

UBA

“Respect The Game”

2019 Baseball Season

Code of Conduct & Operating Guidelines

OVERVIEW

To all parents and players participating in a UBA Baseball Program:

The following outline is intended to summarize all pertinent issues so that you have a clear understanding about what UBA Baseball expects of you and what you, in turn, can expect from UBA. The rules set forth in the outline represent the guiding philosophies and procedures by which the UBA teams are managed.

EXPECTATION OF UBA PARENTS

Financial and Family Obligations:

The participation fees vary by team and age group. Different age groups have different budgets for tournaments, umpires, etc. The budgets are put together by the coaches on each team and include such items as membership fees, umpire fees, indoor facility times, outdoor field slots for practices and games, tournament entry fees, administration fees, player development fees, equipment, etc. A good estimate for most of teams 9U and up will be right around the \$2,000 range for all of the aforementioned. 8U and lower will be closer to \$1,800 (ballpark).

Payment Due Dates: UBA accepts all credit cards, or you may pay by cash or check. We can send you a link to create a login and make online payments if you choose to do so. Once the budget is set by the coaches, the payment schedule should be as follows. Simply divide the remaining balance after the deposit by 8, and make 8 monthly payments on the following dates: **(You may pay ahead or in full at any time if you choose)**

Due at or before tryouts to secure roster spot \$300 which counts against overall total.

August 1st: 2nd payment
September 1st: 3rd payment
October 1st: 4th payment
November 1st: 5th payment
December 1st: 6th payment
January 1st: 7th payment
February 1st: 8th payment
March 1st: final balance payment

Checks are to be made payable to:

Ultimate Baseball Academy

And mailed to:

Ultimate Baseball Academy
4225 S. 121st Street Plaza
Omaha, NE 68137

- You may also contact Larry Vavricek at UBA to set up credit card auto payments or work out other payment options if a different schedule works better for you – as long as the balance is paid in full by end of March.

Failure to pay any required fees in a timely manner shall be cause for the player to be temporarily suspended from any/all UBA activities. If any family, because of financial hardship, cannot pay this or any scheduled fee in a timely manner, they should speak to Larry Vavricek, prior to payment due dates to make arrangements. This will be handled in the strictest confidence. Each team may do fundraising to raise money for your specific age group, and is highly encouraged.

All fundraising activities need to be approved by the President. Monies need to be deposited into the UBA bank account and costs disbursed through UBA's fund management. Each team will be credited funds they have earned and may be used for their specific age groups use. No separate bank accounts that will be used for your team's activities should be utilized or opened.

Financial / Commitment Points:

1. **NO** refund of any the tryout/participation fee after your son has accepted a position on a team. The amount charged is calculated by the coaches for the team needs, which do not change if your son decides to stop playing or gets hurt.

2. All tournament play beyond the amount listed in the budget will be the responsibility of each team so as not to unfairly allocate expense to those teams that opt not to travel away from the local area as often.

3. Each family is responsible for the transportation of their son/player(s) to and from all games, including out-of-town tournaments. Additionally, when your son's team plays out of town, each parent is also responsible for all meals and housing related to such "travel play". If you cannot accompany your son out of town, it is your responsibility to arrange with another family to house, feed and transport your son. It is **NOT** the coach's responsibility to do so, nor is it UBA's. Tournaments (including World Series) that teams attend will be discussed by each individual age group. The final decision will be made by UBA with the coaches input.

4. Each player is required to provide his own glove, protective cup, bat, equipment bag, batting helmet and catcher's gear as applicable.

5. **Gate Fees:** Tournaments now often includes gate fees with their tournament fees. UBA will pay this gate fee but it increases the cost of each tournament. When your tournament funds are depleted then it will be the team parents' responsibility to cover the costs of any remaining tournaments.

Charitable Contributions/Matching Gifts Policy:

UBA realizes that there are companies that have matching gift programs. Most programs require a representative from the charitable organization to sign a form verifying that certain requirements regarding the gift have been met. These requests will go through Play Ball! Foundation. If you wish to determine whether your contribution/gift would be eligible for matching, please forward your companies matching gift form along with any other pertinent information to the Treasurer. Once this is reviewed, a determination will be made and you will be notified.

