

From: Wesclin Baseball

To: Parents of Prospective 2022 Middle School Players

It has become obvious to us that there has been significant change in the culture of school sports in general and baseball specifically.

We want to make it very clear that we encourage everyone to compete in as many sports as possible throughout the year. In schools the size of Wesclin High School and Middle School it is imperative that we have athletes competing in multiple sports. In the past, athletes concentrated their efforts with their Wesclin teams during their assigned seasons. However, we now see their efforts being spread across numerous other teams during the baseball season. The emphasis on instruction and training has been replaced with "showcasing" their talent. This is detrimental to the very concept of a team and teamwork.

In recent past seasons it has become more common that players have missed practices and games to attend other teams events or for outside employment. Some players have been dishonest with us as to the nature of their absence. This is unacceptable.

Our priorities as a team have always been and will always be:

- 1) Church and family.
- 2) Academics.
- 3) Wesclin Baseball.
- 4) Everything else.

Therefore, we are requiring 100% commitment to Wesclin Baseball during the upcoming season. While we encourage all sports activities, they must not interfere with our games or practices. We understand that we cannot enforce any restrictions of activities outside of Wesclin, however, it is our belief that it is unfair to our other players who are giving their efforts for our teams cause. Therefore, there will be consequences (as outlined in our Rules and Expectations sheet) for any missed practices or games.

Middle School Baseball Tryouts:

July 19 and 20, 2022 at 9:00a.m. (Rain date is July 21st)
Trenton Park, Diamond #2

Attendance is mandatory on ONE of those dates. There will be no makeup dates.

Also, it needs to be remembered that baseball is a weather dependent sport and scheduled activities may change unexpectedly.

Students must also have a current physical exam and signed insurance waiver **prior to** tryouts. Please plan your schedules accordingly.

If you find that you cannot abide by this commitment, then we wish you well in you other endeavors.

Signed,

Coach Swartz
Coach [Signature]

Coach Berkner
Coach [Signature]

Rules, Regulations for and Expectations of Wesclin Baseball Players

The goal of the Wesclin Baseball Program is to equip high school and middle school boys with the skills and the attitude to become competitive winners, not only in the sport of baseball, but in life.

It is understood that playing baseball for Wesclin High School or Wesclin Middle School is a privilege and not a right. Team rules may be enforced as an addendum or addition to the Wesclin Code of Conduct with regard to behavior at the discretion of the coaching staff and school administration.

Rules and Regulations

I) Academics

- a. All players are expected to maintain passing grades in all courses at all times during the fall semester (i.e.: If your name appears on the F list in more than 1 class, you are immediately suspended). You must present a note from the teacher stating that you now have a passing grade. **Additional consequences** may be applied as outlined in Section III.

II) Absences/Tardiness

- a. All players will report to games and practice sessions in appropriate attire and with all required equipment at the appointed time.
- b. The coaching staff, prior to its occurrence must grant excused absence or tardiness.
- c. Unexcused absences or tardiness will be dealt with immediately and without regard to the value of the player or the success of the team. Detentions/suspensions at school are considered unexcused.
- d. These behaviors will be dealt with as outlined in Section III.

III) Consequences

- a. In any 1 season
 - i. 1st offense - 1 game suspension for every day of practice or game missed.
 - ii. 2nd offense - suspension from games and practices for 1 calendar week.
 - iii. 3rd offense – termination from the team for that season.
- b. Any level of penalty, including immediate termination from the team may be applied at the discretion of the Head Coach should he believe that the offense is serious enough to warrant that penalty.

IV) Appearance

- a. There will be no jewelry or body piercing worn at practice sessions or games.
- b. All players will report to practice with all required equipment including:
 - i. Long pants and shirt (unless otherwise instructed)
 - ii. Glove
 - iii. Team cap

- iv. Protective cup
- v. Other equipment as needed (ex: personal catcher's gear).
- c. All players will report to games in full uniform. You are responsible for making sure that this happens. Equipment or uniform parts may not be borrowed from another player. If you do not have all of your equipment, you will not play in that game.
- d. Items will include:
 - i. Uniform pants and shirt
 - ii. Appropriate color undershirt, belt and socks
 - iii. Team cap
- e. These behaviors will be dealt with as outlined above in Section III.

V) Attitude

- a. **It should be understood as a member of this team, you are 100% COMMITTED to Wesclin Baseball during our season.** We understand that there are many other opportunities for you to play with select teams in baseball and many other sports, however, you will **NOT** be permitted to miss any practice or game time to be involved with any other teams.
- b. Wesclin baseball players and coaches will foster an attitude of respect for each other and attempt to make each other the best players and coaches that they can be. This will apply both on and off of the field. No player should consider himself above or better than any other team member.
- c. The locker rooms, buses or other forms of transportation are considered extension of the playing field.
- d. Cursing, demeaning, or other foul language will not be tolerated.
- e. There will be no fighting or taunting of anyone at anytime. This includes team members and non-team members alike.
- f. These behaviors will be dealt with as outlined above in Section III.

VI) Care of Equipment

- a. Players are expected to care for their own equipment and not to use anything belonging to anyone else without their permission. There may be consequences imposed for equipment left at games or practices. This will be outlined at the beginning of each season.
- b. While we understand normal wear from use, team equipment or apparel that is abused (i.e.: helmets, bats, uniforms, catching gear, etc.) will be paid for by the individual(s) involved should that equipment need to be replaced due to said abuse. They will be suspended from the team immediately and until appropriate payment is made. Lesser forms of abuse (i.e.: throwing equipment out of frustration) are also unacceptable and will result in consequences.
- c. These behaviors will be dealt with as outlined above in Section III.

VII) Respect Toward Opponents/Umpires

- a. Wesclin Baseball is well respected by other coaches, teams, umpires, reporters and scouts. We intend to continue to earn and maintain this level of respect. No player or coach is bigger than this team.
- b. We will treat all opponents with respect. Wesclin players and coaches are expected to cheer for their teammates. Opponents are to be congratulated for outstanding play. There will be no taunting, "trash talking" or other disrespectful behavior. Problems encountered with regard to the other team's behavior should be answered with silence and reported to the coaching staff or administration for further action.

- c. Umpires will be addressed as: “Mr. Umpire Sir” or “Sir” in a respectful tone of voice. Addressing the umpires by name or other term (ex: “Blue”) is not acceptable. Players will not argue with umpires. Coaches will handle all disagreements.
- d. Misbehaviors will be dealt with as outlined above in Section III.

VIII. Parents

- a. Parents and fans should not address coaches or players during practices or games. We want to have players full attention at all times. They should remain out of the dugout and off of the playing field at all times.
- b. **Playing time is not guaranteed!** Talent, effort and attitude will all be considered.
- c. Coaches will be available to discuss any issues that you may have at other times. Please call or email to set up an appointment for this. We request that you wait a minimum of 24 hours before addressing any complaints.
- d. If you use social media, understand that you will be monitored. While we realize that we cannot restrict your 1st Amendment rights, we hope that all postings will be of a positive nature toward our team and any opponent.

IX) Tryouts

- a. High School
 - i. If necessary, tryouts will be done on the 1st practice day.
- b. Middle School
 - i. Tryouts will be held prior to each season.
 - ii. **ATTENDANCE ON THE ASSIGNED DATE IS MANDATORY.** Exceptions will be made only in cases of injury, illness or family emergency. Please plan your schedules accordingly. Prior notification of date and time will be given to all potential players during the spring semester.
- c. The Head Coach will have final say on all decisions. Criteria will be both objective and subjective. Attitudes and behavior (on and off of the field) will be considered. Coaches will attempt to meet with any player that is cut in an attempt to suggest ways to improve his level of play and will be encouraged to tryout again the following season.

X) Appeals

- a. Decisions of the Head Coach are final. Any appeal should be made to the Director of Athletics for Wesclin Middle School.

XI) Acknowledgment

- a. **No player will be allowed to participate without this signed acknowledgment! The signature page must be returned to the coaching staff on the 1st practice day.**

Contact Information:

Head Coach: John Groennert 920-1800
Asst. Coach: Dave Neighbors 420-6413
JV Coach: Brian Berberich 520-5671

Keep these pages for future reference!

I have read, understand and agree with the Rules, Regulations and Expectations of the Wesclin Baseball Program as outlined in this document.

Player Name (Print)

Player's Signature Date

Parent's Signature Date

Return this page on the 1st day of practice after signing.
