



## **JR Riders Baseball**

JR Riders Baseball offers teams an option for a AAA/Major level and a AA level. AAA/Major teams will be tournament only teams and AA teams will be league/tournament teams. League will be in association with the Longmont Baseball League. Open to ages 8 -13, age as of 5/1/2020.

### **8-13 Year Olds:**

Players in the 8-13 year old age brackets will play around a 14 game season in their league with a league tournament at the end of the season. League games start in early April and go through the end of June. Most AAA/Major teams average between 40-60 games. Most AA teams average between 30-40 games, including tournaments.

**REGISTRATION FEE:** \$500 per player ages 8-13 to be paid in full by September 1st. All JR Riders Baseball players will register at the time of tryouts. Players will be notified by no later than August 2nd if they made the team or not.

The registration fee includes:

- Uniforms
- Equipment
- Umpires (for league games)
- Insurance
- League Fees
- Field Usage
- Some will be applied towards tournament fees

## **GUIDELINES FOR PARENTS AND PLAYERS CONSIDERING COMPETITIVE BASEBALL (AAA/Major or AA)**

### **PLAYERS:**

#### **HIGHER LEVEL OF COMPETITION**

AAA – most of these teams have 6 or 7 great players.

AA – most of these teams have 2 or 3 really good players.

**PLAYING TIME** – Playing time is not guaranteed. Expect that you will have to compete for a position as well as playing time. The "everyone plays" expectations of recreation baseball do not necessarily apply for competitive baseball. It will depend on the amount of work your child puts into it both at practice and at home.

**At the AA level** - Your playing time will most likely be determined on your level of dedication and improvement. You will start to develop and play more in a certain "area" of position, as opposed to playing "everywhere".

**At the AAA/Major level** - You "may or may not" get into the game. (It depends on the philosophy of your coach.) A lot of coaches tend to develop the players in league play, but in tournaments the top 9 will get most of the playing time. You could spend a significant amount of time sitting while you are learning.

**PRACTICE TIME** – You need to be prepared for a much greater "time commitment". Practices will be at least two to three times per week, based on your team's needs and the coaches' demands.

**PERSONAL COMMITMENT** – The JR Riders Baseball program believes team loyalty is a key ingredient for any team sport. No player participating in the program shall play on another baseball team while they are on an Riders team.

### **PARENTS:**

**TIME COMMITMENT** – League play is from April thru June. Practices could begin in the fall of this year (depending on your coach). Although it is usually a light schedule, you could practice 2 to 3 times per month thru November. Winter practices are usually once a week in a local gym. Starting in February, prepare to practice 2 to 3 times a week (weather permitting) thru the end of the season during the week and on the weekends. Also, plan on 6 to 10 tournaments being played from March thru the middle of July. Tournaments are generally held on Saturdays and Sundays. Parents and players should expect around 100 contacts (practices and games) throughout the course of the year. Some tournaments could be played out of state.

Expect your coach to request that your vacation be either put on hold until after the season is over, or at the least that you commit to the team "when" you will be gone (in advance) so they can prepare ahead of time.

**FINANCIAL** – Prepare to spend \$750 - \$1000 per family thru the course of the year, depending on how many tournaments your team plays in. Each tournament costs between \$550 - \$650 per team. Tournament fees are not included in the player registration fee. Teams generally rely on corporate sponsorship and team fundraisers to help cover some of the costs associated with competitive baseball.

**FUNDRAISING** – Most teams will do some sort of fundraising, and you are expected to be at these to do your part in raising monies for your team. Most teams do several of these prior to the season. Each team is responsible for their own fundraising.