Fundraising at the Team/Player Level Policy:

UBA recognizes that the cost of your involvement will surpass the registration fees. To help offset this additional expense, we encourage teams to participate in various approved fundraising activities. Teams that wish to participate should contact the President of UBA Baseball for different ideas and get pre-approval for any fundraising done at the individual team level. Fundraising that is done at the team level, will be tracked by family, or a combination as determined by each age group when multiple family members are in the organization. Money that is raised can be spent on items that are a **requirement** for the player to be on the team.

The following (listed below) is an example of allowable expenses; but is not meant to be all-inclusive. If there is something that isn't on the list and you would like it to be, you must submit your request to the President and it will be addressed and a response will be issued.

Allowable expenses to be paid with fundraising money:

- 1) Registration Fees
- 2) Practice Facilities
- 3) Travel to out-of-town tournaments
 - a) Hotel – actual days of tournament only
 - b) Mileage @ \$0.40/mile
 - c) Food @ \$25/day (player only)
- 4) Coaches Pay – above and beyond what the organization pays
- 5) Paid Coaches Travel to away tournaments
- 6) Tournaments – above and beyond what the organization pays
- 7) Umpire Fees – above and beyond what the organization pays

Parental Participation

1. Each team shall have a “SCHEDULER” (at the Head Coach’s discretion) whose responsibility it is to schedule all games for his/her son’s team in accordance with established administrative guidelines.

Coordination of all team schedules for tournaments, etc. is also an important consideration and consequently there will be meetings of all schedulers chaired by UBA’s “Director of Scheduling”. Efficient and maximum usage of UBA’s playing fields is an important consideration and requires coordination among all teams. It is important to note that the scheduler merely assists the coach. The coach however will take on the primary role of directing the teams schedule using the scheduler for support and assistance.

The Yard schedules will be made in late October. Teams should make their field assignments as soon as possible.

2. Each team shall designate a “TEAM COORDINATOR” whose job it is to dispense all information to his/her son’s team and assist the coach with team administrative matters.

3. Coaches may call upon parents in attendance to help with practice drills, score keeping, umpiring, field preparations, etc. Coaching responsibilities are, however, left to officially **designated** coaches only. The family of anyone challenging the authority of a UBA coach may be asked to leave the Program. Verbal or physical abuse of coaches will absolutely **NOT BE TOLERATED** under any circumstances.

4. During and immediately after games parents are **respectfully** asked to REMAIN A GOOD DISTANCE AWAY from the team dugouts. Players are instructed not to talk or look to their parents while a game is in progress. Naturally we encourage parents to cheer with tremendous enthusiasm (for our teams) but please allow UBA coaches to be the only adult contact with our players during the game.

5. We want UBA to be known as an organization with great integrity, sportsmanship and high principles. Toward that end, we ask parents, other relatives or friends attending games, absolutely to not ridicule or otherwise abuse umpires, opposing coaches, players or fans in any way. We want to set a good example for our players. Fans who complain about questionable umpiring calls or rulings **are a distraction** to our coaches and players and such conduct does not project the image we desire.

This guideline shall be strictly enforced, first by the coach of each respective team and then, if necessary, by UBA’s Dean of Coaches and President. To this end, each UBA coach has the authority and the responsibility to warn any parent or fan

about any inappropriate remarks or conduct during a game and to ask any parent or fan to **leave** the park if such behavior persists. If this situation occurs it is expected to be done quickly and without further incident.

6. To foster a healthy, family-oriented spirit in UBA, parents and coaches are asked not to consume alcohol or tobacco in the parking lot or anywhere near the fields after games or in any common-carrier method of transportation that includes a UBA team or players. We expect this rule to be obeyed and parents and coaches are strongly encouraged to help police any abuse, whether intentional or otherwise.

7. UBA parents are also asked to not second-guess or criticize a UBA Coach or player in the presence of their son at anytime. The coach to player relationship is a prominent part of any team, and parents that criticize and second-guess coaches can undermine this relationship resulting in players not having confidence in their coaches.

8. UBA parents/players will not verbally or physically intimidate UBA coaches to try and gain an advantage for their son. We expect this rule to be obeyed and parents that do this will be asked to immediately leave the program.

9. Parental / Guardian Disciplinary Action – In the unfortunate event that these guidelines are violated, the team's coach and/or coaches with Dean of Coaches and Executive Boards approval may enforce the following:

MINIMUM:

1st Offense – 1 week (7 day) parental suspension from attending any practice and/or games, which may include suspension of their son as well.

