

## 2020-2021 Midwest Smash Participation Agreement

The Midwest Smash Baseball Organization represents a commitment to the advancement of competitive youth baseball in our area. It is a highly competitive program (not a recreational program) and players will be required to meet many demands of the Smash Organization. This program is not for everyone, and we ask both players and parents to consider important factors before making the decision to join one of our Smash teams.

### PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

With the Smash, it is a priority to provide each team with top tier coaches. Smash coaches are unique in that they do not serve as a result of being a parent of a Smash player, Most are active in other coaching endeavors and are hand selected to coach Smash teams as a result of their baseball credentials and track record of performance on the field. All are coaches who know how to teach and motivate kids, and want to help them be the best they can be – both on and off the field – through developmental coaching and instruction.

Smash has brought in our own personal trainers to provide players at all age levels Elite Level Speed, Agility, Strength and Conditioning training.

Sundays in the Fall/Winter players will have the opportunity to sign up for small group hitting sessions with Coach Josh Scheffert.

Other training opportunities – Smash has a number of ex-College and Professional players on staff to assist with all aspects of the game. Players will have the opportunity to work with these instructors at a reduce fee.

### COST AND REQUIREMENTS ASSOCIATED

Parents who choose to have their son play Smash Baseball will incur costs and be required to participate in Smash activities as follows:

#### 1. Annual Cost Requirements

##### a. Participation Fee – See age groups below

- i. Deposit due within **48 hours** of offer to reserve your spot on the team. The spot is open after 48 hours. - **\$300**
- ii. Remaining balance to be **paid monthly on the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month starting August 1st**. Advanced payments are acceptable.

##### **Full balance paid by March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021**

- iii. Participation Fee is based on the number of tournaments that each team registers for and the total number games scheduled. Teams may elect to play in mostly tournaments rather than regular season games.
- iv. Covers entries into tournaments, uniforms (2 jerseys, 2 pants, 1 pair of socks, hat, helmet), facility fees, umpires, game field rental, practice field rental, player insurance, team equipment, coaching, administration fees
- v. **Base fees.** \*Some teams may differ from this chart if they choose to add/remove games.

	8U	9U	10U- Silver	10U- Navy	11U- Silver	11U- Navy	12U- Black	12U- Silver	12U- Navy	13U	14U
Games	22-25	22-25	25-30	30-35	30-35	35-40	35-40	35-40	34-40	40-45	40-45
Tourneys	2-3	2-3	2-3	5-6	3-4	6-7	4-5	4-5	9-10	8-9	8-9
Fees	\$1150	\$1150	\$1250	\$1400	\$1350	\$1550	\$1250	\$1250	\$1700	\$1750	\$1750

##### b. Out-of-Pocket Travel Cost for Away Games and Tournaments

##### c. All participation fees, sponsorships and fundraising dollars are **NON-REFUNDABLE**

##### d. Teams may elect to do additional fundraising to purchase extra tourneys, Nationals, uniforms or to reduce player fees.

##### e. Sponsorships

- i. Up to 100% of the fees may be paid with a sponsorship donation.
- ii. 75% of each sponsorship gets applied to the players account less fess associated the sponsorship level (i.e. Banner costs). Not to exceed the total balance. Amounts in excess are added to the team budget or can be applied to player fees for National Tournaments.

##### f. Discounts

- i. Multi-Player Discount: \$100 off per player if more than 1 player is in the program.
- ii. If 100% of the fees are paid in ONE payment a \$50 Credit will be applied.

**g. Late Fees**

- i. If 75% of the player fees are not received by February 1<sup>st</sup> a \$35 late will fee will be added.
- ii. If 100% of the player fees are not received by March 1<sup>st</sup> a \$35 late will fee will be added, continuing for each 15 day period thereafter.
- iii. Uniforms will not be provided until 100% of the player fees have been paid.
- iv. Returned checks will be charged \$35 in bank fees and a late fee will be accessed if balance is not met at that time.

