

Words Of Wisdom

Are You Ready For High School Baseball?

See How You Measure Up!

- ✓ Persistence is more important than talent.
- ✓ There is a reason that the word STUDENT comes first in student/athlete.
- ✓ Respect the game as much as you want to be respected.
- ✓ Tuck in your shirt.
- ✓ Don't wear your hat backwards.
- ✓ Practice hard because you play the way you practice.
- ✓ It doesn't take any talent to hustle.
- ✓ Be a student of baseball. Learn the game. Study the history of baseball.
- ✓ Help your team win whether you play or not.
- ✓ Keep a daily diary of what you do at practice & keep notes of your observations. This will help you see the progress you have made.
- ✓ Never argue with an umpire.
- ✓ Agree to let your coaches train you.
- ✓ Don't cut class.
- ✓ Maintain the grades that keep you eligible.
- ✓ Set high standards along with knowing the steps to attain them.
- ✓ Do not tell people what you are worth, prove it to them.
- ✓ Your girlfriend is not more important than your career choice.
- ✓ Your parents love you, but they don't know more than your coach about baseball.
- ✓ Don't let anyone make an excuse for you.
- ✓ Maintain eye contact with all adults when they talk to you. Practice on your friends.
- ✓ It is your coach's opinion of you that counts. He makes out the lineup. Fail to understand this point and you will be out of the game.
- ✓ Life is not fair, regardless of what some people want you to think.
- ✓ Be passionate about your teammates.
- ✓ Love the game.
- ✓ Players are not the only people in the game. There are coaches, trainers, announcers, umpires, broadcasters and writers. All those jobs are honorable professions.
- ✓ The only thing that coaches owe you is HONESTY.
- ✓ Body language screams. It never whispers.
- ✓ Balance makes champions. If you focus on hitting and ignore the defensive part of your game, you will never be a complete player.
- ✓ Be as diligent on defense as you are on offense.
- ✓ Defense wins more games than offense.
- ✓ Pitching sets the tone.
- ✓ Games are lost, not won. Mistakes lead to losses.
- ✓ You can win a league with a few good pitchers. Well-developed pitching staffs win the tournaments.
- ✓ Work on your game every day of the year. The guy who beat you out for the starting job did, as did the team that always beats you.
- ✓ Who you are today is a result of who you were in the past. Fill your past with smart work and good deeds and you will maximize your potential.
- ✓ You don't have to be a great athlete to be a good baseball player.
- ✓ Show off your talent to your current coach and your future coach by doing the following (ALL THE TIME)

- ❑ When you jog to warm up, finish first.
- ❑ When you stretch, do it best.
- ❑ When you play catch, throw to a target and hit it every time.
- ❑ When you play catch, catch the ball or block the bad throw, keep it in front of you every time.
- ❑ When you are doing a drill, do it perfect every time.
- ❑ Go Hard all the time. NEVER walk on a baseball field.
- ❑ As a batter / runner, run to first as though it matters that you are safe.
- ❑ Know the situation on defense and do the right thing.
- ❑ **BASEBALL REVEALS CHARACTER, IT DOESN'T BUILD IT.**
- ❑ Character means doing the right thing even when nobody's watching.

The above Words of Wisdom were taken from: The Winning Pitch, Collegiate Baseball, Thomas Alston, October 8, 1999.