



Travel Team Contract Packet

*“Teaching Character, Leadership, and Life Lessons
through the games of Baseball & Softball”*

Contact: Bob Wiedemann at 404-610-7535 or visit us on the web at
www.NortheastAtlantaBaseball.org



MISSION & VISION

Mission Statement:

We exist to significantly and eternally ***Impact*** the youth Baseball & Softball community by developing athletes, coaches, and parents into leaders with character and a passion for excellence, emphasizing the growth of body, mind, & spirit, using the universal language of ***Sports***, spoken through a Biblical, Christian Worldview.

Vision Statement:

To build an unprecedented athletic environment that:

1. **Presents programs** which shape character and create role models;
2. Positively, significantly and eternally **impacts** athletes, coaches, parents, families, officials, leagues, tournaments and communities;



FCA Baseball Philosophy:

I understand that as a FCA Baseball & Softball Team, **we will be involved in competition, athletic training, team-building events and a character & leadership development program. We will focus on the development of our young men & women from a physical, mental, emotional, relational & spiritual standpoint.**

I further understand and agree with the goals of FCA Baseball & Softball Teams, which are:

1. To provide quality Baseball & Softball instruction.
2. To workout, train, practice and compete with the proper attitudes, approaching the game with heart, desire, dedication, drive, motivation, intensity and enjoyment.
3. To facilitate an environment conducive to hard work and maximum effort, in the context of fun, seeking to develop good habits and a solid work ethic.
4. To provide a positive “team” experience, emphasizing the importance of unity, encouragement and teamwork.
5. To prepare players for high school and college Baseball & Softball programs.
6. To prepare the players and coaches for life both on & off the field by:
 - Emphasizing character & leadership development.
 - Using game experiences to teach life principles.
 - Teaching athletes how to be positive role models.
 - Helping the athletes along their journey to adulthood.
7. To facilitate an environment where the families learn and grow with the athletes.
8. To provide opportunities for the athletes and coaches to reach out to the community.

In order for our team to fulfill the goals stated above, I hereby commit myself to:

- A. Maintaining a teachable spirit and flexible attitude...to be a listener and learner.
- B. Willingly submit to the leadership entrusted with the responsibility of managing, coaching, instructing and developing this team, by following the policies and goals stated in the FCA Baseball & Softball Team Code of Character and Conduct.
- C. Paying the entire amount of my share of the team expenses and helping to the best of my ability with fundraising if necessary.
- D. Making my life available for growth through whatever demands and opportunities this team may bring. I am committed to growing in my Baseball abilities, personal character and skills for living.

FCA Baseball & Softball Coaches:

The position of coach is very important to the ultimate, overall success of FCA Baseball's Team's goals and objectives, which are spelled out in the Commitment to Team Philosophy and Code of Character & Conduct documents. Due to the increased demand put upon the team in regards to their behavior and style of play, the coaching staff must be ready and eager to model those standards in front of the team on a daily basis.

In order to positively impact the Baseball world with Biblical-based values and character qualities, it becomes essential to compete in a way that the Baseball world understands and accepts (playing to win). However, since we are a FCA Travel Baseball & Softball Team, we are playing with more than just winning at stake, so there will be certain practices and philosophies which we will accept and some we will not – to enhance the message we are striving to share through our teams.

On The Field

FCA Baseball & Softball believes that we, as a team, represent the God who created us with the athletic abilities and passions that each of us have, so this calls us to a much higher level of performance and behavior. We believe that the best impact is made on those around us through playing, coaching and conducting ourselves at a higher level than our opponent. We are not consumed with wins and losses. But make no mistake – we do play to win.

In light of this view, we believe that the coaching staff is responsible for all on field actions and reactions, whether spoken or not. Our words and actions can make or break our message of Christ-like character & leadership. Therefore, profanity of any kind will not be tolerated. As a FCA Baseball & Softball Coach, we need to be an example in all situations, including questioning a call by an umpire or confronting members of the opposing team or fans in an inappropriate manner. This is not to say questioning a call is not permitted. Questioning an umpire about a call is acceptable, but we want to maintain the higher level of sportsmanship. We need to be careful of our words and our attitude behind the questioning. **We are not always able to choose our circumstances, but we can choose our response to those circumstances.** If this is what we are teaching our players, we need to be able to live it out in front of them in the heat of competition.

