



Dear Prospective Athlete & Parents,

Thank you for your interest in Black Widows Baseball Club (BWBBC). We look forward to having you join us and we want your time with us to be a positive and skill improving experience.

Black Widows Baseball Club, LLC is a private youth sports organization established in 2003 to provide access to the competitive world of travel ball to a greater number of kids. We strive to provide quality athletic training in a professional, positive, safe, and fun environment. In addition to teaching the technical skills pertaining to the game of baseball, we also hope to instill self-confidence and positive self-esteem in our athletes while promoting important life skills such as healthy socialization skills, problem solving skills, and teamwork.

While our primary focus will be on developing your child's athletic potential, and improving their individual contribution to the team, we will also be showing them how to work together as a team, how to encourage one another to overcome personal challenges, and how capitalizing on each other's strengths makes the overall team stronger and more competitive.

We are looking for players who are willing to [commit their time to the entire season](#), to work hard on improving their individual skills, and to be a respectful, loyal teammate. Black Widows Baseball **is NOT a recreational organization** – we train to compete. Please take the time to [thoroughly read](#) the remainder of the information we have provided. It is detailed because we want everyone to be aware of the level of commitment we expect and to understand what it will take to have your child participate successfully in our program.

***What makes Black Widows Baseball unique?***

1. Our Program focuses on raising the skill level of the individual player first and foremost.
2. Our Program is developmental and instructional in nature as well as competitive.
3. Our primary focus is on building character, teamwork, and good sportsmanship
4. The same system of baseball is taught throughout all age levels.

***How Successful has the Black Widows Program been in developing players?***

1. Annually our membership has had current & former players named to All Star teams
2. Our past membership has had several former players play for State Championship teams
3. In 2011, there were **54 former** players from our Organization playing in High School Programs
4. **9 former** Players will play College Level baseball for the Academic Year of 2011-2012

Again, we thank you for your interest in being part of our organization. After reading through the following information, if you still have questions, feel free to contact us. We are excited about the upcoming season and look forward to seeing you at the tryouts!

## "Welcome to our Program"

### *Important Dates: 2011 Calendar Year*

|                           |                                                        |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| August 5th- Sept 4th      | Summer Training and Team Practices                     |
| Sept 10 – Nov 27th        | Pony League Play Begins for Games                      |
| September 10 - Dec 4th    | Tournament Schedule Begins (1-2 per month)             |
| November 27 <sup>th</sup> | Summer/Fall Season Ends                                |
| December 1st              | Xtra Innings Program /Hardball Mechanics Clinics Begin |

### *Email Communication:*

Email is the primary communication format used by the Black Widows. When you register with us please be sure we get a valid email address for each member of your family who needs to be kept informed about team events and any last-minute changes. If you do not have access to email or do not check it frequently please make sure your coaches and team representatives are aware of this and provide them an alternate way of getting information to you quickly. Team Coordinators will be assigned for each team to make sure any up to date information can get dispersed as quickly as possible. Please make sure we have all emails, and contact numbers available to notify you at a moments notice.

### *Website:*

Our website will be updated weekly during the season on Wednesday nights by **9pm**. This will be the primary source of Tournament information, results, and highlights.

### *How to contact us:*

**Black Widows Baseball Club , LLC**  
**8 El Corazon, RSM**  
**Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688**  
**Phone: 714-310-8303**  
**Fax: 949-766-0377**  
**[www.blackwidowsbaseball.com](http://www.blackwidowsbaseball.com)**

### **General Rules**

- Athletes are not allowed on the fields without the consent and supervision of a coach or adult BW representative.
- Each athlete is responsible for bringing their own water and when necessary, appropriate snacks, for each practice/game/tournament.
- Athletic fitness on all levels is our goal. Therefore, smoking, drinking of alcoholic beverages, or the use of drugs by the athletes is prohibited. Abuse of this rule will result in the immediate dismissal from our program.
- Abusive language or behavior, or any other negative forms of behavior toward coaches, umpires, teammates or other competitors is grounds for immediate dismissal from our program.
- Each member and parent must be aware of the responsibilities required and the commitment being made to the team.
- Each member must be aware that being a member of the Black Widows organization is a privilege
- Each member must realize that the manner in which they conduct themselves on and off the field is a direct reflection on their entire team and our program.
- Each member must be willing to work hard, take direction, and strive for excellence.
- Each member must realize that playing time is earned and awarded at the sole discretion of the coaching staff
- Grievances should be addressed to the team's coaching staff first. If an amicable solution cannot be reached the grievance should be elevated to the Club Director and/or the organizations advisory board.
- It is understood that team coaches and/or managers cannot make financial commitments on behalf of BWBBC. Any and all financial arrangements are to be made directly with BWBBC administration only.
- All required forms and team information must be filled out and turned in on a timely basis.
- Accounts must be kept current and all team monthly fees paid on time or risk forfeiture of membership in our organization.
- Parents and outside Supporters should keep a positive attitude in support of players, coaches, and teams.
- Remember the purpose of our program is to raise the ability of the individual player's skills in a developmental and instructional program, not necessarily an extremely competitive environment.