2nd Offense – Parent(s) suspended from attending any practice and/or games for remainder of season, which may include suspension of their son as well.

3rd Offense - Player dismissed from team for remainder of season with no refunds.

These rules are made for the benefit of the player, and these are enforced with an understanding that keeping the player on the team is the goal. But continued infringements may require the Board to eventually remove the player from the team.

Note – Any action that is deemed by the Board to be exceptionally egregious can result in immediate and permanent expulsion of the parent and/or player.

EXPECTATIONS OF PLAYERS

On-Field Player Obligations

1. UBA organization players will be known for their “HUSTLE”, “DESIRE”, “ENTHUSIASM” and “DETERMINATION”. All players are expected to sprint (full speed) onto and off the field between half innings and otherwise exhibit extraordinary hustle during organized UBA activities.
2. UBA players shall not argue or disagree with coaches, fellow teammates or umpires for any reason. Respect for authority is a discipline we adhere to.
3. UBA players shall at all times adhere to the strictest interpretation of “GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP”. Foul language, cussing, inappropriate body language or facial expressions, taunting or other actions that reflect disrespect for opposing players, coaches, fans or umpires shall not occur.
4. UBA players shall give maximum effort at all times.
5. Self-indulgence by players, such as hanging one’s head after a physical error or mental mistake over some personal failure, has no place on a team in this organization. Players shall not throw bats, helmets or any other equipment, kick the ground in disgust, or engage in any other form of conduct which could reasonably be considered embarrassing to the player or the organization. Players are expected always to put up their own equipment or, if appropriate, to hand such equipment safely to another player or coach.
6. UBA players shall not wear any exposed jewelry while in uniform or at practice and shall be appropriately groomed. Players are expected to tailor their appearance so as not to draw extraordinary attention to themselves and away from their team. Head Coaches have sole discretion on whether or not a player may wear for example: sunglasses, sweatbands, Phiten-style necklaces, or any flair. We are first and foremost a baseball team.
7. UBA players shall **always** wear their uniform hat during practice and games. Players shall keep their uniforms tidy and their jersey tops tucked into their pants.
8. UBA players shall always help their teammates by being positive and supportive, especially after a teammate has made a mistake or failed in some personal endeavor.
9. A player not adhering to the foregoing guidelines may be removed from a game and/or have his playing time restricted at the discretion of the coach.

An ongoing disregard for these guidelines may result in the player’s dismissal from the team.

Off-Field Player/Parent Obligations and Behaviors

1. Before leaving the field of play, **players** shall clean up their dugout. Sunflower seeds are prohibited from being on any of the turf fields at The Yard. We expect our teams to communicate that to the opposing teams as well. Please take pride in your home fields and help keep them nice.
2. Players shall also carry their own equipment bags along with team equipment from the field grounds after games and practices. **UBA players do not allow parents to carry their equipment for them.**
3. A player on a UBA sponsored team shall epitomize himself as a leader within his peer group and community when he wears his uniform and spirit wear. A player shall foster himself as a leader and be mindful of the team and organization he represents; respect his teammates, the families and property of his teammates, and the organization he plays for.

Social Media / On-line Interaction

1. Be mindful as players, coaches and members of the UBA Organization, your posts, emails and forwarded text messages can be misconstrued or used in a negative manner.
2. Being less than constructive or positive towards a Coach, Player, or members of the UBA Organization in a public forum or social media aspect will not be tolerated.

EXPECTATIONS OF UBA ORGANIZATION

Uniforms

1. Each player will use the age and team appropriate pants, hat, belt, sock and jersey their team coaches designate for them through our approved uniform vendor (Marucci).

Coaching

1. Coaches will at all times have the safety and general well-being of the players in mind. Toward that end, UBA's coaches will not intimidate players, embarrass them or ridicule them. That does not mean that your son will never be yelled at, cajoled or verbally or psychologically motivated. UBA's aim is to develop young men with sound values, competitive spirit, great work ethic and fundamental baseball skills. UBA's coaches will treat the players with respect, but that does not mean that they will be coddled.

