

Quad City



Area Knights

Quad City Area Knights Baseball - Player-Parent Contract 2023-2024 Season

The rules, philosophies and procedures under which the Quad City Area Knights will operate are outlined in the following pages. Please read through each page carefully, as we want you to be fully aware of what is expected of our players and parents for the 2023-2024 season.

A. FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS:

Knights Baseball Payment Schedule:

Due November 1, 2023 : Amount Varies on Age Group/Team, please contact your coach for total amount due.

Any payment not received by Nov 1, 2023 will result in an additional \$25.00 late fee per month.

Player fees cover the expense of a full uniform, equipment, field maintenance, insurance, indoor facility, tournament expenses, league fees, umpires, coaches' clinics, field rental, office/advertising expenses, administrative fees.

If your player chooses to leave the Quad City Area Knights or is dismissed from the team due to rule violations or disciplinary reasons, these fees are non-refundable.

When your team is playing out of town, each parent is responsible for all meals and lodging, tournament gate fees, pre-paid or on premise or makes other arrangements if they are unable to accompany their child on trips. It is not the responsibility of any coaches to do so.

B. ORGANIZATIONAL FUNDRAISING

The Quad City Area Knights reserve the right to change, modify or add to the fundraising efforts of the organization should it deem necessary. Such actions will be voted on and implemented by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

C. TEAM FUNDRAISING

Should a team decide to do fundraising, it must be a team decision and each family on the team must be provided an opportunity to participate in the decided fundraising. If the majority (51%) of the team agrees, all families are required to participate, unless the team approves a buy-out equivalent.

D. COACHES Expectations

The Quad City Area Knights establishes an environment where an athlete's drive for excellence and achievement will propel them to compete at the highest standard on the field and allow them to deploy those same values, which are intrinsic to accomplishing success in society.

Coaches' will, at all times, aim to develop the young men in this organization by demonstrating Leadership and Commitment, while preserving our core values, which promotes our passion for the game of baseball and our relentless pursuit of excellence.

1. Coaches, at all times, will have the safety and general wellbeing of the players as priority.
2. Coaches will treat all players with Respect. Coaches will not intimidate, embarrass, or ridicule players. However, players, at times, will be verbally or psychologically motivated, respectfully.

E. PARENTAL PARTICIPATION – Expectations & Rules

The success of the QCA Knights depends on the commitment of everyone in our organization. Parents are encouraged to attend practices and games. If you are not staying, you must ensure that a coach is present and has acknowledged your child's presence prior to departing. You may be called upon to help with practice drills, scorekeeping, umpiring, field preparation, fall and spring clean-up and concessions.

Coaching responsibilities are assigned to officially designated persons only.

Non-Profit Organization: The Quad City Area Knights is a 501c3 Non-Profit organization. We rely solely on our volunteer parents for our success. It is your responsibility to help the Organization in any way possible.

Field Maintenance: Participation of field maintenance is required by all teams using the Quad City Area Knights field and any other home diamond we may use during the season. It is the expectation that parents will clean up after themselves at all fields. We want to be known as a "Class Organization" and keeping our facilities clean and presentable is one simple way of achieving this goal.

Rules for Parents:

1. The Quad City Area Knights is a "Class Organization" We ask that parents, relatives, and friends attending the games absolutely do not abuse umpires, opposing coaches or players, our own coaches or players, as well as any player's family members in any way. Allow the players to play the game as they have been coached. This rule extends to team events, hotel stays, etc.... **This rule will be strictly enforced.**
2. During games/practices, parents are respectfully asked to remain a good distance from the dugouts unless directed otherwise by the coaches. Players are instructed not to talk to their parents and friends while a game/practice is in progress. Please allow the only adult contact with your son during a game/practice to be the coaching staff.
3. Any Parent challenging the authority of a Quad City Area Knight Coach will be asked to leave the team. Verbal or physical abuse of coaches will not be tolerated.
4. The Quad City Area Knights will "suspend" parents/family members/fans from attending games and practices, should any of these rules be broken.

F. PLAYING TIME

Playing time is not guaranteed.

Playing time is the most common source of dissatisfaction, disagreement, and problems for any team. It MUST be clearly understood that players are not guaranteed equal playing time. Playing time will be at the sole discretion of the coach/manager. It is CRITICAL that each player/parent understand that this is a competitive environment and each player must EARN their spot/playing time. Each player, regardless of playing time must also understand that they have an important role to the team, even when playing time is not equal.

Guest players may be deemed necessary in the event of injuries and to complete or supplement a team's roster.

G. UNIFORMS

Each player will be outfitted with a full dress uniform which includes the following:

- 1 Hat
- 1 Uniform top
- 1 pair of uniform pant
- 1 pair of sock
- 1 Helmet (new players only)

Players are required to:

1. Wear a black belt with baseball pants at all times.
2. Wear red, black or white shirts under their jerseys.

Additional items are the responsibility of the player and his parents. QCA Knights jackets and/or spirit wear are the responsibility of the players. **Reproduction of apparel using the QCA Knights Logo is not allowed.

Each player is required to provide his own glove, cleats, batting gloves, protective cup, bat and personal bat.

Uniforms will not be issued until all player fees are paid in full.