In order to be consistent throughout the season, the coaching staff will be responsible for implementing the character & leadership principles learned during coaches meetings and team talks, making these principles more understandable during practice and game times. In addition, from a Christ-like leadership standpoint, we ask that our coaches be intentional about initiating conversations and relationships with the other coaches and players we compete against, as well as the fans, and in doing so, be an example to our players to initiate in the same manner.

Off The Field

In an effort to help our players and coaching staff grow during their time with FCA Baseball & Softball, we ask that coaches make a committed effort to attend all meetings, team functions, practices and games, and be available for interaction with players and parents on a consistent basis. The players on the team are not only watching you during workouts and games, but they also see your actions away from the field, giving you more opportunities to influence them in a positive way. It's a huge responsibility, but it goes with the territory. Coaches are role models both on and off the field, so everything we do should model Christ-like character and leadership. If we expect our players to grow in these areas of character and leadership, we need to conduct ourselves with class and professionalism in all we do, and be committed to studying and applying these same principles to our individual lives.

As mentioned earlier, the goal of FCA Baseball & Softball Teams is to positively impact the Baseball & Softball world with Biblical-based values and character qualities. To do this, it is imperative that we exceed the expectations of all those we come in contact with. We want to be known for our style of play, our message, and our actions both on and off the field. We definitely make it our aim to compete on the highest level possible, while at the same time maintaining our character and positive impact in all situations.

Additional Points of Emphasis for FCA Baseball & Softball Coaches:

- Maintain a willingness to serve under FCA Baseball & Softball principles and guidelines, spelled out in the Commitment to Team Philosophy, Code of Character & Conduct documents and this Coaching Philosophy Commitment document.
- Maintain a willingness to meet with other FCA Baseball & Softball coaches for planning, training and strengthening each other and the overall program.
- Maintain a willingness to enforce the Player Code of Character & Conduct.
- Maintain a willingness to enforce the Parent Code of Conduct.
- Maintain a willingness to raise funds for the program.
- Maintain a current coaches profile and background consent form with FCA Baseball & Softball.

Medical Certification & Indemnification Agreement

In the event of illness or injury, permission is hereby granted to any administrative or coaching staff member of FCA Baseball & Softball, or their designated representative to administer or secure emergency medical assistance and/or take any other action as may be deemed prudent, including, without limitation, referral to licensed medical personnel or transfer to the appropriate hospital or medical facility.

I hereby certify that I, as a Coach, am physically able to participate in FCA Baseball & Softball activities for the current season. The following is a list of all allergies to medication and a list of any current medications that are being taken and the dosage. (If NONE, please check the appropriate NO Allergies & NO Medications boxes.)

[] NO Allergies [] NO Medications

PHYSICIAN'S NAME: _____

PHYSICIAN'S ADDRESS: _____

PHYSICIAN'S TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

HOSPITAL PLAN: _____ **CONTRACT NO.** _____

COMPANY: _____

CITY / STATE / ZIP: _____

OTHER PERTINENT PLAN INFORMATION: _____

I am willing to participate in all FCA Baseball & Softball activities, including clinics and post-season tournaments not specifically scheduled. I acknowledge that these activities may require travel in various modes of transportation, with accommodations and meals in various establishments.

I acknowledge that I participate in all FCA Baseball & Softball activities at my own risk. In consideration of your permitting me to participate, I hereby accept any inherited risk of play, participation or travel, and hereby release FCA Baseball & softball, the league in which the team competes, and/or any other national or local organization/association with whom FCA may affiliate, and the officers, coaching staff, sponsors, volunteers, umpires, employees, agents, affiliates, heirs, successors, and assigns of each from any responsibility that you or they might have regarding my health and physical condition during my participation.

