

Trabuco Baseball

Freshman Baseball Frequently Asked Questions

- **What is Incoming Freshman Baseball Camp/League?**

Freshman baseball camp is a mix of practice and Instructional games. This will include instruction on baseball fundamentals. The camp is used to accomplish the following:

- Introduce them to the Trabuco brand of baseball
- Acclimate them to the Trabuco baseball program
- Evaluate the talent level of each player as a preliminary tryout (to begin team selection)
- Begin learning our system of defensive plays, philosophy and signs.

- **Is a player required to attend Summer Camp?**

- Summer camp is not mandatory, but is highly recommended. This is a key building block to a successful season. Camp/League games are more opportunity for a players to prove themselves, where tryouts are typically only 1 or 2 days....

- **We have vacation plans during the summer camp dates that we cannot change. Will my son be penalized for missing a week/day of camp?**

- No, we understand that summer is one of the few times during the year when families can take vacations together. If you have plans that conflict with summer camp dates, all we ask is that you provide us with advance notice of the dates that you will be unable to attend so we can plan accordingly. For future reference, if your son becomes a Mustang Baseball player, we ask that you plan vacations during the CIF dead period which typically is from Aug. 1st until the start of school.

- **We are going to miss a week/day(s) of summer camp. Do we get a discount off the price for not attending camp in its entirety?**

- Unfortunately we cannot provide discounts. The summer program is run through SVUSD and unfortunately we cannot prorate or refund partial amounts. However, if you are unable to attend the entire camp, we would recommend that you attend what you can. Some attendance would be much more beneficial to no attendance at all.

- **My son plans to play more than one sport. If the summer camps conflict with each other, do we have to choose one?**

- No. The Trabuco baseball and athletic programs are different than most high school programs in this respect...we encourage our players to participate in more than one sport or activity and thus go out of our way to accommodate the requirements of multi-sport athletes. In many cases you will find that members of our baseball staff are also involved in coaching other sports at Trabuco. If there is a conflict with the summer camp dates and times, please let us know in advance and we will work out an equitable time trade off with the other sport so that your son can participate in both

- **Lessons and Club Baseball.....**

- **IT DOES NOT MATTER WHO YOUR SON TAKES LESSONS FROM OR WHAT CLUB TEAM YOUR SON PLAYS ON. THE BEST PLAYERS MAKE THE TEAM PERIOD!!!! LITTLE LEAGUE/CLUB POLITICS ARE NO LONGER A FACTOR!!!!**

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- **I haven't played baseball in a long time. If I tryout this year and make it am I going to just sit on the bench?**
 - No. If you make the team you will play in many games. At Trabuco the primary purpose of the program is to develop players for the varsity level. The only way to do this is to get each player involved in games. Freshman baseball is structured so that all players practice together. If you are not one of the 9 starters you will play in the 6-10 reserve games we play in a season. In these games the players that don't play a whole lot will have the opportunity to start and play most if not all of the game. We understand that baseball is an acquired skill and few individuals come out their first year and perform at their maximum potential. It is our objective to help foster a love for the game and get them the experience necessary so they can contribute to a winning varsity program in the years to come.
- **I cannot afford to pay the donation amounts for baseball, what can I do?**
 - It is not our intention to create a financial hardship for any family of a player who wants to play baseball. However, with the budget cuts throughout the district over the past several years, programs have out of necessity, become self funded operations. This is the only way we can continue to provide the opportunity students to compete in high level High School Athletics. Once the school year starts, almost all contributions for the baseball program can be completely refunded to a player when he reaches specific milestones within the baseball fundraising programs.
 - With that being said, if the contributions involved creates a burden for your family, please contact head coach, Michael Burns, directly. He will be happy to work out a payment plan that makes the financial contributions of this program manageable for your family.
- **I am worried my son's grades will suffer if he plays baseball. What should I do?**
 - This is a valid concern and one, as a Spanish teacher I have a vested interest in. It is our belief that every player is a Student-Athlete (They must be a student first and an athlete second). There is no question that part of being involved in athletics requires developing time management skills. During the season we monitor player's grades and meet with them to discuss if necessary.
- **My son is a pitcher and is playing on another team. Can he still attend camp?**
 - Yes. On all levels we have very strict pitch counts and we are very aware of the importance of conserving the number of throws our players make. I will work with you on an individual basis depending when your games are. All I ask is that the player communicate to his coach ahead of time the days he can't throw or pitch, and I will make sure to limit that in our work out session for that day.
- **When are Tryouts?**
 - Unfortunately baseball is a cut sport. There are only so many reps to be had in practice and only 9 can play at a time. We will be holding tryouts toward the end of July and picking the freshman team. ...It will allow us to place more players in our Fall baseball class, give parents a sooner heads up on financial contributions so they can fundraise and have less out of pocket expense, and allow placement of more freshman into our off-season program. Having this process take place in the Summer will also allow us to evaluate players when they are in better baseball shape (playing more regularly), as opposed to having tryouts in the middle of the Fall or Winter sport seasons. There will likely be a 1-2 day tryout in the late Fall/early Winter for anybody unable to attend the Summer Tryout...
- **What is the best way to keep abreast of developments in the baseball program?**
 - By visiting: www.trabucobaseball.com
You can always email coach Burns at: burnsm@svusd.org