistant General Manager | What to expect:

- Honest and realistic answers to questions asked
- Handle parent conflict issues
- Handle playing time issues
- Create line up suggestions
- Assist in evaluating players
- Assist with job interviews
- Assist in performing manager(s) and coach(es) evaluations
- Assist in creating practice plans

Scheduling Coordinator and Traveling Secretary | What to expect:

- Managers and coaches will be the only people to contact the SCTS
- Plan/Schedule tournament events for all teams
- Help coaches obtain contact information
- Help coaches with scheduling games
- Help coaches with finding umpires
- Work with coaches and managers to help set up team functions
- Receive all practice and game schedules to be sorted and separated into a master schedule

Treasuer & Director of Marketing and Design | What to expect:

- Handle all questions about website and design
- Handle all fan gear (apparel) questions and concerns

- Receive all logo and artwork from sponsors
- Create team functions and team parties
- Special assistant to the GM
- Head of fundraising

Managers jobs and responsibilities (but are not limited too)

- Enforcing all code of conduct
- Enforcing organizational policies
- Enforce pitchers post-game run and stretch
- Hotel booking for teams
- Follow up with hotel staff before check out for any parent, or player misconduct issues
- Organize a set schedule with the traveling secretary
- Schedule double headers WITH umpires
- Schedule 2 practices per week off-season
- Schedule 1-2 practices per week in-season
- Must report all scheduled practices and games to the management team
- Plan pregame workouts and fundamentals
- Handle all post game work and plans
- Delegate responsibilities to coaching staff
- Collect uniform and player profile information and report to marketing
- Create line ups
- Keeping dugout focus
- Creating post game summaries
- Communicating player arrival time and uniform selection 24 hours before each game or practice
- Create a substitution plan
  - Inform each player of their particular job for each individual game if they are starting as a substitute
  - Pitch counts will vary from pitcher to pitcher depending on the player types and condition a player is in
  - It is the managers responsibility communicate with parents on each individual players pitch count and comfort zone

Pitching Coach

- Create and enforce a pregame pitching routine
- Create and enforce a post game routine
- Educate pitchers and catchers in game pitch calling
- Mentally and physically prepare each pitcher to throw when they are asked to do so
- Report to the manager which pitchers are available to pitch in each game

- The pitching coach will be required to follow the pitch count game plan
- Pitch counts will vary by player, unless the ultimate pitch count is reached
- It is the pitching coaches responsibility to make sure the pitcher who is first up, is getting prepared to enter the ball game
- Help prepare the manager for options of players to enter the game to pitch

Field Coach/Bench Coach

- Enforce manager defensive position changes
- Keep outfielder hats and gloves together
- Keep infielder hats and gloves together
- Keep parents and family away from players in the dugout during games
- Maintain dugout organization
- Delegate equipment duties to parents and players
- Maintain dugout focus
  - Asking open ended questions in certain situations
- Preparing players to enter into the game

Individual Cost (Fee)

Initial fee covers (does not include any of the team expenses)

- Pinstripe top
- Pinstripe bottom
- Hat
- Helmet

8u | $275

Payment 1: $275 will be due November 1, 2016

9u | $375

Payment 1: $187.50 will be due November 1, 2016
Payment 2: $187.50 will be due December 1, 2016

10u | $475

Payment 1: $159 will be due September 1, 2016
Payment 2: $159 will be due October 1, 2016
Payment 3: $159 will be due November 1, 2016

11u - 12u | $600

Payment 1: $150 will be due September 1, 2016
Payment 2: $150 will be due October 1, 2016
Payment 3: $150 will be due November 1, 2016
Payment 4: $150 will be due December 1, 2016

13u - 18u | $775

Payment 1: $193.75 will be due September 1, 2016
Payment 2: $193.75 will be due October 1, 2016
Payment 3: $193.75 will be due November 1, 2016
Payment 4: $193.75 will be due December 1, 2016

Team Expenses

In addition to the player fee, each team will be responsible for meeting their projected expenses. Fundraising opportuties are structured to help alleviate the overall expense to play and participate. If a team does not have money in their account, parents and players may be asked by each manager of their team to split costs to play games, whether it is double headers or tournaments.

