



CHAMPLAIN VALLEY REDHAWKS BASEBALL

Program and School Policies

Program Attendance and Late Policy

It is a player's responsibility to inform his coach prior to missing or arriving late to a scheduled practice or game. All absences and late notices must be cleared with the coaching staff prior to the event.

Missing a scheduled practice or game will result in opportunity (extra workouts) and potential loss of playing time.

All players are to be on time for all team activities. The players will hear this phrase consistently: "To be on time is to be 10 minutes early, to be late is to be on time!"

School Attendance and Game Participation Policy

School policy states that all athletes are to be on time and attend all their classes in order to practice or play that same day. Players who come late to practice will not be eligible to start the next game. A player who is consistently late will be dismissed from the team.

Varsity & JV Vacation Week Expectation

During the week of vacation, all teams will have games and practices. It is expected that all players will be available to play those games and attend all practices over vacation. The coaching staff do understand that educational trips (ex. Habitat for Humanity) do occur over vacation and excuse these athletes for the week. However, the games will still be played. The loss to the athletes who miss these games are twofold: (1) the opportunity to improve through practices and games, and (2) the contribution to the team's performance that the athlete would have made. Players who leave during vacation will lose playing time, due to the missed practices and games.

Players Sent Up and Sent Down

JV players that the coaching staff feels could contribute to the goals of the Varsity team may be brought up during the regular season. It is our philosophy only to bring up players when they can be an impact and immediate need of the team. There is no better way to get acclimated and inject life into a lineup. After all, it makes more sense that they stay at the JV level and play regularly than that they practice at the Varsity level and sit. Simply put, this is the nature of athletic competition. For example. A hot hitter on the JV level may be inserted into a lineup at the Varsity level. The skillset, whether positional or offensive, of the player being brought up may be viewed as more fitting the needs of the club at the time than someone currently on the roster. (The exception to this rule is when the roster expands for playoffs).



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Fundraising

With budgets being cut and decreased around the state, it is likely that many of the luxuries we have enjoyed in the past will no longer be available in upcoming years. Therefore, in order to keep CVU Baseball a top-notch program in the state, we must fundraise. This year, the baseball program will partake in two fundraisers: Little League Camp and selling ticket packages to the community.

The 11th Annual CVU Little League Baseball Camp is during the week of June 21 - June 25, 2021 from 8:30am-11:30am is currently on hold. We are waiting for guidance from the state. All players, sophomores through seniors, are expected to help out throughout the week by providing instruction and their knowledge of the game. It's a great way to promote the game and to give back to our community. Plus, it's fun!

The second fundraiser is selling ticket packages. We will be collaborating with the softball program by selling ticket packages to the community. It's a week-long fundraiser that caps off with a "One Hour Blitz" on the final day (TBD). The program receives \$10 for every ticket package sold.

Our hope is to fundraise enough money to (1) take care of player/program necessities (ex: equipment, uniform, etc). (2) Purchase field upkeep and practice necessities (Clay, Drying Agent. Screens, etc). (3) To be able to provide some of the little extras that elevate our program from "good" to "superlative" for our ballplayers.

Social Media

Social media plays an increasingly significant role in the world these days. With instant updates at your fingertips, everything and anything can become public, with or without your permission. CVU Baseball uses social media to update our fans, and to recognize our athletes or team successes. But social media expands quickly beyond our dugout. Your name, your face and your performance (on the baseball diamond or on Church Street) will reflect on yourself, your family, your team and your school. We expect the same level of respect and dignity from all of our ballplayers, no matter the arena.

Clothing/Apparel

There are certain items that are required to play CVU Baseball. These items are hats, socks and red shirts (short and long sleeve). Our hope, as much as possible, is to cover the costs of team uniforms through fundraising. However, this is not always the case; players will be asked to purchase certain items which they will keep.

If the team should order something together, each individual player will have the choice of ordering or not. In these special cases, the player will need to pay for any extra items out of pocket.



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Senior Game

Every season we recognize the seniors and their parents for all of their hard work and dedication with a small ceremony before the final home game. Parents are asked to make a collage to put on the back of the dugout to showcase their player's career. The game will be played like any ordinary game. It is my intention to get every senior into the game, whether through an at bat, an inning on the mound, or their turn in the field. Please understand that this game, while dedicated to our seniors, is still a part of an often competitive, hotly contested season; while every senior will be honored; not every senior will necessarily start or play.