H. PLAYERS – Rules and Expectations

Every member of the team should recognize that it is a PRIVILEGE and responsibility to represent the Quad City Area Knights and should act accordingly.

1. Players are not allowed to argue with coaches, parents or umpires for any reason.
2. Foul language and profanity are not tolerated at any time.
3. Good sportsmanship is a quality that is exemplified by our players. Taunting of your own or opposing players, fans or umpires, will not occur.
4. Self indulgence by players, such as hanging one's head after an error or mental mistake, pouting/crying over personal failure, will have no place on the team.
5. Each player is responsible for the care of the equipment issued. For practice, we expect you to wear baseball pants and cleats (tennis shoes or turf for indoor facility) at all times.
6. Players found to be associated with any illegal activity may be subject to immediate dismissal and will not receive any refund on player fees or fundraising.

I. SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

Social media is a powerful communications tools that affect organizational and professional reputations. Because they blur the lines between personal and institutional voices, Quad City Area Knights has crafted the following policy to help clarify how best to enhance and protect personal and professional reputations while participating in social media.

Social media is defined as media designed to be disseminated through social interaction, created using highly accessible and scalable publishing techniques. Examples include but are not limited to LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, Pintrest, etc. ***The Quad City Area Knights will be unified, maintained, and administered under ONE account for all teams. Teams will submit content to the administrator for distribution. NO individual team will have their own social media accounts.***

Board members, coaches, parents and players need to follow the same behavioral standards on-line as they would in real life and are liable for anything they post to social media sites. The same rules, professional expectations and guidelines for interacting with board members, coaches, parents, players and sponsors, apply to content posted on social media. Violation of these terms is grounds for immediate dismissal from the organization.

Violations of the social media policy include the following:

- Negative postings related to the organization, teams, coaches, players or umpires
- Posting of any confidential or internal organizational documentation

Best practices to avoid violating the policy:

- Think twice before posting
- Strive for accuracy
- Be respectful
- Remember your audience
- Identify views as your personal opinion and not necessarily those of the organization.

J. ENFORCEMENT OF RULES AND VIOLATIONS

The rules and expectations listed herein are in place to ensure the quality development of our teams while maintaining the integrity of our organization. Any (parents or players) violations of these rules may be handled by the following manner.

1. A verbal warning may be issued and documented.
2. A formal written warning may be issued and documented.
3. A suspension from participation is at the discretion of the Board and coaching staff.
4. Possible expulsion from the Quad City Area Knights Organization.

K. GRIEVANCE PROTOCOL

1. Parents with a grievance or issue should always approach the Manager/Head Coach to discuss the situation. This discussion should take place in person and in private and NEVER be in the presence of our players. Failure to adhere to this request forfeits the consideration that normally would be given to your issue. Please allow 24hrs to approach the coaching staff and be candid with your thoughts. It is suggested there be another person present as witness to the conversation. Coaches are asked to have their staff present as well.

2. Coaches are to treat any parent concerns and issues with respect and the staff should work to resolve the issue in a professional and timely manner. Actions taken and solutions to the issue should be provided within 48 hours of the resolution.

3. If satisfaction cannot be attained by either party, that party is to bring the issue to the attention to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will act in accordance with the guidelines outlined to them by the board and work to resolve the issue fairly and impartially. They will act in accordance with set guidelines to bring resolution to the issue fairly and impartially.

- If an issue cannot be brought to the attention of someone on the coaching staff, it is not an issue.
- The board will not act upon any grievance until communication among the parent and the coaching staff has occurred.
- Coaches and Parents are given the respect and opportunity by the Board for each to resolve their issue maturely and privately.
- Resolutions provided by the Board are final.
- The best interests of the team and the individual player is always of the utmost importance.

L. Quad City Area Knights - Mission, Vision, Value

1. **Mission** - The Quad City Area Knights establishes an environment where an athlete's drive for excellence and achievement will propel them to compete at the highest standard on the field and allow them to deploy those same values, which are intrinsic to accomplishing success in society.
2. **Vision** - To be better than we were yesterday, on providing the most comprehensive and advanced approaches in player development, throughout our community.
3. **Value** - We will achieve outrageous feats of success in demonstrating our Leadership, our Commitment, to preserving our core values, which promotes our passion for the game of baseball and our relentless pursuit of excellence.
4. **Core Values:**
 - a. Have Fun
 - b. Develop Work Ethic
 - c. Understanding the "Process" to Succeed.
 - d. If you are going to do it, do it with passion, aggressiveness, heart, grit, and confidence.
 - e. COMPETE
 - f. Discipline
 - g. Family
 - h. Respect
 - i. Integrity
 - j. Commitment
 - k. Accountability
 - l. Leadership

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Quad City Area Knights 2022-2023 Season Parent-Player Contract

Please fill in and sign below. Return this page to your Manager as soon as possible after reading and agreeing to the terms of the Quad City Area Knights Parent-Player Contract.

_____ Hereby Accepts the QCA Knights Contract, and all terms and conditions.
(Player Name)

Date

Player Signature

Parent Signature

Media Consent

For the purpose of promoting the Quad City Area Knights, I give consent for the signed player above to have his image displayed on the Quad City Area Knights website and/or other promotional media used by the organization. Only team information will be used in such promotions.

Date

Parent Signature