## **Team Placement**

We believe that an individual can excel and will be most content in the upcoming season when placed on a team that complements their skill level. We believe that all of our teams, regardless of skill level, can have an extremely successful year. Our goal is to create balanced teams with strengths in all the technical areas of the game. Please trust in the decisions we make and encourage your child to take advantage of the opportunity to make new friends and build solid bonds within their assigned teams.

**It must also be re-iterated that the Black Widows Baseball organization is NOT a recreational organization.** We train to compete and while we make every effort to accommodate as many players as possible, we cannot and do not guarantee that every child who attends our tryouts will make a team. Please be prepared, and have your child prepared, for this possibility. Also know that we hold tryouts each year and we have referrals available to private instructors in the event your child does not initially make one of our teams but is committed to improving their skills. We do welcome players to try-out again should they not be initially accepted to one of our teams. After tryouts, players may join a team by invitation only and must attend one month's events before final placement.

As part of the selection process, alternates will be chosen and notified. In the event a primary candidate chooses not to accept their position, an alternate will be chosen to take their roster position.

In the best interest of our athletes we reserve the right to move a player from one team to another at anytime throughout the season. If the player improves his skills on a younger team or is simply not keeping up with his teammates on a more advanced team, movement may occur. Moreover, we reserve the right to remove any player from some or all of our programs if we determine that the athlete or his parents are a detriment to our program or its patrons.

Division assignments are based on the player's age as of 04/30/12 and will remain in effect for the entire 2011 season. It is our intention to carry a minimum roster of 12-14 players at each age level. However due to availability of teams, some age groups may be combined for purposes of competition and development.

The number of teams offered is subject to change solely at the discretion of Black Widows Baseball and in part is dependant upon the number and quality of athletes in attendance at tryouts, as well as the availability of coaches

## **Attendance**

- Players are allowed up to 8 absences from team practices and/or up to 1 absence from tournaments during the course of the season. Absences in excess of these guidelines may result in disciplinary action or dismissal from the program.
- Teammates must be on time to practice. Three (3) tardies will equal one (1) absence. Continual tardiness may result in disciplinary action or dismissal from the program.
- The final decision to remove a player due to their lack of attendance will come from the head coach and will be determined by number and reason of absences.
- **Even if you are injured you must still attend team functions, chalk talks and tournaments.** You will not be required to participate, however you will be required to watch and learn the information being presented.
- **Any preplanned extended absences (vacations) which fall outside the scheduled break periods must be communicated in writing to the head coach upon the acceptance of your position to a team. Failure to do so at this time will mean the above stated attendance policy will apply without exception.**

## **Team Interaction & Sportsmanship**

- It is important to keep a **positive attitude** throughout your training.
- We expect you to **work hard** in practice and **pay attention** in chalk-talk. Excessive displays of laziness or lack of participation can result in dismissal from our program.
- All teammates, coaches, umpires and other competitors **MUST be treated with respect and dignity at all times.** Personal attacks, abusive behavior, inappropriate language, and or inappropriate joking will not be tolerated. Any athlete that is disruptive or abusive to others may be moved to a different team or removed from the program altogether.
- **Sportsmanship and team unity** are key components to our organization's success. We expect our players to be **courteous and considerate to others** on and off the field. Anyone who behaves in a manner that negatively affects the organization or we deem inappropriate, on or off the field, may be asked to leave our organization.
- **Parents need the Let the Coaches "Coach."** "Coaching" from the stands or sidelines creates a distraction not only to your player, but also to our staff. It generally creates conflict and confusion and is generally not received in a "positive" way by your player. We need their un-divided attention when they are at team training and games, so please refrain from trying to "correct" something you "on the spot" in the field of play. Thank you for your Understanding and Patience in this matter.

## **2011 Summer- Fall Season Fees**

|                            |          |
|----------------------------|----------|
| New Player Registration    | \$150.00 |
| New Player Uniform Package | \$250.00 |
| Pony League Registration   | \$175.00 |

***Returning Players Roster Reservation will be \$100 in place of Registration Fee***  
***Returning Players Uniform can be ordered separately from package plan***

**Monthly Training Fees: August – November 2011:**  
**\$125 per player per month**

**Includes:** *At the Minimum:* a combination of 3 field practices or scrimmage games, 3 team training facility workouts which will be rotated between OC Extreme Training Academy, Saddleback School of Baseball, or MVP Technologies and any other training facility.