Awareness Games

This has been a year of awareness and growth for our program, our school, and for our community, we have learned, together, the genuine meanings of the words "family," "adversity" and "together." We have watched, with full and eager hearts, as our teammates have faced real-life challenges and demonstrated real-life courage.

STRIKE-OUT CANCER (ORANGE)

The baseball program is committed to raising awareness about and participating in the fight against cancer. This year, in concert with Colchester (both games), we will dedicate ourselves to support members of our community who face this battle. The principle that guides us, along with our neighboring schools, is that charity begins at home.

We will dedicate our games vs Colchester (home and away) for Strike Out Cancer.

PROJECT HOEPPNER - www.projecthoepner.com

In memory of our teammate and brother, Paul Hoepner, our team is integrating the message of Project Hoepner into how we play the game of baseball and how we interact with each other. Whether choosing to round a base and stretch a base-hit into a double or choosing how to cede an emotional challenge at school or at home, we know we can - and will - turn to one another for support, guidance and vision beyond our own. In the game of baseball, as in the game of life, we are never alone. We stand together with the Hoepner Family to face the catastrophe that is teen suicide, and we pledge our honest, authentic and judgement free support to any who need it.

We will dedicate our home game against Burlington for Project Hoepner.

HOPE HAPPENS HERE

CVU has joined forces with St. Michael's College to bring awareness to the mental health of athletes. Hope Happens Here is a student-led movement that aims to promote mental health awareness and mental wellbeing on college campuses, in particular with and for student-athletes.

We will dedicate our home game vs Burr & Burton for Hope Happens Here.



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Through events such as mental health awareness dedicated games, presentations, and sponsored events, CVU Baseball is dedicated to addressing and repairing the negative stigma that surrounds the issues regarding mental health. Our main intent is to support our players, families, and friends who need to "start the conversation." We believe the most crucial step in this journey is educating ourselves, our peers and one another. Through Hope Happens Here, CVU baseball seeks to normalize open communication about mental health issues and is dedicated to making those conversations more comfortable.

Uniforms

Each year players are provided with Game Jerseys and Pants at the beginning of the season. Please make sure that they are well taken care of. The cost of replacing a uniform (Jersey and Pants) is \$150.

Basic wear and tear is inevitable, but regular care will substantially extend the life expectancy of a uniform. Our uniforms are our shared identity on the field, please wash and care for them accordingly.

As a purely practical matter, failure to do so may result in paying for a replacement and/or being placed on CVU obligation, which will restrict your player from other opportunities until they are paid.

JV-B Team

As interest continues to grow in baseball, it is our obligation to give as many players as possible the opportunity to play the game they love. By including a JV-B team, we are able to accommodate an additional 14-16 Redhawk Baseball players. Our goal for the JV-B team is purely developmental: improved baseball skills, compete in 10-12 games and have fun! Playing time is intended to be equal, but may not always be the case (depending on positions). While indoors, the JV Teams (A & B) will practice every other day. JV-B indoor practice will be after school on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at CVU. Once we get outside, a new schedule with practices and games will be distributed.

Unfortunately, field space is an issue, since there is only one baseball field at CVU. The team may have to practice at Charlotte Berry Farm. When this is the case, players will need to find rides to and from practice. Games will be played at CVU. In the end, we are looking to provide a positive experience and continue to develop players who love the game.

SD Ireland Legion

SD Ireland Legion is an American Legion Baseball Program (for ages 15-19U) that maintains a proud tradition of competitiveness, sportsmanship, leadership, commitment, responsibility and work ethic. We provide an opportunity for baseball players to compete at the next level both in and out of state. We strive to help each player improve on and off the field, get exposure by playing at a higher level of competition, and assist them in the college journey if desired, while competing for a Vermont American Legion Baseball Championship. By playing twenty-four league games and competing in a couple of out-of-state tournaments, SD Ireland helps develop fun-filled memories that can last a lifetime. Our season starts after the high school season ends and runs until the start of August. If you are interested in playing, please talk to Coach Albertson or Coach Fontaine.