**Wheatland Athletic Association Philosophy**

Welcome to the Wheatland Athletic Association and thank you for your time in helping the kids of our program! WAA is a non-profit organization that relies on parent volunteers and we appreciate your efforts! The WAA Baseball program was designed to prepare our youth for baseball competition in an atmosphere of fun and good sportsmanship.

**Player Safety**

* Do not allow players to throw a ball or swing a bat without adult supervision.
* Keep players in the dugout when not playing to avoid foul balls or overthrown balls.
* Helmets must be worn while batting, on-deck circle, and baserunning.
* The on-deck batter (with helmet on) must always be BEHIND the batter and is the only player allowed to pick up a bat on/near home plate. Do not allow others to leave the dugout to pick up loose equipment during game play. No youth “bat boys/girls” are allowed.
* Head first slides at bases are highly discouraged. Head first slides at home plate are not allowed (High School age is the exception).
* Pitchers warming up outside the field of play must throw to an adult/coach only (High School age is the exception).
* Players warming up pitchers on the field in between innings must be in FULL protective gear.
* Players are not allowed to stand in the opening of the dugout during game play; they must remain behind the fence.
* Only players and coaches are allowed in the dugouts. Family and friends should refrain from entering the dugout and surrounding area.
* Players are not allowed to coach bases. Only adults 18+ may coach bases.