

New Berlin Baseball Team Rules & Expectations

I. Required Documentation & Eligibility

All players must have the following information on file with the school prior to any participation. Documents are available at www.pretzelathletics.com/forms:

- **Physical Examination:** Current within 395 days.
- **Insurance:** Proof of insurance (copy of card).
- **Fees:** \$60 per sport (\$240 family maximum).
- **Signed Consents:** Athletic Signature Sheet, Code of Conduct Receipt, Concussion Information, CUSD #16 Drug Testing (HS only), and IHSA Performance Enhancing Substances (HS only).

II. Attendance & Conduct

- **Mandatory Attendance:** Players are expected to attend all practices and games unless otherwise communicated directly to the coach.
- **Player Responsibility:** If a player must miss practice, the **player** (not a parent or teammate) is responsible for contacting the coach. Uncommunicated absences are unacceptable and subject to consequences determined by the coaching staff.
- **Punctuality:** Players must be dressed and ready to go at the scheduled practice time, not just arriving.
- **Effort:** While at practice, players are expected to hustle, maintain a positive attitude, and work to improve both individually and as a team.

III. Practice & Game Procedures

- **Standard Schedule:** Practices at the beginning of the season run from 3:30–6:30 PM. Weekday games typically start at 4:30 PM, and Saturday games typically start at 10:00 AM.
- **Weather Policy:** If a game is canceled due to weather, players should anticipate having practice. Days off are rare.
- **Field Maintenance:** Players are responsible for field care before and after practices and home games. Expect 15–30 minutes of field work (home plate, mound, bases, bullpens, and dugouts) after these events.
- **Home Games:** Players should report directly to the field immediately after school.

IV. Transportation

- **Bus Departure:** Players must be at the Dome parking lot 15 minutes prior to the scheduled bus departure time.
- **Return Travel:** After away games, parents must sign their child out with an assistant coach to drive them home. Players may not ride home with anyone else without a prior written note (photos of notes sent via the Band App are acceptable).

V. Communication Protocols

- **Primary Tool:** The **Band App** is the primary method for team communication and weather notifications.
- **Conflict Resolution:** To discuss concerns, parents should email Coach Gum at bgum@pretzelpride.com or message via the Band App to schedule a meeting.

- **Strict Rule:** Do not confront a coach before or after a practice or contest. These times are often emotional and do not lead to productive resolutions.
- **Time-Sensitive Matters:** For urgent issues, contact the coach by phone at 217-691-2689.

VI. Equipment & Apparel

- **Required Game Gear:** White helmet, navy socks, navy belt, team hat, and navy undershirts.
- **Pants:** Both white and grey pants with navy stripes are required.
- **Hats:** Players must purchase their own hat for \$25 (or reuse the hat from the previous year).

New Berlin Baseball: Parent Responsibilities & Expectations

To ensure a successful season for our student-athletes, we rely on the active participation and support of our families. Below are the primary responsibilities for parents throughout the season:

I. Concessions Participation

The concession stand is a vital part of our home game experience and program support.

- **Volunteering:** Every parent is asked to cover at least one home game in the concession stand.
- **Scheduling:** Once the roster is finalized, a concession document will be sent out with randomly assigned dates.
- **Conflicts:** If you are unable to work your assigned date, you are responsible for reaching out to other parents to switch shifts.
- **Timing:** For weekday games starting at 4:30 PM, the concession stand should be open and ready by 4:15 PM.

II. Fundraising Support

Our primary fundraiser is the **Trivia Night**, which directly benefits the New Berlin Baseball Program.

- **Family Participation:** Every player and their family is expected to participate in fundraising efforts.
- **Fundraising Goal:** Our program goal is to raise **\$100 or more per player**.
- **Class Baskets:** Each class is responsible for putting together a basket to be raffled off during Trivia Night.
- **Trivia Night Details:**
 - **Date:** March 8th.
 - **Location:** Knights of Columbus-New Berlin (715 E Illinois St).
 - **Cost:** \$10 per player, with a maximum of 10 players per table.

III. Transportation & Safety

- **Away Games:** After away contests, parents **must** sign their child out with an assistant coach if they are riding home with you.
- **Alternative Transportation:** Players are not permitted to ride home with anyone other than a parent without a written note provided prior to the game.
 - *Tip: You can write the note, take a photo of it, and send it to the coaches via the Band App.*

IV. Communication & Conduct

- **Band App:** Parents should join the "NBHS Baseball Parents" group on the Band App to receive timely notifications regarding schedule changes and weather cancellations.
- **Conflict Resolution:** If you have a concern to discuss with a coach, please email Coach Gum (bgum@pretzelpride.com) or use the Band App to schedule a meeting.
- **The 24-Hour Rule:** Please do not attempt to confront a coach immediately before or after a practice or game. These times are often emotional and are not productive for resolving concerns.
- **Punctuality:** Ensure your athlete is at the "Dome" parking lot **15 minutes early** for all bus departures.