On behalf of myself, my family, heirs, executors, and assigns, I further release and forever discharge all of the above individuals and entities from any and every claim, demand, right or cause of action either in law or in equity arising from my participation in all activities. The undersigned agrees to indemnify and hold harmless all of the above individuals and entities from any claim made in derogation of this release.

Coach's Signature

Date

Print Name

Date

PLAYER CHARACTER AND PROPER CONDUCT

- **Actions speak louder than words!**
- **HUSTLE** at all times during games and practice.
- **Work Hard!** Put forth **100% effort** all of the time. Do your “work” with all your heart, strength and mind. **Practice Makes Permanent. Preparation Produces Results!** Play in such a way that pleases the One who gave you your athletic ability.
- **Stay Focused!** Keep your head in the game. Pay attention during practice and games.
- **Have Fun!** Enjoy the process. Keep a sense of humor, but know when to be serious. Remember, Baseball & Softball is a game!
- **Take pride in how you play the game**, how you approach the game, how you wear your uniform, etc. Have “**Class**” in all that you do! Play sharp, look sharp, be organized, be neat and clean.
- You’ve got to have **Heart, Desire, Drive, Motivation, Dedication, and Intensity.**
- Play the game with **Energy & Quickness.** Have a little “spring & bounce” to your game.
- Be **Confident**, not cocky. Remember, pride comes before the fall. There is much **strength in humility!**
- Be a **Positive Role Model and Example.** Remember, others are looking at you, so influence them in a positive way. Some of the greatest impact FCA Baseball & Softball teams have had is in the area of their conduct both on and off the sports field.
- Use **Proper Communication** both on and off the field. Develop communication skills whenever you can.
- **Be Respectful** of: Umpires, Coaches, Teammates, Opposing Team Members, Parents and the game itself.
- You must agree to **Submit Willingly and Cheerfully to the Leadership of this Team**, even when you do not agree with their decisions.
- **Overcome Adversity!** Deal with the circumstances you are dealt. Develop the courage to persevere. Never give up or quit.
- **Demonstrate Self Control!** Strive to improve on this in the heat of competition. If you disagree with the officiating, or make an error or strikeout...pray for self-control! There are certain things you cannot control, however, you can control your effort, attitude & behavior! SMILE and trust God for the results, but continue to work hard and compete with the proper intensity.
- **Don’t complain about anything!** Your strong reaction to something could offend someone. Be sensitive to others’ feelings. Keep your remarks to yourself regarding such things as:
 - Umpire calls
 - Coaches decisions
 - Teammates
 - The weather
 - Game circumstances
 - Field & facility conditions
 - Opposing team members
- If you have a complaint or problem with someone, go to that person directly and work it out. Do not let things build up!
- If you have concerns regarding the team and how it’s being run, bring them to one of the coaches or to the coaching staff.
- **Be Positive...**not negative, critical or judgmental.
- **Develop a THANKFUL HEART.** Appreciation and thankfulness are the responsibility of each team member.
- **Be a Team Player...not an Individual.**
 - Focus on stats for the good of the team, not yourself. Do what it takes for your team to win, not to boost your own stats and ego.
 - Don’t talk proudly about yourself and your accomplishments. **There is no “I” in “Team”!!!**
- You will be **Expected to Participate** with your FCA Baseball & Softball team as much as possible during all sports and non-sports functions, including special team-building events, team meetings and socials...unless approved by your team leadership.
- **ENCOURAGE** your teammates and your opponents.

- **Expect Errors, Mistakes & Failure, but don't be satisfied with it – strive for perfection and excellence.** Remember baseball, softball and life are difficult “games” to master. It's a process and nobody is perfect. **Extend yourself some grace in failure; don't let it get you down or discouraged.** Get right back up and be ready to go after the next one, competitively and with the proper intensity!
- Try to reduce the amount of “physical” errors during a game and set a goal to make even fewer “mental” errors. This is a good goal for life, too!
- **Seek to improve** as a player and person. **Be a Learner!** Try to learn something everyday, in every game, at every practice session and in every circumstance – win or lose...good or bad...easy or difficult.
- It will be necessary for you to **Maintain a Teachable Heart**, and to humbly and faithfully fulfill the responsibilities assigned to you.
- **Demonstrate Class** at the end of a game in both victory and defeat...shake hands, look the opposing team members in their eyes, and keep your head up high because of the effort you put forth.
- **Safety** needs to be a top priority:
 - For your personal protection, if at all possible, make an effort to be with at least one other teammate when you go to the concession stand, restroom, or just walking around a sports complex (use “The Buddy System” for young teams).
 - All injuries, illnesses and emergencies must be reported IMMEDIATELY to the coaching staff.
 - Stay alert, use common sense, and make good decisions and choices.

INAPPROPRIATE CONDUCT

The following behaviors will not be tolerated; disciplinary action will be taken:

- Attitude problems.
- Back-Talking a coach or parent.
- Crude, profane or vulgar language.
- Throwing of equipment in a display of anger or frustration; outward expressions or demonstrations of anger or frustration.
- Outward displays of displeasure with the officials. Questioning umpires in a clearly visible and inappropriate manner (verbal & non-verbal).
- Trash-talking and outward acts of pride directed towards the opposing team.
- Critical, judgmental, or negative talk directed toward teammates.
- Leaving the dugout or bench area. (Remain in the dugout or in the bench area during games, unless there is an emergency or you receive permission from one of the coaches).
- Horseplay, messing around or silly antics.
- Use of tobacco products.
- Consumption of alcohol and/or drugs.

Consequences for the above actions and attitudes include:

- Sent home early from practice.
- Not permitted to participate in a drill or practice station (i.e. batting practice, infield workout, etc.).
- Some form of extra physical fitness exercise (i.e. running foul poles, push-ups, etc.).
- Removal from a game.
- Suspended from playing in up-coming games.
- Removal from the competition site.

These policies regarding character & conduct on a FCA Baseball team have been established for your protection, well-being, and character/leadership development. In light of these principles, the final decision regarding any issue resides with your team leadership. **The coaching staff's decision is final. FCA Baseball & Softball Team Members who willfully and repeatedly disregard these policies and the leadership of the team may be temporarily suspended from games and other team activities or dismissed from the team.** These decisions are at the discretion of the FCA Baseball leadership Team. If you are dismissed from the team for a Code of Character and Conduct violation, you will be responsible for any additional costs, and NO refunds will be given.

PLAYER'S NAME: _____

PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT & SUPPORT

The following policies regarding the conduct of FCA Baseball & Softball parents are being established in support of the Player Code of Character & Conduct. We need parental support and participation as we seek to develop quality young men from boys through the game of Baseball. In consideration for your support of this Parent Code of Conduct, you can expect the coaching staff to abide by FCA Baseball & Softball coaching policies and team philosophy. Some of these players will soon be in a position to try out for high school baseball teams, or they are hoping to play in college somewhere. They need to understand that playing time, positions played, athletic ability, effort, attitude, development and discipline are all key ingredients in how the coaching staff will determine the roster prior to, and during, any game.

- Be supportive of, and reinforce all elements of the player Code of Character and Conduct on and off the field.
- **Don't complain about things!** You would be surprised as to what trickles down from you to your child. Even though they don't listen to us many times, that's only selective listening.
 - Umpire calls
 - Coaches' decisions
 - Playing time
 - The weather
 - Game circumstances
 - Field & facility conditions
 - Coaches on opposing teams
- If you have a complaint or problem with anyone on the coaching staff of this team, go to that person directly and work it out. Do not let things build up.
- If you have concerns regarding the team and how it's being run, bring them to one of the coaches or to the coaching staff.
- Please let the coaches instruct, position players, and handle the running of the game. Many times we use signals to set up defensive situations or possible plays, so we don't necessarily want to broadcast where we've positioned players.