- We strongly encourage a minimum of 2 instruction hours per month in the months of January-April to track progress and make sure our players are improving in their personal development
- There will be several tournaments that will be mandatory for each team to be present at; this allows the GM a chance to see multiple teams in the same day
- Each team will have the independence to play as many or as few baseball games as they decide on, depending on the money raised
- The 8u - 12u season will finish by the the first week of June
- The 13u and 14u season will finish by the first week of July
- The 15u - 18u season will finish by the end of July

8U - 11 man roster

- 20-25 game season
- 30 PA's per player
- April
  - 2 tournaments
  - 2 double headers
- May
  - 2 tournaments
  - 2 double headers
- June (optional)
  - 1 tournament
  - 2 double headers

GM will be present at:

- 1 tournament
- 4 indoor practices
- 4 outdoor practices

Season Cost Breakdown

- 5 tourneys @ $300 per = $1,500
- 6 Double headers @ $60 per game = $720
- 6 dozen baseballs @ $50 per dozen = $300
- Insurance = $150

- 8 indoor practices @ $100 per = $800
    - Uniform $120 x11 players = $1,320
    - Bag $60 x 11 players = $660
    - End-Of-Season Banquet = $300
    - Misc. Expenses = $500
    - Projected team total expenses = $6,250

9U - 11 man roster
- 25-30 game season (will practice with 10U)
- 40 PA's per player
- April
    - 2 tournaments
    - 3 double headers
- May
    - 2 tournaments
    - 3 double headers
- June (optional)
    - 1 tournament
    - 3 double headers

GM will be present at:
- 2 tournaments
- 8 indoor practices
- 3 outdoor practices

Season Cost Breakdown
- 5 tourneys @ $400 per = $2,000
- 9 Double headers @ $70 per game = $1,260
- Insurance = $150
- 8 indoor practices @ $100 per = $800
- Uniform $120 x11 players = $1,320
- Bag $60 x 11 players = $660
- End-Of-Season Banquet = $300
- Misc. Expenses = $500
- Projected team total expenses = $7,190

10U - 11 man roster
- 30-35 game season (will practice with 9U)
- 50 PA's per player
- April
    - 2 tournaments
    - 3 double headers
- May
    - 3 tournaments
    - 3 double headers

- June (optional)
  - 1 tournaments
  - 1 double headers

GM will be present at:

- 2 tournaments
- 8 indoor practices
- 4 outdoor practices

Season Cost Breakdown

- 6 tourneys @ $450 per = $2,700
- 7 Double headers @ $80 per game = $1,120
- Insurance = $150
- 6 dozen baseballs @ $50 per = $300
- 8 indoor practices @ $100 per = $800
- Uniform $120 x11 players = $1,320
- Bag $60 x 11 players = $660
- End-Of-Season Banquet = $300
- Misc. Expenses = $500
- Projected team total expenses = $7,950

11U - 11 man roster

- 35-40 game season (will practice with 12u)
- 60 PA's per player
- April
  - 3 tournaments
  - 2 double headers
- May
  - 4 tournaments
  - 2 double headers
- June (optional)
  - 1 tournaments
  - 1 double header

GM will be present at

- 2 tournaments
- 8 indoor practices
- 6 outdoor practices
- 2 double headers

Season Cost Breakdown

- 8 tourneys @ $450 per = $3,600
- 5 Double headers @ $80 per game = $800
- Insurance = $150
- 6 dozen baseballs @ $50 per = $300
- 8 indoor practices @ $100 per = $800
- Uniform $120 x11 players = $1,320
- Bag $60 x 11 players = $660

- End-Of-Season Banquet = $300
- Misc. Expenses = $500
- Projected team total expenses = $8,430

