SSP Packer Baseball Handbook



Preparing our Packers for the next 4 years

From Coach Duffy

Dear Packer Players and Parents,

I hope you're all doing well and getting excited for the upcoming season! As we prepare for another competitive and rewarding season, I want to take a moment to share our goals, expectations, and the commitment needed from each player—both on and off the field.

Academics & Athletics

First and foremost, **academics will always come first**. Being a student-athlete means excelling in the classroom just as much as on the field. Good grades are not only a requirement to play but also a reflection of the discipline and work ethic we expect from our team.

Each player will be held accountable for their academic performance, and we will be checking grades regularly. If a player is struggling in school, we will work together to find solutions—whether that's tutoring, study sessions, or extra support. Success in the classroom builds the foundation for success in life, and I expect every player to take their education seriously.

Team Expectations

To have a successful season, every player must commit to:

Prioritizing Academics – Stay on top of schoolwork, attend all classes, and maintain strong grades. Poor academic performance can affect playing time.

Giving 100% Effort – Hard work and discipline at practice lead to success in games. We expect commitment, focus, and energy every day.

Being Coachable & Respectful – Listen, learn, and show respect to coaches, teammates, officials, and opponents. Character matters.

Representing the Team Well – How you conduct yourself off the field is just as important as what you do during games. Make good choices and be a leader.

Parent Support & Communication

Parents, your support is essential! Encouraging your athlete to stay on top of their grades, attending games, and maintaining communication with the coaches. Our goal is to prepare our athletes for the next four years post secondary education. This means I expect our athletes to communicate with me first. I believe it is an important skill to learn.

I'm looking forward to an incredible season filled with hard work, growth, and success—both in the classroom and on the field. Let's make this a year to remember!

Go Packers!

Sincerely,

Coach Duffy

Packer Team Rules & Expectations

Coach: Ryan Duffy | SSP Packers | rduffy@sspps.org |

What I Expect Every Day

🔹 **Have a good attitude – Be positive, coachable, and respectful.**

🔹 **Give 100% effort – Work hard in practice, games, and the classroom.**

🔹 **Be a good person – Treat teammates, coaches, and opponents with respect.**

Zero-Tolerance Alcohol & Substance Policy

🚫 **No use of alcohol, drugs, vaping, or any illegal substances. This policy applies on and off the field, during the season and the offseason.**

🚫 **If caught violating this policy, the following consequences will apply:**

1️⃣ **1st offense – Suspension for two games**

2️⃣ **2nd offense – Suspension for half the season**

3️⃣ **3rd offense – Suspension for the entire year**

⚠️ **This policy is progressive throughout high school and does not reset each year. A violation as a freshman still counts as a first offense in later years.**

Bullying & Upholding Team Expectations

🤝 **Bullying, hazing, or disrespect of any kind will not be tolerated.**

🤝 **If a player witnesses or experiences bullying or sees a teammate not upholding team expectations, it must be brought to my attention immediately.**

🤝 Every player is responsible for maintaining a positive and respectful team culture. We have no captain. EVERY player has the right to lead

Academics First – Grade Requirement

📚 Players must maintain a C- (70%) or higher in every class.

📚 If grades drop below a C-, players will be placed on academic probation and must attend study sessions

📚 Players must attend school to be eligible to practice or play that day.

Attendance & Commitment

⚠️ Be at every practice, game, and team event.

⚠️ If you must miss, communicate in advance—no excuses.

⚠️ Repeated unexcused absences may lead to loss of playing time

Playing Time & Communication

Players must advocate for themselves. If there are concerns about playing time:

1️⃣ The player must meet with the coach to discuss their role and how to improve.

2️⃣ If concerns remain, the player must request a second meeting with the coaches.

3️⃣ Only after two meetings between player and coach can a meeting with the player, parent, coach, and AD be scheduled.

🚫 Parents may not request a meeting about playing time until their child has had two meetings with the coach first.

24-Hour Rule for Parents

🕐 Parents must wait at least 24 hours after a game before contacting a coach about concerns.

🕐 This ensures productive, level-headed conversations.

🕐 Failure to follow this rule may result in the coach declining the conversation until a later date

Respect & Sportsmanship

🤝 Respect your coaches, teammates, officials, opponents, and fans at all times.

🤝 No complaining, arguing, or disrespectful behavior.

🤝 Every player is expected to lead by example and hold each other accountable.

Social Media & Off-the-Field Conduct

🚫 Players must represent the team with integrity at all times.

🚫 No posting inappropriate, negative, or disrespectful content about the team, coaches, school, or opponents.

🚫 Any behavior that damages the team's reputation may result in suspension or removal from the team.

Consequences for Breaking Team Rules

🔹 Verbal warning

🔹 Extra conditioning or team duties

🔹 Loss of playing time

- **Suspension from games or team activities**
- **Dismissal from the team (for serious offenses)**

Below is the QR Code for Parents to Join our Band app which is another form of communication outside of emails.



By signing below, you acknowledge that you have read, understand, and agree to follow these team rules.

Player Name (Print): _____

Player Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____Date:_____