

Conifer Baseball Booster (CBB) Scholarship Criteria (November 28, 2017):

1. Financial Health of the Boosters is the #1 criteria—CBB cannot give what it does not have:
 - Any "surplus/uncommitted" dollar amount may change from year to year based on the fundraising success relative to expenses of that FY. Translation, just because we gave a scholarship one year should not give the expectation that one or more scholarships can/will be given in a subsequent year.
 - When our CBB checkbook is not financially healthy and we still want to help a player in need, CBB should consider other creative paths to go down which do not use the CBB checkbook or the "float" of our checkbook.
 - The Definition of Healthy checkbook will be determined by the CBB board. I think we really need to track 2 separate "End Balance" numbers that are reported each month... so we that we have a good sense of our financial position:
 1. CBB \$\$ balance minus future commitments (\$\$) which are not discretionary minus Player's account balance (\$\$)
 - NOTE: CBB will use the Annual budget to prioritize expenses

Definition of Player/Family NEED:

Parental Job loss

Parental serious illness with medical bill issues which cause financial hardship

Large family with small income--stretches family discretionary \$\$'s and makes it difficult to pay for extra curricula activities

What Need is "not"-- "Need" is not demonstrated if the providing of a CBB scholarship (\$\$) to pay for a player's Fee (or discounts it), allows the parent(s) to use their discretionary dollars in their family checkbook to pay for their own traveling expenses to attend a trip. This should be an actually a litmus test for yes/no on actual need....Using our spring trip example: The first \$550 (if it exists) in their family checkbook should go to their player. This should be even included in the message to the parent "*...that I assume you are not going on spring trip since you are asking for financial help for your player.*" It is not the Booster's responsibility/mission to provide scholarship money for the family, because the parents want to chaperone their high school player.

Other Criteria for NEED:

Baseball related: -- this is subjective and a recommendation from the Coaching staff should be considered:

- Dedication to the game of "baseball" and to the Conifer Program long term. They higher the Dedication to baseball will increase the chances of obtaining a CBB scholarship. Each situation is different, but the following questions will be asked when considering Dedication:
 - Is the Player trying out for the first time or had they taken multiple years off and are trying out again
 - Did the player play in any off-season (summer/Fall) leagues?
 - Does the player plan to play in our upcoming Summer/Fall leagues to improve their game?
 - Does the Coaching staff expect them to play (even as a back-up player) on the Conifer Baseball team through their senior year of high school?

Non Baseball related:

- Volunteerism from Parent and Player-- do they support the Conifer Baseball Program with their volunteer time?
- King Sooper Fundraising participation-- do they make the small effort to participate in the KS program to generate \$\$ for their player account?
- Participation in other fundraisers

NOTE: if the answer to the majority of #3 above is "no" CBB financial assistance should be heavily scrutinized. Other extenuating circumstances not covered above should be discussed.

How is a decision for Scholarship help made?

Parent approaches Coach and asks for help

Coach approaches Boosters with description of Need and a recommendation

Booster's do their best to support the Coach's recommendation,

- Good discussion should be had between a subset of the Board (for privacy purposes) - Pres, Treas, Sec and Coach(s)
- CBB should start from the position of how can we make it happen. However all should recognize by that CBB might come to a different decision based upon criteria -- it's not an "automatic" yes.

Treasurer communicates consensus decision back to parent

- Coach will often be the initial POC, but the CBB treasurer will coordinate final decision and any financial assistance plan allowing Coach to focus on Baseball matters..

Options for financial help:

This is not an exhaustive list but here are a few to be considered:

- Cash Scholarship
- Loan/payment plan
- Loan on KS program
- Other...

CBB Goal: It is clearly a part of CBB's Mission to support the financial needs of the Program and this includes a Player's financial needs to play. But there are limitations to this support and above are guiding principles for when CBB uses their limited funds for these purposes. It is CBB's responsibility to have these guiding principles above to make these decisions and above all ask, is this scholarship helping the Conifer Baseball Program long term" --or is it helping an individual player who is not really serious about baseball and might think of our program as a recreational/after-school activity. If it is the latter, then providing a scholarship is going against the charter and spirit of the CBB Mission as an organization.