

Stars and Stripes Sports Travel Organization

Columbia/Lexington/Irmo-South Carolina

Headquarters: 129 Oak Drive, Lexington, SC 29073

Stars and Stripes Sports has been providing baseball/softball development for many years in the local and national market. We have had hundreds of teams using our brand in offering families an affordable and meaningful experience focused around player development on and off the field. Today's players play too much and practice too little with much of the focus on social aspects that are not addressing the root of development in properly preparing players for High School, College and beyond. Test and Train Sports is the arm of the Eco-System that provides the development structure. Clients get both companies resources when joining our program.

Stars and Stripes Sports has the experience and resources necessary to provide the necessary environment for families to benefit from. No matter the need from 8 years old to the player who has already completed playing in High School, College or Professionally, we collaborate with individuals who can enhance our program. You will see many coaches in Stars and Stripes Sports who played for Stars and Stripes Sports because they understand the values we bring.

Baseball/Softball families have choices and if you value proven experience and an objective Data-Driven process that validates the developmental journey then you can consider joining our program. We are not looking for the best players and for families who put themselves in front of the program. We are here to feed passion and know that most of our players go on to play collegiately after having a successful high school career. Before that takes place, we teach players and families how to approach the game and build a foundation that is meaningful.

Stars and Stripes Families are for life! This is not a seasonal thing, families, coaches, professionals from all over the country value their participation and relationships built while involved with this program. We have had over 25,000 individuals play for our organization in the United States, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Canada and the Dominican Republic. Stars and Stripes Sports were deeply rooted in baseball and softball well before many of the "big names" were even in existence.



Many of our coaches were Stars and Stripes Sports players who understand the value provided by our organization. We have groomed and will continue to groom up and coming coaches who want to make an impact.

Invest your money in development and where you can measure the progressive development of the athletes participating. We are a very transparent organization that caters to providing a structured approach with accountability for all stakeholders. If this sounds like something you are interested in feel free to contact me at kellyahrens@starsandstripessports.com

### **Stars and Stripes Sports Details**

## **Participation Benefits**

- Athlete Management System used to test, train and develop athletes while allowing all stakeholders access so everyone can be accountable
- ACE Capacity Testing- Benchmark current capacity and use specialized programming to influence the specific needs of each athlete based upon their needs
- Tracking the progression of development to evaluate and adjust daily programming ensuring proper growth and development
- Daily Athletic Performance Survey- Holding the athlete accountable to the day-today implementation of programming provided by Test and Train Sports
- Test and Train Sports Village partners- top professionals in the country with specific influence capabilities
- Deliberate practices focused on Movement Efficiency, Defense, Offense and Base Running.
- Proper professional instruction of position specific technique
- Exposure to top professionals with specific areas of expertise that can influence athlete and assist with gaining mastery of skill
- Consulting services for athletes and their families who need direction with moving up to the next level. Lean on professionals who have done it and who are doing it where the athlete's best interest is always the most important.
- National network of teams, professional instructors, professional coaches and other resources specific to developmental needs
- Objective, Data-Driven feedback, that speaks the truth



- Affordable immediate influence with long-term influence to athletes playing the game all the way to athlete coaching/instructing in the game
- Environmental experience opportunities with regional, national and destination teams within the Stars and Stripes Sports Eco-Ecosystem
- Trusted and proven professionals who set the proper example and who get validated results in the developmental process
- Teaching competitive adaptability and what is really important in athletes' journey
- Providing an abundance of support with like-minded families who celebrate the success of all athletes within the organization

Fall Season - September 1 through December 31

Spring Season- January 1 through August 31

#### **Travel Team Structure:**

**Professionally Coached Team**- Coaches who have played or coached in college or professional baseball. These coaches are all mentored by and accountable to Stars and Stripes Sports Administration.

**Parent Coached Team-** Coaches who played baseball at some level but who thrive in helping with developing players. These coaches will be mentored by and accountable to Stars and Stripes Sports Administration.

Stars and Stripes Sports teams focuses on player development and for players to develop they must attend practice and receive professional instruction to gain mastery of skill. Playing in games is the test of what you have learned and retained in your training, families participating in this program value this approach. Family commitments are from one season at a time.

#### Costs:

\$100 per player -Seasonal expense to families for organization to properly manage this process, provide the Athlete Management System that acts as the compass for player development while providing all the equipment necessary to develop and run practices. Families pay this to confirm their commitment to the team.

\$150 per player for uniforms. We will provide two hats and two tops for each player. Players must wear grey pants, navy belts and navy socks. If a team wants to "custom" their



uniform order and do their own thing that would have to be unanimously agreed upon by that team and coordinated outside of Stars and Stripes Sports Administration.

#### **Practices:**

Stars and Stripes Sports typical practice plans are to practice 2 times per week.

\$20 a practice fee for those paid in advance for the month- 8 Practices a Month

\$25 a practice fee for those who just show up and pay for each practice

#### **Games/Tournaments:**

Stars and Stripes Sports typical tournament entries are every other week for local tournaments during the season. 8 to 10 tournaments a season.

Pre-Paid- Month in advance (if playing in September two tournaments, you must pay by September 1 the amount due)

#### **FIXED ROSTER PLAYER-Guaranteed spot on a team**

\$75 a tournament when paid in advance – 2 per month for a professionally coached team \$50 a tournament when paid in advance- 2 per month for a "parent coached team"

Per Event Payment (pay the week of the event- All tournament payments should be made before the player starts playing in a game)

BULLPEN PLAYER (not committed to all the tournaments, playing from time to time based upon team availability and player availability)

\$100 a tournament when paid per event –for a professionally coached team

\$75 a tournament when paid per event- for a "parent coached team"

\*If a team decides to travel and play in a tournament that charges higher fees, an additional \$25 to \$50 will be added to the tournament fee. The Head Coach will manage this with each team. One or two is ok but we are not intending to use these teams to travel and create unnecessary expense. We provide "National Team" options for players wanting to go play in other states and other tournaments.



#### **Example Season Cost:**

\$100 Commitment Fee/Administration Fee \$1,000 Practice Fees – 50 practices within a season pre-paid \$600 Tournament Fees- 8 pre-paid tournaments \$150 Uniform Fee

Total Expense for Player for a Season \$1,850

### **Stars and Stripes Sports Team Participation Terms**

Stars and Stripes Sports State Teams

8U - 18U Players

**Goal:** Provide opportunity to players wanting to take their games to the next level who show the ability, dedication and character to do so. These teams will focus on player development.

#### Ages 8U- 18U

- 10 to 14 Man Roster
- EVERY player must pitch- Everyone will try, no one player will be taxed to injury

#### Requirements

- Must be committed to the organization and team focused on being a team player
- Must attend practices on a regular basis
- Must attend tournaments you commit to
- Do what you commit to do- Always communicate with any issues that may arise

#### Coaching

- Stars and Stripes will provide a "Qualified" Head Coach who will also act as the General Manager of the team. A "Qualified" coach is a person who has played/coached or is playing/coaching in college or at the professional level.
   And/or if applicable in your area, you may participate on a team with a parent Head Coach
- Assistant coaches will be designated by the Head Coach and may be a parent.

#### **Practice**

Be on time and come prepared to get your work in



- Not "play time", focus on task at hand
- Regular attendance

#### Benefits

- Become a part of a National Organization that values proper player development
- Athlete Management System utilized for testing, training and development
- Professionally managed practices with long term development ideas in place
- Athlete Testing- benchmarking where player is and identifying specific needs for each player based upon their testing
- Professional resources- access to Mental MRI, G8Way Max, Neuro Guard, Latella Neuromuscular Training, etc.
- Proven organization with thousands of past participants who have gained value from relationship with Stars and Stripes Sports
- National reach, being able to travel and play at whatever level you wish within an
  organization that is connected in all states.

#### Miscellaneous Details

- Parent and player must sign agreement and agree to abide by Stars and Stripes
   Sports governing criteria as set out in contract
- Players are expected to make every tournament registered for unless an unforeseen issue arises.
- Stars and Stripes plans to continue to build this program on a National Basis and to establish multiple teams throughout the country representing Stars and Stripes Sports.
- We will bat a continuous line up
- We will practice "Free Substitution" on defense with no player sitting out more than one inning at a time
- We will track and follow USA Baseball guidelines for pitching, always looking to minimize the chance of injury. We will develop many pitchers so no one or two pitchers will ever carry the burden of the team on their shoulders
- All players will be able to participate on Regional, National and All-American teams as they wish. Also, we have destination teams that travel to Dominican Republic and other areas that will be available.



## Stars and Stripes Sports Team Participation

Congratulations on joining Stars and Stripes Sports State Team! What a great honor and opportunity for you to represent your family, city, state, baseball program and this wonderful game. This designation requires a strong commitment to excellence and leadership. Eyes will be focused on you and expectations will be extremely high.