12U - 12 man roster
- 35-40 game season (will practice with 11u)
- 60 PA's per player
- April
  - 3 tournaments
  - 2 double headers
- May
  - 4 tournaments
  - 2 double headers
- June (optional)
  - 1 tournament
  - 1 double header

GM will be present at
- 4 tourneys
- 8 indoor practices
- 6 outdoor practices
- 2 double headers

Season Cost Breakdown
- 8 tourneys @ $450 per = $3,600
- 5 Double headers @ $80 per game = $800
- Insurance = $150
- 6 dozen baseballs @ $50 per = $300
- 10 indoor practices @ $100 per = $1,000
- Uniform $120 x12 players = $1,440
- Bag $60 x 12 players = $720
- End-Of-Season Banquet = $300
- Misc. Expenses = $500
- Projected team total expenses = $8,810

13U - 12 man roster $775 individual player fee
- 45-50 game season
- 70 PA's per player
- April
  - 3 tournaments
  - 2 double headers
- May
  - 3 tournaments
  - 2 double headers
- June
  - 3 tournaments

- 1 double header
- July (optional)
  - 1 tournaments

GM will be present at

- 5 tourneys
- 8 indoor practices
- 6 outdoor practices
- 2 double headers

Season Cost Breakdown

- 10 tourneys @ $450 per =$4,500
- 5 Double headers @ $80 per game = $800
- Insurance = $150
- 6 dozen baseballs @ $50 per = $300
- 10 indoor practices @ $100 per = $1,000
- Uniform $120 x12 players = $1,440
- Bag $60 x 12 players = $720
- End-Of-Season Banquet = $300
- Misc. Expenses =$500
- Projected team total expenses = $9,710

14U - 13 man roster

- 45-50 game season
- 80 PA's per player
- April
  - 3 tournaments
  - 2 double headers
- May
  - 3 tournaments
  - 2 double headers
- June
  - 3 tournaments
  - 1 double header
- July (optional)
  - 1 tournament

GM will be present at

- 5 tourneys
- 8 indoor practices
- 6 outdoor practices
- 2 double headers

Season Cost Breakdown

- 10 tourneys @ $450 per = $4,500
- 5 Double headers @ $100 per game = $1,000
- Insurance = $150
- 6 dozen baseballs @ $50 per = $300

- 10 indoor practices @ $100 per = $1,000
- Uniform $120 x13 players = $1,560
- Bag $60 x 13 players = $780
- End-Of-Season Banquet = $300
- Misc. Expenses = $500
- Projected team total expenses = $10,090

15U - 14 man roster

- 30-35 game season
- 40 PA's per player
- June
  - 3 tournaments
  - 3 double headers
- July
  - 3 tournaments
  - 3 double headers

GM will be present at

- 2 tourneys
- 5 indoor practices
- 5 outdoor practices
- 1 double headers

Season Cost Breakdown

- 6 tourneys @ $600 per = $3,600
- 6 Double headers @ $100 per game = $1,200
- Insurance = $150
- 6 dozen baseballs @ $50 per = $300
- 10 indoor practices @ $100 per = $1,000
- Uniform $120 x14 players = $1,680
- Bag $60 x 14 players = $840
- End-Of-Season Banquet = $300
- Misc. Expenses = $500
- Projected team total expenses = $9,570

16U - 14 man roster

- 30-35 game season
- 40 PA's per player
- June
  - 3 tournaments
  - 3 double headers
- July
  - 3 tournaments
  - 3 double headers

GM will be present at

- 2 tourneys
- 5 indoor practices
- 5 outdoor practices
- 1 double headers

Season Cost Breakdown

- 6 tourneys @ $600 per = $3,600
- 6 Double headers @ $100 per game = $1,200
- Insurance = $150
- 6 dozen baseballs @ $50 per = $300
- 10 indoor practices @ $100 per = $1,000
- Uniform $120 x14 players = $1,680
- Bag $60 x 14 players = $840
- End-Of-Season Banquet = $300
- Misc. Expenses = $500
- Projected team total expenses = $9,570

