

PARENT AND FAN SUPPORT FOR OUR TEAM

- **Show sportsmanship** during wins and losses. It's sometimes hard to show a positive outlook when things don't go our way. How we react to a challenging situation is learned by our kids.
- **Show respect to umpires.** They are not always right but they are doing their best. Thank them for their time because without them, we don't have games.
- **Volunteer** to help if able. There are always opportunities to assist in field preparation, team snacks, running the scoreboard, keeping the score book, etc. Even very small things help tremendously.
- **Be appreciative and thank volunteers** who make this possible for our kids.
- **Communicate with coaches** if your child will be late for or miss a practice or game. It helps us plan practice drills and find replacement players for games.
- **Focus on positives.** Research shows young athletes play "tighter" and are less likely to be aggressive when they get negative feedback.
- **Encourage** the players with "*what to do*" instead of "*what not to do.*"
 - "Watch the ball hit the bat" rather than, "You are pulling your head off the ball."
 - "Move your feet to the ball" rather than "Don't be afraid of the ball."
- **Have fun, short practices at home** with your child if possible. Try to use the terminology that your child understands the best. Keep sessions short (10-15' at this age) and give them a goal. "Let's catch 15 fly balls in a row and make 15 throws with good form." Always keep it fun, it's a game we're playing.
- **Research shows the two top reasons kids play sports are:**
 - **Have fun**
 - **Be with friends and make friends**
- **The coaches will make mistakes, the umpires will make mistakes, the kids will make mistakes. We are all doing our best!**

Thank you for your support and for trusting us with your child. Let's have a great season!