

South Grand Prairie Warrior Baseball
Parent Meeting
January 17, 2018
art.senato@gpisd.org

- Welcome
- Facility update
- Fundraisers
- Communications
www.sgpbaseball.com
@sgpbaseball on twitter

- Coaching Staff
 - Head Baseball Coach – Art Senato
 - Varsity Assistant Baseball Coach – David McGhee
 - JV Coach – Paul Ylda
 - JV 2 Coach – Shawn Nelson
 - Assistant Coaches – Zach Koontz, Roberto Mendez

* Team Philosophy – The Tribe

- We are The Tribe and we will be champions
- We are ordinary, but together we can be extraordinary
 - Put The Tribe or team above all else
 - Higher standards on the field, in the classroom, and in the community
 - Go above and beyond the normal limits of average people.
 - We are an Elite Unit and should act like it.
 - The Tribe holds The Tribe accountable for everything.

WHO WE ARE...AAIT = AGGRESSIVE COMPETITORS

- Aggressive...supreme confidence in your ability to win in any situation.
- Approach...your responsibility or job at any given time within the confines of The Tribe.
- Intensity...burning excitement for the challenge of competition in practice and in games.
- Toughness...your AAIT in the midst of adversity, we don't know fear or panic, we're not lucky we're prepared.
- No excuses, pouting, or sulking...BODY LANGUAGE DOESN'T WHISPER, IT SCREAMS!

*Player Expectations

- No alcohol, drugs, or smoking.
- No tobacco products
- NO SUNFLOWER SEEDS OR GUM IN THE DUGOUT OR ON THE FIELD
- Be on Time
- Do not miss practice
 - Player or parent must email or call coach before practice begins.
 - Not the end of the world.
 - Extra conditioning or loss of playing time could result.
- Do not miss games
 - Spring Break does not exist for high school baseball players
 - Playing time will be lost...every game missed equals another game missed when you get back
- Keep locker room clean and neat
- Wear appropriate workout clothes to practice
- Have all equipment needed for practice

- Do not question the call of an umpire
- Hazing/Bullying is strictly forbidden...boys will be boy's is not an excuse. We are a team and teammates do not treat each other with that kind of disrespect.
- Players must ride the bus to the game and home from the game.
 - Permission to ride with PARENTS ONLY must be made in advance with that coach.
- Best behavior on the bus on all times. The bus driver is in charge.
- Injury Treatment
 - Treatment should occur before school or after practice.
 - Unless it is a medical emergency, see a trainer before you go to a doctor. If the injury is serious they will refer you to doctor.
 - It is the trainer's job to help keep our athletes healthy and on the field.
 - I will only accept medical diagnosis from our trainers or a physician.**
- Team Selection Process/Tryouts (**Everyone attending tryouts must have a GPISD Athletic Packet and Physical turned in to tryout**)
 - Tryouts for all those not in the baseball class are January 26 from 5pm-7pm and January 27 from 10am-Noon. **All those not in 8th period baseball attend this tryout session.**
 - Players are evaluated on a daily basis during the athletic period
 - Players are graded in the following areas...speed, arm strength, fielding ability, hitting, hitting for power.
 - Usually keep between 17-22 players per team.
 - Grades are a factor. If a kid has been on the failure report in the fall semester multiple times, this is a red flag!
 - Sometimes players are placed on teams because of a specific need at a certain position on that team at the sub-varsity levels.
- Playing time
 - Freshmen/JV...positional depth will impact playing time. **You are not guaranteed playing time every game.** If games get out of hand, coaches should try and get everyone in.
 - Varsity...no guarantee of playing time.
 - I do not meet with parents about playing time. If your son has questions, he needs to come and talk to the coaches.
 - Clarity is the key. The coaches should make it clear what a player's role is on the team and it is up to the player to accept the role.
- Varsity Lettering
 - I do not have a set number of at bats, games played, or innings pitched to receive a varsity letter. Every case is unique.
- Dual Participation
 - Players cannot miss SGP practices/games for non-SGP practices, games, or activities.
 - 1st Violation...1 game suspension
 - 2nd Violation...Removal from team.
- Hitting and pitching lessons...remember, you're paying them so they will tell you what you want to hear to keep you coming back. No wins and losses attached to their lessons.
 - Hitting...I encourage it. As long as what the hitting instructor is teaching is sound, extra work can only help. If there is a conflict between what we teach and what someone else is teaching, the expectation is to do what we are telling them.
 - Pitching...from this point on, pitching lessons need to stop. Over use and future safety of your child is at issue here. We started throwing bullpens with them this week. We will be playing

intra-squad games soon, as well as playing scrimmages and games. Luckily, I have not had a lot of arm injuries in the past with pitchers. I believe this is the main reason why.

- **Booster Club**
 - Our booster club spends 3 times the amount of money on our baseball program than the district does.
 - Invest in the program...doesn't have to be your own money. Volunteer hours, selling advertisement banners for the outfield wall. Every little bit helps to contribute to a successful program!
 - All volunteers must fill out the volunteer form on the GPISD website.

- **Parent expectations**
 - Let the record show...we will have bad umpiring this season! Yelling at the umpire will only hurt our team. The University Interscholastic League (the state's governing body for extracurricular activities) has rules for spectators. Fans of teams have, and will continue to, get teams into trouble. Teams have had to forfeit games...and even worse...playoff spots because of poor sportsmanship from fans.
 - Parents are welcome to watch practice. Just like games, they have to sit in the stands.
 - Control your emotions at games
 - Be a "cheerleader" for your child and other children on our team.
 - Don't relive your own athletic past through your child.
 - Respect your child's coaches. We want to coach your child. Let us do our job. During the game, they belong to us. After the game, they are all yours.
 - Emphasize "giving their best effort", not winning.
 - Help your child set realistic goals.
 - Be realistic about your child's athletic ability
 - Make sure your child understands that win or lose, you love him.
 - Be sensible, responsible, and keep your priorities in order. There is a lot more at stake than a win or loss.
 - Please be prompt picking up your child after practice and games.

- **Unacceptable Conduct**
 - It is unacceptable for players (or families, or friends) to engage in Direct or Indirect activity, discussion, or expression which is detrimental to the team.
 - Be careful what you post on Social Media!!!

In Conclusion...

- This is ALL about the boys
- I think if you ask most boys what they would want their parents to do during the game; they would say NOTHING. Once again, this is ALL about the boys.
- These boys need to hear that you enjoyed watching them and you hope they had fun.
- I am not saying that you cannot clap for your kids when they do well. I am saying that during the game it's my job to coach your boys, so let me do my job.
- We have water in the dugout (sometimes the varsity even has Gatorade). The boys don't need you to keep running to the concession stand, or having you behind the dugout asking them if they are thirsty, or hungry. Would you do that if he were playing for Augie Garrido at the University of Texas? (I already know the answer to this)
- I truly believe that the family is the most important institution in the lives of these guys. I just ask that you are considerate of the rest of the team and let me know if you will miss a practice or game as soon as possible.

NON-NEGOTIABLE

-24 HOUR COOLING OFF PERIOD - Please do not corner a coach after a game. If you have a problem with a coach, email the coach, Coach Senato (if it's not Coach Senato) and set up a time to meet to discuss your issues.