17U - 14 man roster

- 30-35 game season
- 40 PA's per player
- June
  - 3 tournaments
  - 3 double headers
- July
  - 3 tournaments
  - 3 double headers

GM will be present at

- 2 tourneys
- 5 indoor practices
- 5 outdoor practices
- 1 double headers

Season Cost Breakdown

- 6 tourneys @ $600 per = $3,600
- 6 Double headers @ $100 per game = $1,200
- Insurance = $150
- 6 dozen baseballs @ $50 per = $300
- 10 indoor practices @ $100 per = $1,000
- Uniform $120 x14 players = $1,680
- Bag $60 x 14 players = $840
- End-Of-Season Banquet = $300
- Misc. Expenses = $500
- Projected team total expenses = $9,570

18U - 14 man roster

- 30-35 game season
- 40 PA's per player
- June
  - 3 tournaments
  - 3 double headers
- July
  - 3 tournaments
  - 3 double headers

GM will be present at

- 2 tourneys
- 5 indoor practices
- 5 outdoor practices
- 1 double headers

Season Cost Breakdown

- 6 tourneys @ $600 per = $3,600
- 6 Double headers @ $100 per game = $1,200
- Insurance = $150
- 6 dozen baseballs @ $50 per = $300
- 10 indoor practices @ $100 per = $1,000
- Uniform $120 x14 players = $1,680
- Bag $60 x 14 players = $840
- End-Of-Season Banquet = $300
- Misc. Expenses = $500
- Projected team total expenses = $9,570

Fundraising

Each individual team will be responsible for raising the amount of money needed to pay for (but not limited to) their own:

- Fundraising bills
- Raffle expense
- Banner expense
- Practice Jersey
- Alternate Jersey
- Tournament fees
- Double headers or games (umpires)
- Field rental fees
- Baseballs
- Bags
- Pullovers/Warm-ups
- Team bats
- Indoor practices
- Line up cards
- Organizational equipment
- End-of-Season Banquet
- Approved Team Functions

The management team must first approve all uniform, equipment, apparel and team function purchases. Although each team has some independence; we still require our teams to follow an organizational uniform policy.

Fundraising Options | Listed below are fundraisers in which we setup for our players and teams in our organization.

- Raffle drawing
  - The raffle drawing will be one of the fundraising events in which all money raised, will collectively be split amongst our organization
  - Each ticket will be sold for $20 per ticket
  - All money and ticket stubs need reported to the team treasurer
- Team banners
  - Each individual team will be given the opportunity to sell advertising space on a traveling banner, as well as a banner that will hang inside of Britton's Bullpen
  - Each space will sell at $150
  - Business names, family names and memorials will be allowed on each banner

- It will be mandatory that each team hang the traveling banners at each event/tournament/ball game

- T-shirts
  - We will sell a select Britton's Bullpen Sponsor T-shirt in which all money raised will collectively be split amongst our organization
  - Each individual player, will be given the opportunity to sell advertising space on the back of the sponsor T-shirt, and the money raised from advertisements will be split amongst our organization
  - Each advertisement space will cost $50
  - The advertisement spot will be a single color, no bigger than 2.5"
- Laundry Detergent
  - Each individual team will be given the opportunity to sell laundry detergent

All money raised must be returned to Britton's Bullpen by December 3, 2016 in the required fundraising envelope (provided).

Projected team expenses will be divided amongst each player and each player will be responsible for their share. This number may differ from the projected team expense goals previously listed in the handbook. Managers will communicate to the player and parent(s) on any remaining fundraising balance that is due. Parents will be given the option to buyout remainder of balance or participate in additional approved fundraising.

Fundraiser Buyout Option

For those who choose not to fundraise - you are responsible for your portion of the team's expenses and will be held accountable. Should you choose not to participate in any fundraisers, you must meet your individual portion of the team's expenses by paying the amount listed below. Playing time will be restricted for those not meeting their team's expense obligations by the start of the spring season.

