

## **WALTON BASEBALL PARENT RULES**

The Baseball Program at Walton High School exists for the benefit of our student athletes. All decisions will be made with the best interest of **ALL** the players in mind. Varsity baseball is a very competitive sport, and we play in the strongest region in the state of Georgia. Here are some rules to focus on for parents, players and coaches.

### **COACHES' ROLES:**

1. Set a good example for players and fans to follow.
2. Be positive, firm, fair and consistent.
3. Make playing time and strategy decisions with thought and care.
4. Establish and organize practice for the team on a daily basis.
5. Be a good communicator with players and parents.
6. Keep academic progress of athletes.
7. Be available to talk with players and parents.

### **PARENTS' ROLES:**

1. Be a fan of everyone on the team: be most concerned with the success of the **TEAM**.
2. Respect the decisions made in the game.
3. Respect other fans, coaches and parents.
4. Talk with your son if he has a question and, if necessary, to answer them, contact the coach using the guidelines below.
5. Keep any negative thoughts about the coach, the program or members of the team to yourself. **YOU DO NOT HAVE THE RIGHT TO TEAR DOWN THIS PROGRAM.** These kids have one chance to be high school baseball players, help to make it special.
6. Please do not attempt to confront a coach before, during or after a practice or contest. These can be emotional charged times for athletes, coaches, and parents. Meetings of this nature do not promote satisfactory resolutions.
7. Understand that it is the coaches' responsibility to make certain that students are safe and become better people and athletes, not to win every game, even though it is our goal.
8. Be supportive of your son. He gets coached at practice every day. Be positive in what you say, and careful what you tell him. If you are telling something different than he is hearing in practice, it will negatively affect his performance.

### **PLAYERS' ROLES:**

1. Be positive and have an unselfish, team-oriented attitude.
2. Support your teammates. Treat them like family.
3. Be at practice every day - work hard to improve.
4. If you have a question, concern or are unhappy about something, talk with your coach before you talk with anyone else. Come directly to us.
5. Know and follow school rules.
6. Challenge yourself to improve as a student, an athlete and as a person.
7. Notify your coach of any scheduling conflicts in advance. If you are going to miss practice or workouts - it is **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to communicate that.

**If you have a question or concern, please take the time to think about what your question is. If it ultimately has to do with playing time or game strategy, keep it to yourself. Otherwise, follow this process:**

1. Talk with your son about your question. What is your son's perspective? Can he solve the problem himself?
2. Set up a meeting with me if you still have questions. Many times, this can be done over the phone. This should be informational, ask questions, listen and have a discussion. Remember - I make decisions for the good of the team based on practice, ability, attitude and chemistry. Varsity baseball is a competitive situation, and my responsibility is to put the best players on the field.
3. If questions remain, set up a meeting with our Athletic Director and me.

**THERE ARE FOUR SIMPLE GUIDELINES FOR THESE MEETINGS:**

1. **The conversation must be respectful and in a professional manner in regards to both language and conduct.**
2. **Everyone gets a chance to talk, but everyone must listen as well.**
3. **Emotional control by all parties is critical.**
4. **Meeting WILL NOT occur on game day. They are held only by appointment.**

**What is proper to ask about?**

It is fine to discuss the treatment of your child.

You are welcome to ask about how your son can improve.

Asking about your son's attitude and behavior are also acceptable.

**THINGS THAT WILL NOT BE DISCUSSED:**

1. **PLAYING TIME**
2. **GAME STRATEGY**
3. **OTHER PLAYERS**
4. **YOU MAY NOT INSULT THE COACHES**

Our goal as a staff is to make this experience a great enjoyment, education and memory. We work hard to know your son, to make him better on and off the field and in life, and care for him very much. There is no correlation between how a young man plays in the game, and how much we care about him. We are striving to build better young men, and their value as a person is completely independent of playing time. Life teaches us lessons in many ways. We want what is best for the team, and **THEN** for your son as an individual.

**Shane Amos  
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*\*Please do not call me at home unless it is an emergency.*

**\*\* PLEASE SIGN THIS PAGE AS YOUR AGREEMENT TO THESE RULES  
AND RETURN TO COACH AMOS \*\***

PLAYER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_