



Hobe Sound Lightning Baseball Program

Player & Parent Code of Conduct Agreement

The purpose of this agreement is to establish a basic understanding of the expectations, rules and responsibilities between the players, their parents/guardians, and the **Hobe Sound Lightning Baseball Program**.

Philosophy: The purpose of the **Hobe Sound Lightning Baseball Program** is to provide a venue in which to encourage, develop and support your child's baseball aspirations. The Lightning directors and coaching staffs work closely together to develop the players' skills and provide them the opportunity to play at an enhanced level in a competitive, positive, and rewarding environment. We strive to instill in our players the value of effort, respect, sportsmanship, leadership, community, and teamwork as they continue their journey as student athletes.

Program Goals:

- Provide each player with the opportunity to gain experience, develop, and improve their baseball skills, with an emphasis in teaching the fundamentals of baseball.
- Promote an environment that encourages mental, social, and emotional growth and maturity for all players.
- Position our players for successful advancement to higher levels, including their local High School baseball program.
- Instill our players with the value of effort, respect, sportsmanship, and community.

Commitment:

Upon committing to play for the **Hobe Sound Lightning Baseball Program**, I agree to not play or be rostered on any other baseball team during the season without approval from my Manager and the Hobe Sound Lightning Program Director. Players could be officially rostered with various sanctioning bodies (Perfect Game, Prospect Wire, or USSSA) and these sanctioning bodies could allow only one registration at a time.

Player Initials: _____

Parent Initials: _____

Attendance:

The general rule is – “early is on-time, on-time is late and late is unacceptable.”

- All players are expected to attend practices. Excessive absences will result in less playing time or dismissal.
- All players are expected to be at all games and tournaments.
- Players who miss a game or are late to warmups, may sit the next game.
 - o Exceptions to the above include illness, medical issues, school sponsored or related events and family emergencies. In each case, players or parents should directly notify coaches at least 24 hours in advance, when possible.

- The Lightning Directors and coaching staffs reserve the right to make decisions based on the best interests of the team.

Player Initials: _____

Parent Initials: _____

Practices:

- Players will have their cleats on and ready to go at the practice start time.
- Players must come to practice prepared to learn, hustle and work hard.
- Players must maintain a positive attitude and be supportive of their team and teammates.
- Players must bring all their equipment to every practice or as instructed.
- Cell phones must be turned off and remain in their bags. Repeat violations may result in disciplinary action.
- Other sports: It is not discouraged to have players participate in other sports during the off season. We only ask that these additional sports do not interfere once our season is in full swing. Keep in mind that missing too many practices due to other activities can affect player's skills and result in less playing time.

Player Initials: _____

Parent Initials: _____

Games:

Once you arrive in the parking lot of the field; shirts are tucked in, pants are fastened, belts are buckled, and socks are pulled up. You represent the **Hobe Sound Lightning Program**, and you will look respectful.

- Be on time for all games
- Hustle on and off the field; NEVER walk to your position.
- Once pre-game begins, players will not be allowed out of the dugout without coach's permission. **Parents are not allowed in or near the dugout at any time for any reason unless requested by a coach.**
- If you are not in the game, you will be standing and cheering on your teammates and paying attention to game action.
- ALWAYS respect your teammates, coaches, competitors, umpires, spectators, and yourself. You never know whose watching.
- ALWAYS practice self-control. If something bad happens you will deal with it in a positive way. NEVER throw helmets, gloves, stomp on the field, yell at umpires or display any other inappropriate behavior. If this occurs, you will be removed from the game.
- Always pick up after yourself.

Player Initials: _____

Parent Initials: _____

Playing time:

- Playing time is earned, not guaranteed. This program is an equal opportunity, not equal playing time program. Players will be given every opportunity to earn their playing time.
- The amount of playing time each player receives will be determined by their skills, attitude, commitment to the team, practice attendance and performance in game situations.
- If you are not happy with your playing time, YOU the player must talk to the coaches about what you can do to improve and earn more playing time. These conversations will NOT take place during a game or after a game. Individual meetings need to be set up with the coach at another time.

- **Coaches will not discuss playing time with parents unless the player has already met with them.** At that time, a meeting or discussion can be held with the coaches, player, and parents and the 24-hour rule will apply. Conversations/Meetings with parents will not take place if the player is not present.
- 24-hour rule: Do not approach the manager or coaches after a game or tournament games with any questions or concerns about player(s) playing time or lack of for at least 24 hours. This gives yourself and the coach time to decompress and let calmer heads prevail. Only one warning will be given for this rule. Repeat violators are subject to being dismissed from the team with no refunds given.

Player Initials: _____

Parent Initials: _____

Attitude & Respect (Players and Parents):

- Respect your teammates, coaches, competitors, umpires, spectators, and yourself always.
- Keep your emotions and attitude under control. The only thing you can control in a situation is how you react.
- Always display good Sportsmanship!
- Treat all equipment with respect.
- Players are a representation of the **Hobe Sound Lightning Baseball Program** even when away from team activities. Players are expected to be respectful students at school and citizens in their community. A player can be dismissed from the team by the Lightning Program Director for any violation of this expectation.
- Parent, family, and fan behaviors are to be a good representation on the **Hobe Sound Lightning Baseball Program**. We want to make sure we teach the players good sportsmanship regardless of what other teams, parents, coaches, or players on opposing teams may display. Let us lead by example.
- Parents will not be under the influence of any drugs or alcohol at any practice, game, or tournament. There is a zero tolerance for this rule. Any violations may result in immediate dismissal of player from the team with no refunds.
- Parents are accountable for promoting a positive environment for the **Hobe Sound Lightning Baseball Program**.
- Only coaches are to give players instructions during games and practices. There is to be no coaching from the sidelines. Parents will not yell at, discipline, or give any negative comments to any player or coach during any game or practice. Violators will be asked to leave the field for the remainder of the event. We as coaches want to make this a positive experience for the players.