8u - $700	14u - $1000
9u - $700	15u - $800
10u - $800	16u - $800
11u - $900	17u - $800
12u - $900	18u - $800
13u - $1000	

Treasurer

The treasurer will be responsible for tracking team's incomes and expenses.

- After our initial fundraisers, each individual team will be responsible for producing the funds to pay for their own expenses
- All money raised from each team selling advertising space on their teams traveling banner, will be added to their overall total
- Will record all funds raised
- Will keep track of individual player fee payments
- Inform manager/coaches of unpaid fees
- Will be required to seek approval from the GM or Assistant GM for reimbursement
- It is the manager's responsibility to communicate with parents the team's financial needs

The GM and Assistant GM will be required to prioritize expenses that the team's money will be needed for:

- Tournaments
- Double headers
- Umpire Fees
- Bags and helmets
- Alternate uniforms
- Equipment
- Apparel (pullovers, warm-ups)
- Team meals
- End-of-Season Banquet

All remaining money will be rolled over to the following year to cover future expenses.

Playing Time

The only playing time we guarantee for each player, is a player reaching a milestone of Plate Appearances (PA's)

- The PA's milestone will only be reached if each player is present at every game. We will not be held accountable for players not reaching the allotted PA milestone if they are not able to make every game
- We do not guarantee equal playing time. We do our best to play everyone as much as we can, but to win ball games, certain players will play more than other players at certain times
- Tournament/Game cancellations due to inclement weather or not having enough players is something we cannot control. We will do our best to make-up scheduled games
- Listed below is a guideline of some of the basic necessities we feel are needed to play a full season of baseball at each level. We have listed a basic guide to reach the number of games we have set up as a goal to play

Each player will receive a minimum amount of PA's per season.
How to figure PA's over the course of a season (EXAMPLE):

- 1 game averages 25 PA's
- 10 man lineup / 25 PA's = 2.5 PA's per game
- 25 game season x 25 PA's per game = 625
- 625 total PA's available for a whole season / number of players on an 11 man team = 56.818
- We make sure each player receives at a minimum 50 PA's
- This leaves 66 extra PA's to divide amongst better hitters during the season in bracket games

Coach/Player Initiated Questions

First base coach questions: While the play is in progress verbal reminders (ball put in play)

- Point to the ball
- "Find the ball"
- "Hard turn"
- "Draw a throw"
- "Through the bag"
- "Pick up your coach"
- "Hard off, hard back"

After the runner reaches first base

- Where are your outfielders
- Where is the ball
- How many outs are there
- Did you get your signs
- What are you doing on a fly ball
- Where are the other base runners
- Are you anticipating a ball in the dirt
- What are you doing on contact

Bench coach questions:

- Is the pitcher throwing first pitch strikes
- What is the score
- What is your approach based on the situation
- Are you timing the pitcher
- Is the pitcher tipping his pitches
- Does the catcher have a good arm and quick release
- Does the pitcher hold runners on
- How are the outfield arms
- Awareness of changes in pitcher

Pitching coach questions:

- Are you varying your looks to first base
- How are you trying to finish hitters
- When is a good time to throw an off-speed pitch
- What kind of swings is the opposing team taking
  - Are they on time? Are they late? Are they early?
- What pitches do we throw when hitters are...
  - Ahead? Early? Late?
- How far away from the plate do their hitters stand?
- What is the umpires first name?

