**Mission Statement**

The mission of Reading Little League Baseball is to encourage the youth of our community in developing the qualities of leadership, teamwork, discipline, and commitment. Sports are one of the greatest resources for our youth to have fun and learn many critical life skills. Through competition, we look to inspire boys and girls to enhance their physical, mental, social, and interpersonal skills.

To achieve this mission, we must have the interest and development of our children at heart. Our primary focus is on helping players develop as a person, teammate, and baseball player. Team records and other accolades are secondary. By delivering on these principles, we look to attract player and volunteer participation, with the goal of keeping them coming back year after year.

**Goals and Guiding Principals**

* Create a fun and safe environment for our youth to learn and develop the fundamentals of baseball;
* Promote sportsmanship, competitiveness, and continuous improvement regardless of skill level;
* Develop managers, coaches, and umpires that model good sportsmanship and uphold the mission of the league; and
* The league personnel, parents, volunteers, and all participants share the responsibility of making Reading Little League Baseball a safe and rewarding activity.

**The Reading Way – Coaches**

Our program relies on a large number of volunteers, and coaching is a privilege. When volunteering, coaches should aspire to exemplify the following principles:

* Value creating a fun little league experience for all players;
* Demonstrate an interest in their players and has a positive influence on all players within the league;
* Emphasize the development of all players and their team as a whole;
* Lead by example by showing respect for players, umpires, opposing coaches, opposing players, and parents; and
* Focus on positive reinforcement to develop resilient players versus magnifiying negative results.

**The Reading Way – Players**

Reading Little League baseball players should aspire to exemplify the following characteristics:

* Focus on hustle, strong fundamentals, and a team-first attitude;
* Demonstrate good sportsmanship;
* Be resilient and play with a love for baseball; and
* Have respect for their coaches, umpires, opposing coaches, and opposing players

**The Reading Way – Parents**

Families are the lifeblood of our program. Reading Little League baseball parents/guardians should aspire to exemplify the following characteristics:

* An understanding that this is 7-12 year old baseball and not the last game of the World Series;
* Respect all coaches, umpires, opposing coaches, and opposing players;
* Dedicate their time, whether by volunteering or some other manner, to help build a great program;
* Demonstrate good sportsmanship and root for both teams;
* Do not emphasize wins over losses; and
* Focus on the development of their child.

**The Reading Way – Board of Directors**

Members of the Reading Little League Board of Directors members should aspire to exemplify the following characteristics:

* Desire to leave the board better than they found it;
* Be a role model for parents, players, coaches, and umpires; and
* Devote their time and energy to create a positive influence for their community.