**2. Parent and Player Responsibilities/Coaching Philosophies**

- a. Parent support is critical; criticism of players is not acceptable.
- b. Loud vocal support for the team is important. We need it! However, derogatory comments should not be made to individual players, coaches, the opposing team or umpires. Parents who engage in disruptive behavior risk having their son removed from the team.
- c. Missed calls by umpires are part of the game, but parents and players must refrain from making negative comments, as it distracts from the game.
- d. Sportsmanship is expected from all players (and parents). Disrespect of coaches, arguing with umpires or fighting with other players are all grounds for ejection from the game and future games. The use of foul language, inappropriate gestures, and taunting, will not be tolerated.
- e. Midwest Smash teams win as a team and lose as a team. All players continue to be positive and supportive of all teammates. Negative comments or attitudes by players, toward other team members, will not be tolerated. Players and parents should not make criticisms of other players at any time.
- f. Parents should not interfere with coaching and should not offer instructions to players during practices or games unless requested by the coaching staff to do so.
- g. Players are expected to be at the ball park one-hour before the start of each game and 10 minutes before each practice. Failure to do so may impact playing time. Unless otherwise instructed by the Coach.
- h. Players are expected to be at all practices and games. It is each player's responsibility to know when the practices and games are scheduled. Parents have the responsibility of arranging all transportation for their player. Parents are also expected to arrange lodging for out-of-town travel. After games and practices coaches should not be expected to stay late waiting for a player's ride or to provide player transportation.
- i. Players involved in other sports are expected to give the highest priority to baseball during the spring/summer season.
  - i. Outside of baseball season, players are encouraged to participate in other team sports which will help them to develop as athletes and team players.
- j. This is competitive baseball and equal playing time is not guaranteed. The amount of playing time that each player receives is at the discretion of the coaching staff, and is based on ability, effort, attitude, commitment and team needs. Hopefully, all players will have ample opportunities to play, however parents are expected to be understanding of coaching decisions. Coaches will always put the team first before any individual player.
- k. If you have a problem or concern with the team or its coaching staff, please do not vocalize it during a game or practice in front of team members or families. Your input is welcome; however a private phone call to the coach after 24 hours is the best way to help the team.
- l. Players will remain in the dugout when not on the field, unless instructed otherwise by the coaches. All players not playing will be responsible for making sure the dugout is kept in order. Dugout players will be asked to warm up pitchers and outfielders. Parents are asked to stay clear of the dugout during games unless specifically requested by a coach.
- m. Players are subject to dismissal from the team if team rules are violated by players or their parents. Players removed from the roster are not entitled to any monetary refund.
- n. Players are expected to come to practices and games fully equipped. This means dressed in sliding gear, with adequate water. Players should be in full uniform before pre-game warm-ups begin.
- o. Players are expected to give 100% effort and focus to the team. Baseball is fun and winning is the most fun of all but it requires hard work. Focus is expected at all games and practices, and can be a determining factor when it comes to playing time.

**3. Volunteer Needs**

**a. Smash Baseball Tournament - Required**

- i. Each family must commit a minimum of 8 hours during the tournament to help manage the tournament, staff concession stands, prep fields, etc.

**b. Committee Participation - Optional**

- i. Parent volunteers will be needed to assist with the Golf Tournament, apparel, team photos, fundraisers, dine-out nights, and other activities.

**c. Golf Tournament Fundraiser – Not Mandatory but sure is a fun time!**

- i. This is an organizational fundraiser that helps pay for new facility equipment and maintenance required in the facility. Played in the fall at a local course.
- ii. Participants have an opportunity to raise money to reduce their player fees.
- iii. Non-Golfers can still enjoy the event by volunteering for various activities during the tournament and can also be of great help by soliciting Silent Auction items from local businesses.

**4. National Tournament Participation**

- a. If your team elects to go to attend a National Tournament it will require long distance travel and hotel costs. Participation is required of all players.
- b. National Tournaments fees are in excess to the participation fees. Additional fundraising will be done for teams choosing to attend a National Tournament.

**5. Games**

- a. Games are scheduled primarily on weekends and some weekday evenings. This may require coordination to get players to warmups before games, time-off of work or late nights. Our season begins in late March and runs through mid to late July, with teams playing 20-60 game schedules and may attend a National Tournament.

**Midwest Smash**

President: Josh Scheffert  
Athletic Director: Jonathan Carter

**MAIL DEPOSITS TO:**  
**Midwest Smash Baseball**  
**c/o Jonathan Carter**  
**4100 Spruce St**  
**Lincoln, NE 68516**

**PAYPAL:**  
**PayPal.Me/MidwestSmash**  
  
**\*Send as 'Friends and Family'**  
**\*\*Any fees will be added to your account**

I have read and understand the expectations of the Midwest Smash Baseball Organization. As a Parent, I understand that failure to fulfill the participation agreement and abide by the Code of Conduct could affect the affiliation and participation of my child in this organization.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read (or have had this read to me) and understand the expectations of the Midwest Smash Baseball Organization. As a player, I am committed to playing for the Midwest Smash.

Player Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Player Name & Age Group \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this signed page and deposit within 48 hours to Jonathan Carter.**

**If paying deposit via PayPal please mail this page**

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