



INFORMATION PACKET



Our Mission:

To build a community where God's love is demonstrated through action. We treat every player, family, staff member, official, and board member with Christ-like kindness, grace, and respect, ensuring that judgment and shame are absent from our culture. We commit to a genuine, personal investment in every player and family. Furthermore, we commit to financial stewardship by keeping costs low to honor the sacrifices made by our members.

Our Priorities:

- Minimize costs for players & their families
 - Schedule games that are in the Greater St. Louis & St. Charles areas and within a reasonable driving distance (less than 45 miles) to minimize travel time for players and their families*
- *Isolated exceptions are possible during the season, but they will be minimal.*
- Establish a foundation of transparency, accountability, and integrity
 - Help players to develop their skills, while also building character and forming relationships for successful team play
 - Invest time and finances to secure an experienced, high quality coaching staff
 - A Christ-centered approach to leadership, planning, and coaching

Board Members:

Amanda Stegeman—Director & MSHSAA Coordinator

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School Teams

(Middle School and High School only)

****CURRENTLY REGISTERING PLAYERS****

- **FREE** practices during September-October at Blanchette Park
 - Games are played against area public and private school teams
 - Games are held within 45 miles of St. Charles (local)
**Isolated exceptions are possible during the season, but they will be minimal*
 - Start time for games is 4:00-6:00 p.m.
 - Season is March-May
 - 2-3 games per week
 - Indoor training begins in February, outdoor practices March-May
 - 1-2 practices/training sessions per week
 - Fees are \$350 for Middle School and \$500 for High School
 - Uniforms required (jersey, hat, helmet, black pants, royal blue belt, socks, molded cleats.) Minimum cost: \$120
- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| ➤ High School: | ➤ Middle School: |
| 12-20 games | 8-12 games |
| JV team (ages 13-18) | Mixed grades 6-8 (ages 11-14) |

Players that are 13-14 years old can choose which level (Middle School or High School) works best for them. However, per MSHSAA rules, **players are only eligible to play at the High School level for 4 consecutive years**. So, if a player joins the High School Homeschool Team at the age of 13, they are only eligible to play until they are 17 years old. If you have a player that is uncertain which level will be best for them, they can attend the Fall practices/workouts for both teams to determine which team will be the best fit for their skill level. Since we currently only have 1 High School level team, it is also likely that 13-14 year old players will get more playing time if they play with the Middle School team.



Fees and Payment Information

Middle School Team

Uniform: \$123 (jersey, hat, helmet) **up to \$174** (entire uniform except cleats)

Team fees: \$350 ***(\$10 off if registered by September 15th!)***

Minimum TOTAL fee amount for NEW players (including required uniform purchases): \$463

(up to \$524 if additional uniform items purchased)

High School Team

Uniform: \$123 (jersey, hat, helmet) **up to \$174** (entire uniform except cleats)

Team fees: \$500 ***(\$10 off if registered by September 15th!)***

Minimum TOTAL fee amount for NEW players (including required uniform purchases) : \$613

(up to \$674 if additional uniform items purchased)

Fee Payment Schedule:

November 1st: Uniform Fees + \$100 Deposit Due

February 1st: Remaining Fee Balance Due



Projected Expenses for 2027 Baseball

MSHSAA registration: \$300

High School Team only

Coach Salary: \$1,000

High School Team only

Field Rental Fees: \$2,100

Coaches' Uniforms: \$300

Indoor Training Fees: \$2,500

Banquet: \$200

Umpire Fees: \$3,300

**Senior, Coach, and Sponsor Gifts:
\$300**

Website: \$10

Fundraisers: \$450

Checks: \$100

Team Insurance: \$375

TOTAL: \$11,500

MS (14u): \$172

HS (18u): \$203

Current Sponsorships: \$3,000

Recruiting Events: \$55

Equipment: \$310

Baseballs (4 dozen): \$280

Band-Aids/Bandages: \$30

PayPal Fees: \$200



Fundraisers



Participation in our fundraisers is never required. Whenever possible, funds raised by your family/friends during the fundraising events will **go DIRECTLY toward your player's fees.***

For example: John Doe is registered for our Middle School Team. The Team Fees are \$350 and \$100 has been raised for him as part of the RaiseRight fundraiser, so he now only owes \$250.

**Individual allocation won't be feasible for concession sales, silent auctions, raffles, or cash-on-site activities, but all of the general funds raised also help to reduce overall costs for our players and families.*

Several families have covered ALL of their player's Team Fees by participating in our fundraising events, and we are excited to offer these opportunities for you!

