

# Summary of SANDY PLAINS BASEBALL SUMMER Programs Cougar (Travel)

- American League players are only eligible for Cougar Travel All-Stars. National League players are eligible for both summer all-star programs: 1) Cougar Travel All-Stars, & 2) NL In-Park All-Stars. These are quick summaries of each program.
  - The American & National League Players in each league are eligible to try out for the Summer Cougars travel program. The commitment is from the end of the rec season through the latter of the State tournament in early July or final tournament as set forth by your team's manager. Some teams may choose to go to the World Series in Mississippi later in July. The commitment is approximately \$400-\$600 up front, not including travel or items such as individual park entry fee expenses, etc. Note: some teams choose to fundraise to offset costs.
  - Only National League Players are eligible for our Summer In-Park All-Stars program. This begins at the conclusion of the rec season. There are usually three teams created for each NL league. Those teams consist of both league's age players (e.g. A pinto team would be composed for 7u & 8u players). The In-Park Tournament runs for approximately two weeks to the middle of June. All games are held at our parks. The additional cost for in-park is the cost of the jersey and hat, which is approximately \$50.
  - National League Players are welcome to be considered for both programs. The Cougar teams will be determined prior to the In-Park team evaluations. If a player is selected for Cougars, then he/she will no longer be eligible for In-Park.

## SANDY PLAINS BASEBALL SUMMER TRAVEL ALL STARS - COUGARS GENERAL GUIDELINES

### **INTRODUCTION:**

Summer Cougar All-Stars is an exciting and rewarding experience for players, parents, families, and friends. It is a privilege earned by those selected to participate. SPBA will continue the tradition of fielding summer All-Star teams to participate in various local and potential regional and national tournaments. The managers and coordinators of each league select the All-Star teams.

### **TIME COMMITMENT:**

It is important that all involved are aware of the considerable time commitment before agreeing to be considered for a team. Practice can begin prior to the spring rec season ending, and the summer season can extend well into July. Family vacations must be considered for the end of the summer because of practice and tournament scheduling. Please carefully consider all aspects of the time commitment required. Please direct any questions concerning your family's out-of-town travel plans to the respective All-Star manager, once selected. Full and complete disclosure is expected, out of respect for the process and the other players who may be more readily available.

### **FINANCIAL COMMITMENT:**

It is very important that all involved are aware of the additional financial commitment with Cougar Travel All-Stars. Families will be asked to contribute additional funds to take care of general and overall expenses incurred by the team. The expenses could be considerable based on the managers extra games and tournament expectations. All costs, including tournament fees, uniforms, bat bags, commemorative t-shirts, team picture fees, etc., will be the team's responsibility.

Once a player is selected to a Cougar All Star Team, the player must register, sign the league waivers, and pay the SPBA fee in order to be eligible to participate in any team activities.

### **PARTICIPATION:**

SPBA All-Star teams operate differently from our spring regular season rec teams. Minimum required playing time **does not apply** to All-Star teams. If selected to a team, there is no guarantee of playing time. A primary goal of All-Star teams is to win and advance. Accordingly, All-Star managers are given total discretion in the allocation of playing time, position play, line-up etc. Parents must fully consider, accept, and support those managerial decisions without complaint before committing to an SPBA All-Star team.

### **MISCELLANEOUS:**

The SPBA Board may amend these guidelines at any time as considered necessary. SPBA "Code of Conduct" extends through the All-Star period. Please direct any questions you may have regarding these guidelines to the SPBA Tournament Director.