



Placement of Players: Red, Black, White Rosters Statement to Parents

RED = Advanced
BLACK = Intermediate
WHITE = Beginner

There are three key skill areas that a player must excel at to be a RED player in their Age Group.

- 1) **Batting** – is foremost. If batting is a weakness but the player is strong in all other respects they will likely be placed on a Black or White team and they will be provided with an opportunity to improve this skill.
- 2) **Defense** – There are limited playing opportunities for a player who cannot play in the field with skill and situational understanding. Lack of speed and agility greatly impacts the number of positions a player can play on a RED team.
- 3) **Pitching** – A few players are very good pitchers, but need to develop their batting and/or defensive skills. Often these players are placed on a less competitive team, but likely will get opportunities to join a more competitive team in circumstances where pitching depth is needed (i.e. tournaments and Doubleheaders)

NOTE 1: Placement of players on teams is not based on simply ranking them 1 – 36 and simply drawing a line between players #12 & #13, then again between players #24 & #25. The skills set that each player provides to a club is also a significant aspect to final team placement.

Examples: placing the top five Shortstops, or top three Catchers on the same team is detrimental to those players' development as they all can't play their position at the same time. In order for the ball players to get the playing time needed at a given position those with similar skill sets may be assigned to different teams. Playing 'Up' but not getting practice or playing time at a position where a player needs/wants to develop their skills is detrimental to their development. The same goes for pitching. If playing up means a pitcher would get little or no time pitching, they lose the opportunity to develop that very important skill.

NOTE 2: Players that bat and or pitch Left-handed have many advantages in the game of baseball. These players often are afforded more opportunities than right hand batters and pitchers. Simply being left-handed can, in some cases, jump that player up the chain over their right handed counterparts. Conversely, a player who throws left-handed is limited to four of the eight non-pitching positions, which means their opportunities to crack a roster are more limited than right handed throwers.

NOTE 3: Until all the players are middle teens it is difficult to project their potential. The placement of players at young ages says nothing about their desire, passion work ethic or is an indicator of their ability to play in HS, college or professionally. Player placement is



based on where they stand at the current moment, and nothing more.

Those on a RED team could very easily find themselves on a BLACK or WHITE club in the future, so they need to remain humble and continue to push themselves to improve their skills. Players on a WHITE club should recognize that they are valued as much as any person in the organization, and like any prospect they simply have a bit further to go in their skill development in order to progress to higher levels of play.

But, fundamentally the baseball club is committed to providing all participants and equal opportunity to compete and to support their development as baseball players regardless of the level of play that they are prepared to compete at now.

I, _____, understand the contents of this document.
(father's name)

I, _____, understand the contents of this document.
(mother's name)

Father's signature _____ Date: _____

Mother's signature _____ Date: _____