Offensive Situations

Hitting absolutes

- Two strike approaches will be used when our hitter has two strikes, and when we need to execute in certain situations.
  - Two strikes
  - Moving base runners (hit the ball to the right side of the infield on the ground)
  - Runner on third base less than 2 outs with a close ballgame, infield is playing back, a ground ball scores a run
  - Infield is playing back, less than two outs, a sac fly scores a run
- Bunt situations
  - We will continue to have our players bunt with two strikes
  - Sacrifice bunts are not for a base hit. We get in a good position to bunt early, and if executed, we will advance a runner for an out. It is not a surprise. The bunter's job is to advance the runner; it is not the runner's job to advance them. A well-placed bunt will work every time
  - We will only sacrifice bunt when we can bring the tying run into scoring position
- Runner on third base
  - Infield back
- Our hitter's job is to hit the ball to the shortstop or second baseman with the first good pitch available, which will score a run. This is a productive plate appearance
  - Infield in
- Our hitter's job with the infield in is to hit a fly ball into the outfield to be caught. This is a productive plate appearance
- Runner on second base or second and third base no outs
  - Our hitter's job is to advance the base runner to third base by hitting a ground ball to the right side of the infield. We are trading an out for a base. This is a productive plate appearance
- Taking pitches
  - Our hitters will have to mandatorily take until they get a strike from time to time. These are examples of when our hitters will take until they have a strike:
  - After our pitcher has had a long defensive half inning
  - In the last inning of a game when we are losing
  - After a 4 pitch walk from the previous batter
  - After the first two hitters have swung at their first pitch and gotten out (prevents a 3 pitch inning)

Defensive Situations

Defensive Situations to know and practice

- Bunt Defense
  - Runner on 1st
  - Runner on 2nd (including pick off)
  - Runner on 1st and 2nd (including pick off)
- 1st and 3rd defense
- Cuts and relays
  - Double cuts
- Double plays
- Straight steal
  - Who covers the bag
- Outfield positioning
- Infield positioning
- PFP's (Pitchers Fielding Practice)
- Bases loaded situations
- Do or die situations
- Pick off plays from the catcher
- Pick off plays at first
- Pick off plays at second

Our shortstop will be responsible in shifting our infield depending on the hitter and the situation

- The manager and/or bench coach will need to help lead our shortstop with defensive adjustments

Our center fielder will be responsible for shifting our outfielders depending on the hitter and situation

- Our manager and/or bench coach will be responsible for helping lead the adjustments

Pitching Policies

Absolutes:

- We pride ourselves on taking care of our player's arms and not over throwing our players to avoid injury. Our pitch counts and pitching policies are non debatable. They are absolutes.
  - An 8-10 minute run will be required after an outing in which a starting or relief pitcher has thrown more than 45 pitches. This will apply to ages 11u and above
  - Each pitcher will be required to go through a full body stretch after each outing
  - If the pitcher has been substituted from the game, and is not scheduled to re-enter, that pitcher will be required to run and stretch as soon as they are removed from the line up
  - The 8-10 minute run is not for punishment, it is to help flush the body of lactic acid build up and toxins in the muscles, and help reduce soreness and cramping which will aid in a quicker recovery

The best way for our catchers and pitchers to develop into proactive thinking baseball players is to call their own game. Using this method, our pitchers and catchers will make mistakes and make wrong pitch calls and pitch selections. This is perfectly normal and will be accepted. We will educate our pitchers and catchers as best we can, on how to call correct pitches in specific situations.

Pitch Count Limits by Level

- Spring limits
  - 9u-40
  - 10u-45
  - 11u-50
  - 12u-50
  - 13u-55
  - 14u-60
  - 15u-65
  - 16u-70
  - 17u-75
  - 18u-75
- Mid season limits
  - 9u-50
  - 10u-55
  - 11u-60
  - 12u-60
  - 13u-65

- 14u-70
- 15u-75
- 16u-80
- 17u-85
- 18u-85

The manager will select a parent or coach to keep track of pitches using a clicker. We keep a strict pitch count. Each player will not be allowed to go over our allotted pitch count unless other wise directed from the GM or assistant GM. If a pitcher throws less than 30 pitches in an outing, that pitcher will be available to pitch the following day, if agreed upon by the parents and the player.