Player Initials: _____

Parent Initials: _____

Financial:

- Initial One Time Startup Fee of \$200.00 and Monthly Player Dues are \$100.00 and due the 1st of every active month.
 - Venmo: @HS-Lightning-Baseball
 - Zelle: 772-418-9551 or hslightningbaseball@gmail.com
 - Check: Made out to Hobe Sound Lightning Baseball
- The **Hobe Sound Lightning Baseball Program** is a volunteer not for profit organization. No managers, coaches or directors receive any financial payments from the program. All fees collected go back into the program and its players.
- These fees help cover the following: League and Tournament entry fees, Team Sanctioning Fees, Team Insurance, Umpire Fees, Team Equipment, Team Uniforms, and any other expenses deemed necessary and beneficial to the Lightning Program and its players.

- Fundraising: To keep fees reasonable and to assist players in offsetting their fees, we may engage in various fundraising projects. All players are expected to participate in fundraising activities as requested.
- Sponsorships: Various organizations and individuals have donated in the past as sponsors. These donations will be used for funding of uniforms, equipment, and tournament fees. We are pleased to accept these donations and give the appropriate sponsor recognition. In the past, recognition has been in the form of name on the **Hobe Sound Lightning** Facebook page and/or name on game banner. Please check with manager before obtaining any sponsors to ensure it does not conflict with any **Hobe Sound Lightning** exclusive sponsorship lists.
- Refunds: Due to the upfront costs of building, developing, and supporting a team, refunds are not possible except in extreme circumstances and must be approved by the Hobe Sound Lightning Director.

Player Initials: _____

Parent Initials: _____

Player Agreement Summary:

As a Lightning Player, I will always demonstrate:

Respect for myself, others, and equipment:

- Show positive sportsmanship!
- Use equipment appropriately!
- Represent the club as a first-class organization!
- Value every teammate regardless of size, experience, talent, or performance
- Respect my coaches and support their decisions, whether I understand, like, or agree with them (Questions or concerns should be managed with tactful, quiet, one-on-one discussions off the field.)

Commitment and dedication to the Lightning Baseball Program:

- Attend all practices, games, and tournaments and understand that if I miss a practice or game it can lead to missed playing time.
- Remember that baseball is a team sport, and that I can demonstrate this by encouraging my teammates through team spirit, team unity, team effort, and team success.
- Give 100 percent of my attention and effort to my team and my team’s goals.

Responsibility:

- Be accountable to yourself, coaches, and teammates.
- Always playing within the rules of the game.
- Following my team’s dress code and player uniform standards on and off the.
- Being always safe.
- Acknowledging that each of us is responsible for our own thoughts, feelings, attitudes, decisions, and behaviors.

I have read, discussed, and understand this CODE OF CONDUCT AGREEMENT, and fully, unequivocally support it and its essence. Failure to comply with this will result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension or removal from the club and team.

Player Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent Agreement Summary:

1. Parent agrees to provide at least 48-hour notice if your child cannot attend any tournament game, 24-hour notice for any scrimmage or league game and 2-hour notice for any practice missed.
2. Parents are responsible for all required fees.
3. We, the undersigned parent/player understand and acknowledge all the guidelines set in this document and agree to always abide by them and the **Hobe Sound Lightning Baseball Program** Code of Conduct and Policy.

As a Lightning Parent, I will always demonstrate:

Respect for myself and others:

- Show positive sportsmanship and promote a positive environment for the program.
- Represent the club as a first-class organization.
- Value every team member regardless of size, experience, talent, or performance
- Respect the coaches and support their decisions, whether I understand, like, or agree with them (Questions or concerns should be managed with tactful, quiet, one-on-one discussions off the field.)

Commitment and dedication to the Lightning Baseball Program:

- Enable my player to attend all practices, games, and tournaments and understand that missed practices or games can lead to missed playing time.
- Understand that by reserving my player’s roster spot. I am responsible for all team fees unless other arrangements have been made.
- Understand that club or team dues or fees WILL NOT BE REFUNDED for any reason.
- Remember that baseball is a team sport, and that I can demonstrate this by encouraging all players through team spirit, team unity, team effort, and team success.
- Give 100 percent of my attention and effort to my player’s team and its goals.

Responsibility:

- Encouraging my child to always play within the rules.
- Helping my child adhere to the team dress code and player uniform standards on and off the field.
- Acknowledging that each of us is responsible for our own thoughts, feelings, attitudes, decisions, and behaviors.

I have read, discussed, and understand this CODE OF CONDUCT AGREEMENT, and fully, unequivocally support it and its essence. Failure to comply with this will result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension or removal from the club and team.

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent Signature: _____ **Date:** _____