



2021

PLAYER HANDBOOK

COEUR D'ALENE LUMBERMEN BASEBALL CLUB HANDBOOK

INTRODUCTION

The Coeur d'Alene Lumbermen Baseball Club Handbook is divided into five sections. PART ONE outlines the administrative aspects of the CDA Lumbermen Program. PART TWO deals with expectations of the players by the Lumbermen board and coaches. PART THREE details the player's responsibilities. PART FOUR outlines parents' responsibilities, and PART FIVE is the Acknowledgement. Please read this handbook carefully because you will be asked to sign the Acknowledgement at the bottom stating that you understand and agree to its contents.



PART ONE

Coeur d'Alene Lumbermen Baseball is conducted by an Idaho not-for-profit corporation named "Coeur d'Alene American Legion Baseball, Inc." Its mailing address is P.O. Box 1105, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83816. Said corporation is organized exclusively for charitable, recreational educational purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.

Depending on the number of players, the CDA Lumbermen program will run as many as six teams during a season. The "A" and "AA" teams participate in the Idaho American Legion Baseball program. The "16U" and "14U" teams are registered as an Idaho American Legion Baseball team, but participates in Washington American Legion Baseball program and the Spokane American Legion League. The 13U Red and Navy teams are not aligned with a league and compete in tournaments and games throughout the Northwest. The team's colors are Navy Blue, Silver, Red and White.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this non-profit corporation is to teach the game of baseball and the idea of sportsmanship to the youth of this area; to maintain, operate, equip and support baseball teams; to operate and conduct baseball clinics, games, athletic events, exhibitions and places of amusement and recreation for the general public; to acquire, hold, operate, and dispose of any and all privileges, rights, franchises and concessions; and to buy, sell, lease mortgage and exchange any and all real and personal property which may be necessary, advantageous or proper in the conduct of its business.

FUND-RAISING/MONEY

A necessary element of conducting the CDA Lumbermen Baseball Club is the raising of money sufficient to permit reasonable conduct of its activities. All fund-raising activities must receive prior approval of the Association's Board of Directors. The Board is receptive to fund-raising ideas, which will ease the financial strain placed upon participants and their parents as members of the team.

In order for the program to be successful, it is imperative that fund-raising activities occur and that ballplayers and parents actively engage in those activities. Because of the sizable amount of funds and time required to successfully conduct the Lumbermen Baseball program, it is both impossible and unfair to expect a few individuals to shoulder the responsibility of fund-raising and volunteerism. Consequently, the board requires participation by all ballplayers and parents.

BIRTH CERTIFICATES

American Legion Baseball rules concerning proof of age are very strict. They require that each player supply the coach with a CERTIFIED birth record. If you do not have a birth certificate, you need to see the coaching staff as soon as possible. Contact the county where you were born, but be sure to get a certified copy, not a photocopy of a certified copy.

PHYSICALS

A physical exam satisfactory to CDA Lumbermen Baseball and the coach is mandatory. The exam may be either performed by the ballplayer's

personal physician or obtained from the school office for the current sports year. Physical exams are generally reliable and acceptable for up to two years. The results must be delivered to the coach before practice begins. The ballplayer is responsible for paying the cost of the exam.

COACHES

Each head coach is hired by selection committee made up of board members and, at times, outside community members. Each team's head coach is then approved by the Board of Directors. The head coach, in turn, selects his coaching staff. They are employed by the Board and are compensated as agreed upon by the Board. Coaches are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that will provide a positive influence to the ballplayers, understand the concerns of parents and the Board, and be a good ambassador for the CDA Lumbermen Baseball Club throughout the community and all places where they play or travel.

Coaching responsibilities normally include the following: scheduling, pre-season and season coaching activities, maintenance and accountability for baseball equipment, ordering equipment, baseball field upkeep and maintenance, arranging travel, lodging and food for away games, chaperoning ballplayers on road trips, and keeping statistics for all players.

Duties may be delegated between the various coaches of the teams, and assigned to ballplayers where appropriate (e.g. field upkeep and maintenance). (See job descriptions)

EQUIPMENT

All purchases of equipment must be authorized by the Board. The coaches are responsible for ensuring the proper use and care of all baseball equipment. It will be inventoried at the beginning and end of each baseball season with each head coach given a list of equipment for which he is responsible. The Board realizes that baseball equipment may become unusable because of wear and tear. However, improper use of equipment or the negligent or intentional damaging thereof may result in the person or persons responsible for the damage being assessed the cost of replacement item(s).



PART TWO

EXPECTATIONS OF CDA LUMBERMEN PLAYERS

The CDA Lumbermen Baseball Club program expects its players to conduct themselves in a manner, which respects themselves, their fellow players and opponents, the community for which they play, and field on which they play.

As a member of the CDA Lumbermen Baseball Club, you are a visible part of the community. You represent this program both on and off the field at all times. We expect you to show your respect for those in and around the community through mature actions that reflect a strong positive image of the baseball program.