RaiseRight Fundraiser

www.RaiseRight.com

RaiseRight is a company partners with hundreds of brands to help organizations to raise funds. When you purchase gift cards, shop online, dine at participating restaurants, or book travel, you earn a percentage back from the brand that goes toward your group's fundraiser. Anyone can participate and it's VERY simple:

1. Create an account online or through the App.
2. Use our code: KJFMXYTGKPCT
3. Be sure to specify the player's name.
4. Choose from hundreds of companies and brands that you already patronize and purchase a gift card to raise up to 14% for your player!

Fall Fundraiser

Our Fall Fundraiser is still TBD and it will take place in October, November, or early December.

Trivia Night Fundraiser

We will have a Trivia Night and Silent Auction in late January or early February (before the final fees are due.) It is an AMAZING night of fun! Any funds raised by your family for individual trivia participants or tables of participants will go toward your player's fees.

Calendar of Events:

August 12th-November 1st Registration for 2027 Homeschool Teams

August 12th-September 15th *Early Registration*

(\$10 discount and a FREE arm sleeve)

September-October Fall practices and workouts (***No registration or commitment necessary! FREE and open to all interested players!***):

Middle School: Monday evenings at Blanchette Park (time TBA)

High School: Saturday afternoons at Blanchette Park (time TBA)

October/November Fall Fundraiser (TBD)

November 1st Registration Deadline

January 30th Trivia Night Fundraiser (*tentative date*)

February 1st Team Fees Due

February indoor workouts (twice weekly)

Middle School: Monday and Wednesday evenings

High School: Monday evenings and Saturday afternoons

March-May Spring 2027 season

Middle School: 8-12 games

High School: 12-20 games)

mid April-early July possible league season with SPAA (ages 14 and under)

Spring/Summer League Teams (14U and younger)

Contingent upon interest level

- Games are played within a local league, such as St. Peters Athletic Association (SPAA) or Chesterfield Baseball & Softball Association (CBSA)
- All games are held at league fields (all local to the league—St. Peters for SPAA or Chesterfield Sports Complex for CBSA)
- Season is mid April-early July
- Uniforms—same as school teams (listed on page 3)
- Cost: \$150-\$195 (depending on number of players and league fees)



Coach Code of Conduct for St. Louis Lightning Sports

As a coach for the Lightning Sports Organization, I pledge to lead by example and uphold the same core values of Respect, Responsibility, and Sportsmanship that our players and parents commit to. My actions will reinforce the standards we ask of our athletes and families, creating a unified culture of excellence.

1. **Respect for All:** I will treat every player, parent, official, opponent, and fellow coach with dignity and courtesy, using the same positive language and tone I expect from players and parents.
2. **Player-First Mentality:** I will prioritize each athlete's long-term development, confidence, and love for the game over short-term results. Wins are secondary to effort, growth, and teamwork, just as players are asked to give full effort regardless of the score.
3. **Positive and Constructive Leadership:** I will coach with enthusiasm, patience, and encouragement, focusing on what players *can* do and how they can improve. Criticism will be specific and encouraging, private when needed, and always followed by a path forward, mirroring the supportive feedback parents are asked to give.
4. **Preparation and Professionalism:** I will arrive early, organized, and prepared for every practice and game, with a purposeful plan. I will honor schedules and commitments.
5. **Emotional Control and Resilience:** I will remain composed under pressure, modeling the self-control and bounce-back attitude we teach players. I will not argue with officials, opponents, or parents in front of players, and I will address concerns as privately and respectfully as possible.
6. **Open and Proactive Communication:** I will keep parents informed with regular updates, clear expectations, and prompt responses, just as parents are asked to communicate concerns directly and respectfully to me. I will host at least one parent meeting per season to align on goals and philosophy.
7. **Guardian of the Lightning Culture:** I will embody and enforce the Lightning culture in everything I do: inclusive, competitive, and character-driven.
8. **Higher Standard:** I will hold myself to a higher standard than I hold those around me. I will lead with humility, owning my mistakes and learning from them. I will consistently demonstrate discipline, preparation, and positivity.
9. **Embrace Accountability:** I welcome and invite full accountability from the St. Louis Lightning Sports Association Board. I will proactively report concerns, accept feedback, and cooperate fully with any review of my conduct, demonstrating the same ownership and transparency I expect from players and parents.

Your Commitment

By signing below, I affirm my full commitment to this Coach Code of Conduct. I understand that I am not just a coach, but a mentor, role model, and ambassador for the Lightning Sports Organization. My conduct will reflect the same standards of respect, responsibility, resilience, and sportsmanship that we require from our players and parents.

Coach's Name (Print): _____

Coach's Signature: _____

Date: _____