There will be struggles along the way as an unusual amount of pressure will be placed upon your son and family carrying this title to the ballpark. Stars and Stripes has selected you because you have good baseball skills but also just as important you have great character and personal skills.

This is the first step in your journey with Stars and Stripes. We aspire to be a partner you can count on throughout your career. There are many obstacles that will be placed in your way in your development process, and we want to be able to provide the resources necessary to see that all the obstacles are conquered.

You are now a part of a Nationwide Family of players and families who share the same goals and aspirations. It will be great to follow the career of other talented people across the United States drawing strengths from their success and knowledge from their failure. While a teammate today, it is most likely you will be playing against one another in amateur events across the country, in college and professionally if fortunate enough to make it to that level.

It is as important that the parent's bond and build relationships as well as the players. We look forward to making this a great experience and welcome feedback as to suggestions or ideas you may have to make this a great experience. Every player and family member is required to build up each teammate and the program as we are all in this together. If you ever feel you are bigger than the program you are free to go join another program.



## Player Code of Conduct

Stars and Stripes Sports Teams are administrated by Stars and Stripes National Director- Kelly Ahrens. It is hereby understood and agreed that Directors will provide the necessary direction and decisions to guide this program. Players and family members agree to the following terms:

- 1. Have Fun!
- 2. Work hard. Do not let anyone out work you!
- 3. Always be supportive of your teammates and other Stars and Stripes Sports Teams.
- 4. Do as you are asked to do and do so with your best effort.
- 5. If you do not have anything good to say, keep it to yourself.
- 6. Never show up an umpire for any reason.
- 7. Never talk to or address a coach, player or parent from another team under any circumstances as competition is taking place, before and after game included.
- 8. Always "Sprint" to your position on the field from the dugout and from your position in the field to the dugout after each inning. NEVER WALK.
- 9. Always run through the bag at first base full speed no matter what the situation is on a ball hit to the infield
- 10. Never show "Negative Body Language" and never "Show UP" another team.
- 11. Always respect your coaches and address them professionally.
- 12. Never allow your parents to speak on your behalf, learn to speak for yourself. Players must carry and be responsible for their own equipment, drinks, etc.
- 13. Never allow your parents to come to dugout and converse with you during a game. Please plan properly and manage drinks, equipment, etc.
- 14. Practice hard, play hard and always be a good sport.
- 15. Make sure you are properly prepared and ready every pitch and never take a play off.



## Parent Code of Conduct

- 1. Have Fun
- 2. Support your son, the team, and all other Stars and Stripes Teams!
- 3. Do not "coach" your son be his parent and provide unwavering support always.
- 4. Never address an umpire or react negatively to a call, allow the coaches to represent and fight for the best interests of the players and the team.
- 5. Never address an opposing team's coach, fans, or players during or after a game about any sportsmanship issues.
- 6. Require your child to pack and carry his own equipment and to learn responsibility as if they were away and he had to do it on their own.
- 7. Do not criticize your child or add more pressure, remind them this game is about how to deal with failure. It is unrealistic to think of your child or expect your child to be able to manage "Failure" without a good support system.
- 8. Remind your child the most important play is the "Next" play, or the most important pitch is the "Next" pitch, you cannot go back and undo what was done so learn from your experience and move forward.
- 9. Provide value and support to this organization, never being selfish in approach, understanding that if you assist with the development of your child to become a good teammate, they will prosper and develop in the proper way.
- 10. Unconditionally support the team, coaches and program respecting the importance of the development of all players on the team not just your child's.



# Player/Parent Contract

Player Name	
Agreed and accepted this day of I again and agree to represent Stars and Stripes as a Stars and Stars and Stripes Sports to utilize any pictures and or vide appropriate by Stars and Stripes Sports towards the promise	Stripes Sports Player. I hereby agree to allow eo of me in any capacity necessary as deemed
I agree and accept the responsibility to provide statement all parties from the media that may be covering Stars and a negative capacity can jeopardize my participation with S	Stripes. I understand any actions that I take in
I understand Stars and Stripes Sports can, at the discretic participation with this team at any time as deemed necess and Stripes Sports. I agree to do my best and put forth a in the highest regards.	sary to protect the name and reputation of Stars
I understand this team will have 10 to 14 players and my success of this program. If for any reason I cannot partici instances, I will transfer my position to one of the "Alterna Director.	ipate due to health issues or any unforeseen
I understand my participation with this team is contingent specified events.	upon me being committed and able to attend al
Player Signature	Parent Signature