You have both a unique responsibility and a great opportunity. Let your participation strengthen and enhance the image and value of the program, ensuring its continuation for the benefit of those who follow your example.

CDA Lumbermen expects its players to adhere to the following policies, values, and rules:

Player Commitment Policy

Due to the competitive nature of tryouts and subsequent selection to one of the CDA Lumbermen baseball teams, it is the expectation of both coaching staff and board members that those players selected to play on a team in the program have the highest level of commitment to their team and teammates in terms of attendance at practices and games. While we realize that a player may have some other unavoidable commitments during the season, as a program it must be understood that a player's top priority will be to his respective CDA Lumbermen baseball team and that he will make every effort to attend all practices and games. We do not seek to discourage participation in other sports or extra-curricular activities or to put players in the position of having to choose between one activity vs. another, but, ultimately, the invitation to play within the program must be given its due respect and priority.

As a program, our preference would be that players missed no practices and/or games, but we realize that this may not always be possible. In an effort to establish a fair and prudent basis from which to operate, during the course of the season each player will be allowed a ***maximum total of three (3) days of excused absences*** from practices and/or games *assuming prior arrangements have been made with the player's respective coach*. Any absence from practices and/or games without prior communication and unexcused absences beyond the three (3) day limit stated above will affect the player's playing time ***at the discretion of the manager***. On going and habitual disregard for the above policy will be grounds for dismissal from the program subject to the discretion of the coaching staff and board members.

Also, in addition to committing themselves to the entire length of the regular season schedule, all players knowingly agree to commit themselves to the entire length of the American Legion playoff season including all district, state, regional and national playoff competition games (if applicable). *There will be no excused absences permitted during the playoff season.*

Camps Policy

CDA Lumbermen Baseball supports our multi-sport athletes; furthermore, we realize that during the summer many off-season sports offer camps. In an effort to accommodate these athletes and camps, we have endorsed the following policy: Players are allowed to compete in one camp per season without penalty. However, a player will need to identify the specific camp at the time of registration on the CDA Lumbermen Player Absence Form so that each coach has sufficient prior notice.

Team members are reminded not to plan summer vacations until the season is over.

Personal Appearance

We do not want a group of look-alikes, but we do want a team that is proud of its appearance. Dress neat daily. Keep hair groomed. If a coach speaks to you about your appearance, follow up without argument.

Drugs, Alcohol, Tobacco and Vaping

The use of drugs, alcohol, tobacco and/or vaping is strictly prohibited.

1st Time – Two game suspension

2nd Time – Dismissal from the Team

****Chewing tobacco in any form is strictly prohibited.**

Practice and Games

On the field, we concentrate on baseball and baseball only. Our reason for practice is to become the finest players that we can be, and we cannot let anything interfere.

Equipment

Keep a watchful eye on all of your equipment. You are responsible for your own equipment.

Uniforms

Uniforms will be worn completely and correctly at all games. You are responsible for your uniforms. If lost or damaged through negligence, you will be charged a replacement fee. Each player is responsible for washing his own uniform correctly.

Injury and Illness

Any injury or sickness will be reported to the coaches immediately. Those who are injured are expected to attend all meetings, practices, and games regardless of ability to participate. In the event an injury to a player is season ending the board will review and decide if a refund is in order. A physician's report may be required periodically. The player must thoroughly and accurately report the status of illness or personal injury.

Road Trips

You will be expected to follow specific appearance and punctuality guidelines, which will be made clear to you prior to our initial road trip each year. All "AA", "A" and "16U" players will travel to and from all games with the team, unless excused by the coach to a parent or guardian. Players will not leave the hotel without prior approval of the coaches.

We must constantly remember that we represent our community.

Note: Players may be sent home immediately, at their expense, if found using drugs, alcohol, tobacco, vaping or violating team rules on any road trip.

Program Cost

The CDA Lumbermen's operating budget is around \$175,000 annually. The majority of funds are contributed via fundraising efforts from both the player and the parent. It is the Lumbermen's goal that no player not play baseball because of cost. The program encourages and assists the player to fundraise with local business to offset the player cost. The donation from the business to support the player is tax deductible. The CDA Lumbermen board and coaching staff are available to assist any player that needs help raising funds. The program provides jerseys, pants, belts, socks, hats, bat bags, helmets, and practice equipment during the season.

2021 Program Player Cost/Fees

AA Lumbermen:	\$2,300
A Red and Navy Lumbermen:	\$2,200
14U Red and Navy Lumbermen:	\$1,500
13U Lumbermen:	\$1,250

Once players have been selected an informational team meeting will be held to answer any questions that may arise regarding the team and the program. This meeting is usually held in November with a follow up meeting in May. A \$250 non-refundable deposit is required at the initial November. The remaining balance will be due as follows:

- 13U Lumbermen: \$500 due January 15th and \$500 due March 15th
- 14U Lumbermen: \$625 due January 15th and \$625 due March 15th
- A Lumbermen: \$625 due January 15th, \$625 due March 15th and \$700 due May 24th
- AA Lumbermen: \$625 due January 15th, \$625 due March 15th and \$800 due May 24th

Program Refund

In the event a refund is requested by a player that can't complete the season, this request will be reviewed by the CDA Lumbermen Baseball Club Board and the Board's decision will be final.