2. If any parent feels a coach has violated the above guidelines or has any other concern regarding his or her son's team or UBA, **it is imperative that the parent adhere to the following procedures in the order indicated:**

- a) Your child should speak with the coach directly. Especially from age 11's – 14's.
- b) Parents should speak directly to the team's head coach in a civil manner away from any organized team activities and other families. Coaches will not be addressing any situations with parents following a game. There must be a mandatory 24-hour waiting period. If you feel the situation absolutely requires immediate attention the parent is asked to contact the Director or Organization President.
- c) If the parent is unable to reach a mutually satisfactory resolution of the problem with the team's Head Coach, he or she should then contact UBA's Dean of Coaches and/or the Executive Board.
 - Ⓜ The UBA Board strongly suggests that the meeting occurs as a telephone call or face-to-face meeting. This will help to justify that the issue is worth the effort of that phone call or meeting. Communicating via email and/or texting should be avoided.
- d) ANY Parent or player complaint or concern must be documented with the "Code of Conduct Incident/Response Form". A response will be delegated by the Executive Board after proper discovery and investigation into the issue. A copy of this form is on the UBA website and hard copy attached to this document.

3. Be conscious, there is a fine line between the criticism and "second guessing" of coaches that may be considered constructive or "in fun" and that which is instead destructive or repeated often or routinely enough that it leads to dissension among parents and/or others somehow affiliated with UBA. You and those around you should know when you have "crossed the line" and we therefore ask you to **carefully consider your comments** before making them. If you have specific criticisms of your son's Coach or UBA, or a family / team member, you should handle them in accordance with the procedures outlined above. A parent who by his or her actions or comments is deemed to have "**crossed the line**" shall first be reprimanded and, if such actions or comments nevertheless continue, the family of the offending parent shall be dismissed from UBA. Immediate dismissal may be warranted in cases deemed egregious by UBA's Head Coach and Coaches Representative.

* **Playing Time**

Playing time at the select baseball level is earned in UBA programs. The objective of our select programs is to produce young men who are mentally and physically ready to make their high school teams when they “graduate”. This not only includes the ability to play and produce at a high level, but also the ability to be grown-up enough to sit and cheer for your team when situation dictates that is what’s best for it. In addition to the UBA facilities, and winter practices, the off-season developmental classes and programs that we offer provide every opportunity for your son to earn as much as he wants. A high school coach expects young men at their tryouts, and that is what we commit to sending them.

Playing Positions

1. It is part of the UBA philosophy that young players should NOT be “pigeon-holed” into playing one field position only. We feel that it is very important that all players learn more than one position and get the opportunity in game situations to play more than one position. This is particularly important in the 8-10 age groups where basic skills are initially taught and learned.

The extent to which (and frequency with which) a player is moved from one position to another shall be subject to the discretion of his coach, but coaches will be strongly encouraged to ensure reasonable rotation occurs such that no player is “stuck in” or “privileged to play” the same position in all games.

In determining what positions(s) each player shall play in each game, a coach may take into account such player’s skill level (so as not to jeopardize the health of, or risk physical injury to, such player), attitude and previous practice performance.



UBA Select Baseball

2019 UBA Board of Directors

President and Chairman of the Board: Terry Mallott

tmallott@ubanebraska.com

Vice-President, Treasurer, & Director of Operations: Larry Vavricek

lvavricek@ubanebraska.com

Director of Player Development & Dean of Coaches: Jason Shockey (Gladiators)

jshockey@ubanebraska.com

Director of Player Development & Dean of Coaches: Dave Vallinch (Tigers)

dave.vallinch@omahatigers.com



UBA Select Baseball

**2019 SEASON – PARENT AND PLAYER OCCURRENCE
INCIDENT/RESPONSE FORM**

Date of Incident: _____

Parties involved: _____

Explanation of incident:

**Has this been discussed with your Coach?
If so what was the response.....**

Expectation to resolve issue:

Team Age Group / Manager: _____

Print Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature & Date: _____



UBA Select Baseball

2019 SEASON – PARENT AND PLAYER SIGNATURE FORM
Must be turned in to team parent before player can participate

This manual has been put together for the purpose of operating the business of the UBA Select Programs and organizations with the highest integrity. It includes financial responsibility, coaches, parent, and player conduct. The Board of Directors evaluates this document each year and takes it most seriously. We believe we are establishing a long history of UBA baseball integrity and image. These guidelines are necessary in order to provide the best for the players and all who participate. The Board also strongly encourages that your son read through this document before signing.

Age Group: _____ Team: _____

Player's Name: _____

I have read the 2018 Code of Conduct and Operating Guidelines. These guidelines and financial obligations are understood as well as the consequences that could be incurred should they be violated.

Print Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature & Date: _____

Player's Signature & Date: _____