INAPPROPRIATE CONDUCT

The following behaviors will not be tolerated:

- Allowing a player to leave the dugout or bench to sit with you (except in emergency situations). Send him back to the dugout. Be sure to provide her with ample fluids and snacks to sustain her throughout the game.
- Questioning playing time. Get used to this. High School coaches are not receptive to parent interference in the running of their teams.
- Use of crude, profane or vulgar language.
- Outward displays of displeasure with the officials.
- Consumption of alcohol and/or drugs.
- Critical, judgmental, or negative talk directed toward teammates and opposing team members.

Consequences for the above actions

Most often, you will be asked by the head coach to stop the inappropriate behavior. In some cases, particularly if you have offended an official or disrespected a coach, you will be requested to leave the field area. If you do not cease from the behavior or refuse to leave the field area when asked, your son may be pulled out of a game, temporarily suspended from participating in future games and other team activities, or possibly even dismissed from the team. These decisions are at the discretion of the FCA Baseball & Softball Leadership Team. If you are dismissed from the team for a Parent Code of Conduct violation, you will be responsible for any additional costs, and NO refunds will be given.

PARENT NAME: _____



FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES BASEBALL • SOFTBALL

PARENTS' TELEPHONE NUMBERS Home: _____ Work: _____

OTHER TELEPHONE NUMBERS _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY / STATE / ZIP: _____

In the event of illness or injury, permission is hereby granted to any coaching staff member of FCA Baseball & softball, or their designated representative to administer or secure emergency medical assistance and/or take any other action as may be deemed prudent, including, without limitation, referral to licensed medical personnel or transfer to the appropriate hospital or medical facility.

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____ DATE _____
Parent or Guardian Signature: _____ DATE _____

MEDICAL CERTIFICATION AND MEDICAL INSURANCE INFORMATION

I hereby certify that my son named herein above as PLAYER is physically able to participate in FCA Baseball activities for the current season. The following is a list of all allergies to medication and a list of any current medications that are being taken and the dosage. (If NONE, please check the appropriate NO Allergies & NO Medications boxes.)

[] NO Allergies [] NO Medications

PHYSICIAN'S NAME: _____

PHYSICIAN'S ADDRESS: _____

PHYSICIAN'S TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

HOSPITAL PLAN: _____ CONTRACT NO. _____

COMPANY: _____

CITY / STATE / ZIP: _____

OTHER PERTINENT PLAN INFORMATION: _____

PARENT RELEASE

I hereby grant my son permission to participate in all FCA Baseball & Softball activities, including clinics and post-season tournaments not specifically scheduled. I acknowledge that these activities may require travel in various modes of transportation, with accommodations and meals in various establishments.

I acknowledge that my son participates in all FCA Baseball & Softball activities at his own risk. In consideration of your permitting him to participate, I hereby accept any inherited risk of play, participation or travel, and hereby release FCA Baseball, the league in which the team competes, and/or any other national or local organization/association with which FCA Baseball & Softball, and the officers, coaching staff, sponsors, volunteers, umpires, employees, agents, affiliates, heirs, successors, and assigns of each from any responsibility that you or they might have regarding the health and physical condition of my son during his participation.

On behalf of myself, my son, our heirs, executors, and assigns, I further release and forever discharge all of the above individuals and entities from any and every claim, demand, right or cause of action either in law or in equity arising from my son's/daughter's participation in all activities. The undersigned agrees to indemnify and hold harmless all of the above individuals and entities from any claim made in derogation of this release.

Parent or Guardian Signature: _____ DATE _____
Parent or Guardian Signature: _____ DATE _____



With full understanding of the attached organizational goals and policies, I hereby commit myself to abide by the FCA Baseball & Softball rules of conduct and youth team philosophy, as well as strive to grow in areas of character and leadership development, for the duration of my involvement with FCA Baseball & Softball.

COMMITMENT TO THE MISSION & VISION

Player Signature

Date

Parent Signature(s)

Date

COMMITMENT TO THE YOUTH TEAM PHILOSOPHY

Player Signature

Date

Parent Signature(s)

Date

COMMITMENT TO THE PLAYER CODE OF CHARACTER & CONDUCT

Player Signature

Date

Parent Signature(s)

Date

COMMITMENT TO THE PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Parent Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date