Conclusion

As a basic principle, each ballplayer must remember that it is his responsibility to conduct himself as a good sportsman and citizen. Behaviors that are detrimental to the program, its coaches, players, or the community, are not tolerated. If damage occurs to property and is a result of the negligence of a player, that player and/or the player's legal guardian will be responsible for all expenses incurred.

If a ballplayer has any concerns, he should first talk with his head coach. If he still has a concern, he and his parents should schedule a meeting with a Board Representative and the coach to resolve the issue.



PART THREE

PLAYER'S RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMMITMENT

SPORTSMANSHIP:

- I will be respectful of my teammates, coaches, umpires, officials, parents, other players and fans,
- I will be respectful of my baseball equipment, the team equipment and the fields, helping to keep them in excellent condition,
- I will be generous when we win and gracious when we lose,
- I will work for the good of the team and put the TEAM first
- I will accept the decisions of the officials with respect,
- I will conduct myself with dignity at all times.

PRACTICE/GAMES:

- I will be on time,
- I will hustle at all times,
- I will be prepared with all of my equipment and whatever else the coach has asked me to bring,
- I will not throw our equipment or gear, EVER
- I will give my undivided attention to the coach and focus on baseball during practices and games,
- I will try new things when suggested by the coach and I will strive to play my personal best at all times and I will learn from my mistakes,
- I will understand that my playing time will be earned by my attendance, my attitude, my effort, and my skill.

COMMUNICATION:

- I will talk to the coach when I have a question or concern,
- I will let the coach know when I will be unable to attend a practice or a game,
- I will be open and honest with my parents, my coaches and myself.

ATTITUDE/HEALTH:

- I will get plenty of rest the night before a game and during the week,
- I will do my best to eat healthy foods,
- I will practice and play games in a safe manner,
- I will be chemically free and support non-use.

CITIZENSHIP:

- I will respect and obey all local, state and federal laws,
- I will be respectful of others in restaurants and hotels,
- I will be a positive role model,
- I will remember that academics come first and athletics come second,
- I will be punctual and dependable,
- I will be loyal to this program,
- I will accept responsibility for my actions.



PART FOUR

PARENTS' RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMMITMENT

I will demonstrate good sportsmanship and be a positive role model by being respectful of ALL players, coaches, umpires, officials, other parents and fans at every practice or game,

I will remember that the game is for my son and the other boys, and I will put that ahead of my personal desire to win,

I will support the board, coaches, officials and umpires working with my son in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all:

- I will let the coaches coach,
- I will refrain from coaching my son during the season. I understand that parent's coaching from the sidelines is confusing to the players,
- I will let the umpire call the game and will not give my opinion of their calls,
- I will understand that my son's playing time will be earned by his attendance, attitude, effort, and skill. **Coaches make this decision.**

I will help my son come to each practice and game prepared to focus on baseball:

- I will help my son be prompt in arrival,
- I will help my son be prepared with all of his baseball equipment and whatever else the coach has asked him to have at practice/games,
- I will do all I can to help my son be successful, but, ultimately, I understand that it is his responsibility to do the things that are asked of him as he is now a young man.

I will encourage my son to talk with the coaches if he has a concern or problem or when he doesn't understand something that is being taught or when he will not be able to attend a practice or a game. Likewise, I will talk to the coach or board in a courteous and professional manner if I have a concern.

I will expect and demand an environment for my child that is free of drugs, alcohol, tobacco and/or vaping and will refrain from their use at all sports events.

I will encourage and help my son be a good ambassador for Coeur d'Alene Lumbermen Baseball. I will insist and demand that he use good manners and be respectful of others in restaurants and hotels. I understand that my son is expected to obey all local, state and federal laws.

I understand that violation of the above policies may result in coach and/or board action against the parent or the player.

I will support the Coeur d'Alene Lumbermen Baseball Club in every way possible. Additionally, I will *volunteer to help the team/board with the various activities that are needed* to run the program.



PART FIVE

COEUR D'ALENE LUMBERMEN BASEBALL

CLUB HANDBOOK

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We, the undersigned ballplayer and parents/guardian of said ballplayer, acknowledge that we have received and read the Coeur d'Alene Lumbermen Baseball Club Handbook. We understand its contents and agree to observe and abide by them. In addition, we shall willingly participate in the continued positive development of the program, and if we have questions or legitimate concerns, we agree to pursue a solution according to procedures described in the Handbook or as requested by the Board of Directors.

Player's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____ Date _____

This is to be handed back to the head coach before team practices begin.