Holding runners

- We will not rush our pitchers on the mound
- We teach our players to remain calm and evaluate each situation before we move on with the next play, or next pitch
- With runners on 1st and 3rd, we will automatically pick to first base before the next pitch is thrown
- If a tying, or go-ahead run is on first base, we will consistently hold the base runner
- It is our pitchers job to control the opposing teams running game. Mixing up the timing in which the pitch is thrown, and running pick off plays are our main way of holding runners to a conservative lead
- Our middle infielders will give our pitchers “look” signs each and every play. This is to help control the speed of the game, and slow down opposing teams running game

Parent Code of Conduct

Any questions or situations must first be addressed or communicated with the manager of the team. The team's manager will handle all issues or situations for each team and report each issue to the management team as needed. We will absolutely not entertain any type of dramatic issues that are a distraction from our overall goals.
We will absolutely not tolerate any parents, fans, or players yelling or screaming at umpires, players of another team, coaches of another team, or fans of another team. Doing so may result in a suspension or a termination from the team. Playing with class is one of our main priorities, and if our players or parents act in a disrespectful, classless way at the ballpark, appropriate actions will be taken. We will never ask any fan to leave the ballpark, but we may ask a fan to leave the seating area if a fan become a distraction. Our goal is to set up an environment for each player to succeed and gain more knowledge of the game with good sportsmanship and character. Outside distractions will hinder the development of our players and will not be tolerated

The manager of each team will have the authority to ask a parent to leave the seating area if he/she feels it is in the best interest of the team.

Playing time

- Every player will get playing time, but it will not be equal. We aim to develop every player, which means giving everyone innings and plate appearances
- We are not required to fulfill the milestone of plate appearances per player if that player is not present for each game played, or we have cancellations.
- Playing time questions or concerns will not be discussed until the middle of the season at best
- Begining in the month of June, managers will have the option to manage every game to win. This means some players may see less playing time

Social Media

- Any negative comments, pictures or gestures made or referring to the following things, will be grounds for an immediate removal from our organization without any discussion:
  - Britton's Bullpen and field staff
  - Britton's Bullpen Baseball Organization Management Team
  - Families within Britton's Bullpen organization
  - Opposing teams/players and their families

- Umpires
- Players who have been removed from the organization

Hotel

• Any issues with the hotel staff needs to be reported to the manager as soon as possible, it is not the parent's responsibility to take care of team issues at the hotel (i.e. a hotel staff member harassing a player or players). The manager will resolve the issue
• Parents and players will not be allowed to use hotel property for other uses than what that object is intended for (i.e. racing luggage racks in a hotel parking lot. Throwing pool chairs into the swimming pool)
• Player curfew is 10:00p, unless directed otherwise
• Everyone who is checked into the hotel will be responsible for the actions of their own children. We will not allow our player's families to freely run throughout the hotel
• Parents will be asked to leave the lobby of the hotel by 11:00p unless directed otherwise
• Adult beverages will be permitted in and around the hotel, only if poured into a cup. We will not tolerate beer cans and trash laying around the lobby of the hotel and seating area

Ballpark

• Any issues at the ballpark involving the host of the tournament will need to be reported to the manager of each team. It is not a parents responsibility to take care of issues involving tournament directors or tournament hosts
• Never enter the dugout or playing field for any reason, this includes player siblings
• Understand that players are not allowed to leave the dugout during the game
• Never coach from the stands
• This includes calling pitches

Umpires

• Our manager will be the only individual to communicate with umpires, regardless of the situation. We will not tolerate parents talking, yelling, screaming or making sarcastic remarks to umpires
• We teach our players to ask and know each umpires individual name. We ask our players to try to build relationships with umpires and communicate well with them. We teach

them the fact that umpires are no different than players, they have personalities and feelings, and can be right as well as wrong, which is no different than players and parents. Umpires are an important part of the game, but not the most important part of it. The emphasis always needs to revolve around our players and not umpires. The manager will take care of any issues with umpires as needed

• If an umpire communicates with a manager about a fan being disrespectful, you will be asked to leave the seating area with no questions asked

Opposing Players

• We will not tolerate any of our fan(s) taunting, jeering, yelling or screaming at other players, regardless of the situation

• We encourage our fans to applaud great plays made by opposing teams as well

• If there are opposing players disrespecting our team's property, or our players, report it to our manager of the team and proper action will be taken. It is not our parents responsibility to address opposing team issues

Our Players

• We encourage our parents to help discipline/remind our players of our code of conduct and dress code when we are together as a group. Our code of conduct and dress code policy is only as good as our parental support. As a staff, we are not able to see everything that happens good and bad, but with the help of our parents (and the ultimate goal being to help build good character and develop great work ethics); it is common sense to work together as a group to help each other out when needed.