**Not Included:** Tournaments, Travel expenses, gate fees, Non-League Games & Scrimmages, Professional Clinics

### **Additional Fees:**

**Tournaments - \$50 - \$60** per player (*depending on Tourney fee and available roster for tournament*)  
**Non-League Game/Scrimmage Fee – \$5 - \$10** per player to cover Umpire Fee and Host team field fees  
**Extra Training Facility Workouts - \$150 - \$200** per team  
**Team Clinics/Professional Coaching Instruction –** whatever the going rate is pre hour or per player

## **Pre-Approved Fee Adjustments**

### Injured Player Roster Credit

This will be a partial credit toward the monthly dues for the duration of the athlete's injury.  
*Must apply and be approved for this credit. Contact a Black Widow's representative for more information*

### Monthly Fee Discounts

**Sibling Discount – 50%** off the monthly team fee for families with more than one player in the organization.  
**Payment in Full – \$100** off last month's monthly fee for those families who pay for the whole season's fees in advance or at the Parents Meeting

Every athlete has the right to resign their position on the team at any time.  
Should you decide to resign your position prior to the end of the season, you will be responsible for paying IN FULL the current month's fees.  
There will be **NO REFUNDS** of any kind given when an athlete resigns their position on the team.  
An athlete can be dismissed from the team for non-payment of Monthly Fees on a timely basis.

# **2011 Team Fees Payment Policy**

## **Monthly Team Fees:**

Team fees must be received in our offices on or before the **first day** of every month. **A \$25 late fee** will be added to your account if payment is received in our offices after the 5<sup>th</sup> day of the month. It is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to make timely payments. BWBBC makes no guarantees regarding the number of tournaments, or other activities which will be included in the season. Therefore, there will be no refunds or adjustments to the monthly fees for cancelled tournaments or other team events. *Players can and will be suspended from participation in our program for non-payment of associated fees or excessive late payments.*

## **Tournament Fees:**

**Must be paid prior to Tournament Brackets release no later than Monday of the Week of Tournament.**

No Payments will be accepted after Brackets have been released unless you are a "replacement" player for Tourney Roster. *Players who have not paid by the deadline are "ineligible" to play in that tournament.*

## **Payments:**

- Checks should be made payable to: **Black Widows Baseball or BWBBC** and should be sent to
- **8 El Corazon, RSM, 92688** prior to the first day of each month.
- To help insure your payment is applied properly, please include your child's name and team in the memo section of your check.
- As a courtesy, your child's coach or team representative may choose to collect payments and turn them in for you. However, in the event payments collected in this manner reach us after the 5<sup>th</sup> day of the month, the above stated late fees will still apply.
- If you are paying in cash we strongly recommend that you obtain a receipt. This gives you a record of the payment and helps insure that payments are applied correctly once they reach the office.
- Returned checks are subject to a **Returned Check Fee of \$25.00**.
- NSF checks must be covered within 72 hours by payment in the form of **cash, cashier's check, or money order**. Failure to cover an NSF check within the allotted time may result in immediate dismissal from the team.
- Occurrence of a second NSF check any time during the season will result in the organization no longer accepting payments in the form of a personal or company check. Any family with 2 or more NSF checks in the season is subject to dismissal.
- If a family is dismissed from the organization due to NSF checks, said dismissal will be considered voluntary resignation and cancellation fees will apply accordingly. See the Cancellation Policy section of this document for specific details.
- Refunds are not given for any payment once it has been received.
- In the event your account becomes more than 30 days past due, we reserve the right to dismiss your child from the team and/or forward your account to a collection agency or file with small claims court in an attempt to collect the delinquent fees as well as any and all third-party fees incurred during the collection of said balance.
- If a family is dismissed from the organization because of a past due account, said dismissal will be considered voluntary resignation and cancellation fees will apply accordingly. See the Cancellation Policy section of this document for specific details.
- Payments will automatically be applied to the oldest unpaid charges first.
- BWBBC will make every effort possible to keep team rosters falling below a minimum of 14 participants, however in the event a team roster does fall below this minimum, monthly team dues may be increased.

## **Payment Options:**

- Cash, cashiers check, Money Order
- Personal Check

## **Cancellation Policy**

Every athlete has the right to resign their position on the team at any time. Should you decide to resign your position prior to the end of the season, you will be responsible for paying IN FULL the current month's fees PLUS one additional month. There will be **NO REFUNDS** of any kind given when an athlete resigns their position on the team.

Athletes that are dismissed from a team due to non payment will be considered to have voluntarily resigned their position and will be responsible for all fees incurred up to the date of dismissal PLUS one additional month.