BASEBALL PROGRAM

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Dear Student Athlete,

Thank you for taking part in the New Fairfield High School Baseball tryouts. We understand that tryouts can be an exciting yet stressful time for student athletes, coaches, as well as parents. We need to build a respectable relationship with an open level of communication that will help lower the level of stress for all involved. Please take the time to read through this letter carefully and share it with your parents.

First impressions are very important, especially with the limited time we have for tryouts. This is the first opportunity for the coaches to observe firsthand the athletes that may possibly make up the team. With that being said, I advise you to hold nothing back. Show us what you have and do not be afraid to make mistakes along the way. Every player will be given the same fair chance to show their skills, knowledge, and talents related directly to the sport of baseball.

What are the coaches looking for? We look for solid fundamentals, a positive attitude, and dedicated players. We love dependable players who love the game, demonstrate leadership, display confidence, and support and encourage their teammates. We like players that are self-disciplined and understand that adversity and failure are a part of baseball. We want players who can deal with failure and use failure as a motivating tool to improve both physically and mentally.

In addition, we are looking for good baseball knowledge (rules, situational strategy, etc.), hand eye coordination, arm strength/accuracy, speed, and overall power. We want to see players that hustle and give it their all each and every moment they step out on the field. Every player will be put through basic drills and tests to evaluate their ability in each one of the components listed above. For example, each player will be timed in a 60yrd run, giving the coaches an accurate measure of the players speed.

Finally, your baseball skills and talents are meaningless if you cannot maintain good grades and acceptable behavior. Playing a sport is a special privilege that requires a great deal of time and commitment. If you are not capable of balancing baseball and school work, then you may want to reconsider your decision to tryout. Furthermore, if your grades are marginal, there is a risk to the entire program due to the fact that you may not be eligible at the end of the semester. The coaches will take all of this into consideration when we select our team.

We will need a copy of your last quarter report card. Please bring a copy with you to the first day of tryouts. Failure to do so may result in the player not trying out on the first day.

Thank You and Good Luck.