Disciplinary Action

• Our overall goal is to go out and play good baseball and enjoy the summer. If parents disrespect our organization with selfish actions and violate our code of conduct, we will bench and or suspend players. It is a very simple policy, respect our organization and what we stand for, or your child does not play

• In certain circumstances, not everyone will be punished for one individual's actions. The GM, Assistant GM, SCTS, and Manager will be able to take disciplinary action when warranted.

Player Code of Conduct

Our players will be held accountable for their actions. Our player code of conduct only works if our parents help enforce and demonstrate respect of it.

Teammates

- We will teach our players to respect each other on and off the field. We will not tolerate a player "showing up" another player. Nobody is better than anyone else
- Examples include:
  - Throwing hands up in the air after a bad play
  - Talking to another player about a play another player made
  - Talking to parents about a play another player should have made

It needs to be clear, we will pull a player during the middle of the game with no hesitation if the player is showing up another on or off the field

Cell Phones

- No cell phones will be allowed in the dugouts. Each player will need to leave cell phones with their parents
- No cell phones will be allowed after 10pm on weekend tournaments

Hotel

- Curfew 10:00pm
- In your own hotel room by 10:00p unless otherwise directed
- No running/yelling in the hallways or letting doors slam on the door latches
- Shirts and shoes will be required at all times when entering and leaving the swimming pool area

Dress Code

- Players will be required to wear collared shirts and closed toed shoes to all team functions unless a staff member directs them otherwise. No athletic shorts can be worn with collared shirts
- Examples of places that our dress code must be followed but not limited to:
  - Every time a player enters or exits the hotel (players will change into a uniform in the dugout or in their vehicle)
  - Any time you go out to eat in a public place before or after a game
- Any team function unless otherwise directed

Players will **not** be permitted to wear the following items during baseball events

- Flat bill hats
- Arm sleeves
- Necklaces
- Eye black
- Sunglasses on the front of the hat
- Headphones
- Sandals
- Mohawks
- Sunglasses while pitching (unless required by a doctor)

Dugout behavior

- Never leave the dugout during a game
- We will not tolerate inappropriate behavior in the dugout
- Distractions in the dugout will result in limited playing time and disciplinary action. The following actions will warrant discipliary action
  - Spitting seeds/drink at other players or their property
  - Throwing equipment
  - Screaming at other players

Practice Attire

- Each player will be required to wear grey pants and a team workout shirt
- Each player may be required to order workout shirts from www.brittonsbullpen.com

Disciplinary action

- Our disciplinary actions are not debatable
- We believe in conditioning our players as part of our disciplinary action. We will condition our players if we feel they are disrespectful, causing dramatic issues within the organization, or not giving a good effort
  - By using this method, we feel we are able to teach our players to be accountable for their own actions as well as others
- We feel that it is our job to make sure we get a good effort, on the field as well as of the field, each and every day. If they fail to give a good effort, we will make sure we get an effort out of them through conditioning. We will condition them to make up for a lack of effort. This often applies to the whole team in most cases. We will win as a team, lose as a team and condition as a team. In certain circumstances, not everyone will be punished for one individual's actions.

Parent and Group Participation

We will need parent participation and volunteering to help meet our overall goals for the season. Listed are a few scenarios in which we will ask parents to help but are not limited to:

- Traveling with banners and making sure they get hung at games
- Field work
- Car pooling
- Housing players during weekend tournaments on rare occasions
- Working fundraisers
- Keeping a scorebook

Team Apparel

Standard Uniform.
Rest of team apparel can be viewed online at:
www.brittonsbullpen.com

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