

TRAVEL BASEBALL....

IT'S DIFFERENT, NOT BETTER!

Often as parents, we are confronted with a decision to choose between in-house or travel baseball. We hope this letter will shed light on some of the differences between the two programs.

1. **It's different...**because of the **TIME INVOLVED**. You must travel to and from other cities on *any day or time of the week*. You start practicing as a team as early as *February*. Your season starts the last week of April and continues through July. Arriving for a game can be as much as *1 ½ hours prior to game time*. All rainouts are made up, setting up the possibility of several (3 or more) games in a week. All are meaningful differences that add up to a ***substantial time commitment***.

2. **It's different...**because of **COST**. Currently it is *five times more expensive* than in-house baseball. In addition, your participation in additional fundraising is required. A cost per player on a team that plays 45 games could be as high as \$500.00. To keep the out-of-pocket costs down, *sponsor solicitation and fundraising activities are required* by all involved.

3. **It's different...**because of **PLAYING TIME**. Regular baseball rules apply to batting order and substitutions. This means *your player could sit part or all of a game(s)*. ***Playing time is not guaranteed.***

4. **It's different...**because of **POSITION PLAYED**. Practices, skill sets, additional training, experience and game knowledge all have a role in determining the position of your player to help the team.

Travel baseball is not for every player or every family. It can be a truly rewarding experience for the player/family who **commits** to developing their skill sets year-round. Being on a team means learning **responsibility, accountability** and asking what they can do to help the team.

Getting to know what you are committing to is the first step in understanding how travel baseball is different...not better.

Please sign below and give to the manager of the team your player is trying out for.

X _____ Parent

X _____ Parent

X _____ Player