

Mercer Island School District
BASEBALL/SOFTBALL

SAFETY GUIDELINES

**(Prior to participating, both the student
and parent must read carefully and sign)**

When a person is involved in any athletic activity, an injury can occur, especially in a contact sport. One should be aware the information presented in these safety guidelines is to inform the athlete of proper techniques and inherent dangers involved with this particular activity. There is a chance of broken bones, severe concussions, and back injuries, which could lead to some form of paralysis. Not all potential injury possibilities in this sport are listed, but athletes should be aware that fundamentals, coaching and proper-fitting equipment are important to the safety and enjoyment of the sport.

1. Proper warm-up is essential before strenuous activity takes place.
2. Proper protective equipment required by rule must be worn at practices and in competition.
3. Perform only those skills and techniques as instructed and/or supervised by your coach.
4. Travel to and from off-campus facilities and practice/competition sites must be in accordance with school procedures.
5. Remove all jewelry and metal hair fasteners and other body adornments as required by rules and regulations for baseball.
6. If you wear eyeglasses, contact the coach for proper fitting of safety lenses, appropriate frames that are compatible with baseball. If you have a bi or tri-focal lens, contact your doctor to provide the best len(s) combination for playing where tracking a fast moving object is paramount.
7. The bat can be potentially dangerous. Use only approved bats and use bats for their intended purpose.
8. Be aware of your surroundings both home and away including but not limited to batters warming up, thrown bats, thrown or batted balls, out-of play markers or boundaries including fences or railings and field conditions such as holes, lips on grass infields and lighting conditions.
9. One person at a time in the on-deck-circle. Swing only one bat while taking practice swings. Use a bat ring that will not slide off the thick end of the bat.
10. Always use approved helmets for all batting, catchers, base running and base coaches.
11. Be aware of the potentially serious injuries to your ankles, knees and legs if you do not follow correct procedures in base running. Slide only as directed by and using only techniques taught by your coach.
12. Be aware of instructions regarding communication between players, i.e. calling off players on fly balls, awareness of backstops and field boundaries and cutting off throws, etc.
13. Notify the coach immediately if injured.

The above information has been explained to me and I understand the list of rules and procedures. I also understand the necessity of using the proper techniques while participating in the baseball/softball program

Date

Athlete's Signature

Date

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian

