

# **EMW Youth Baseball / Softball Travel Program Policy**

## **Adopted 2/8/07**

*Purpose: The goal and intent of the EMW Travel Baseball and Softball program is to foster player development, leadership skills, community building and to teach the game of baseball and softball to young men and ladies in an environment promoting sportsmanship and fun. We also acknowledge the need to offer a more competitive opportunity for those who have the ability and desire to compete at a more advanced level.*

### **Travel Ground Rules (Coaches & Players)**

- **The Board of Directors must annually approve Travel Coaches. If there're multiple candidates, the board, or a sub-committee appointed by the board will conduct interviews and select the best suitable candidate.**
- **Proper behavior is required of Coaches and Players at all times. Violations may be subject to board review and actions deemed appropriate may be taken to remedy.**
- **Only Adults designated by the Head coach are allowed in the playing area, or near the player bench.**
  - ◆ **Team players must be registered and play for the EMW House League. Exceptions are;**
    - **JV or Varsity players**
    - **Out of district players – as defined by Metro rules**
- **House attendance: After three regular season games, all house/travel players must play in a minimum of 50% of the required house team games. If the attendance percentage drops below 50%, the player is ineligible for future travel games until house attendance goes above 50%.**
- **The Board of Directors must approve team names.**
- **Travel Teams must prominently identify themselves as “EMW” (Elma, Marilla, Wales). Teams must purchase their own uniforms, the logo of EMW must be on the uniform – front side of shirt (2”min height)**
- **Injuries: The Head Coach will be responsible for notifying the Travel Coordinator of any injury that requires medical attention.**
- **Travel Meetings: The Head Coach and/or Assistant Coach are responsible for attending all Travel League Meetings.**
- **Umpire Fee: The Head Coach will be responsible for paying the umpire before the start of each game. Note: The applicable travel league establishes Umpire fees.**

### **Team Accounts**

- **A separate account will be established for each team thru EMW Baseball / Softball. The Treasurer will provide a monthly statement for each team. It will be the Head Coaches responsibility to request reimbursement of team expenses in writing with the Treasurer.**

**Note: If the team terminates its commitment during the season, the balance of the account will be transferred into the EMW Softball/Baseball account.**

### **Travel Tryout**

- Each tryout participant will be evaluated on the various skills needed to compete. The skills including fielding, throwing and hitting and will serve as the primary basis for the Head Coach in selecting players. Other considerations include; position needed, ability to make practices, past performance, potential, level of commitment, athleticism, attitude, knowledge of the game, experience and ability/willingness to learn. The Head Coach will utilize the information provided from the tryout and the above-mentioned considerations to make the final team player selections.
- Once selected by the BOD, the Head Coach will announce Player(s) tryout and inform the Travel Coordinator of date and time of tryouts. The announcement of tryouts will be as follows:
  - EMW Web Site
  - A mailed letter to each boy / girl currently registered with EMW for that appropriate age group. This expense will be paid by EMW.
- At least one player(s) tryout will be held. The Head Coach must attend this tryout. The Travel Coordinator will be invited to this tryout.
- The Head Coach will notify all players that did not successfully make the team via letter (EMW will provide standard letter format). Note: The league will pay this expense.
- Final roster number of players cannot exceed the maximum roster number for that league.
- After the start of the season, the Travel Coordinator must approve any additions.

### **Game Schedule:**

- The Head Coach will be responsible for establishing a team schedule and providing a copy to the Travel Coordinator.
- Home games: It will be the responsibility of the Head Coach to notify the Field Maintenance Coordinator on all home games and any special requirements.

### **Rainouts:**

- It will be the responsibility of the Head Coach to coordinate this decision with the opposing coach and field maintenance coordinator in accordance with the Travel League policy.

### **Travel Cost:**

**Will be determined by the BOD prior to registration.**

**EMW will be responsible for the following costs:**

- Travel League Fee
- Travel League Insurance

- **Umpire Fees** – per each game played, as established by that league. (Note: The EMW Treasurer will coordinate payment method to the Head Coaches prior to the start of the season.
- **Tournament expenses** as determined by the BOD (currently \$400 maximum per season / team.)

**Travel baseball / softball represents a substantial financial commitment by the players families. Funds, in addition to those provided by the EMW baseball/softball organization, will be required to be raised for each team for things such as equipment, tournaments, umpires, etc. during the season. Fundraising will be used to the greatest extent possible to minimize the out of pocket costs for the families. Participation in fundraising is mandatory for each player; however, no child will be denied the opportunity to play travel ball due to financial concerns. The travel coordinator will work with any family requiring assistance in meeting their financial commitments to the greatest extent possible.**

### **Equipment:**

- **If requested, EMW will supply Travel teams with the following equipment:**
  - **Five helmets with face cages approved by NOCSAE**
  - **Chin straps**
  - **Catchers Equipment: Helmet approved by NOCSAE, Chest protector, shin guards. – Standard issue, same as house league**
  - **6 Bats – various sizes – slight upgrade to house program**
  - **1 bat bag**
  - **1 equipment bag**
  - **15 practice balls**

**Game balls will be supplied by participating travel league.**

**Note: It will be the travel teams responsibility to purchase any special equipment other than EMW standard issue as identified above.**