

Leesburg Lightning Host Family Guidelines and Expectations

Thank you for considering being a Host family for the Leesburg Lightning. These players are rising stars who have ambitions to play Major League Baseball. You, as a host family, will play a big part in their success. The better the “home” environment, the better the players experience and performance. Players are recruited through their college coaches and have agreed to maintain impeccable moral standards, abide by NCAA guidelines and be a role model for our fans. If any player’s actions, on or off the field, are not congruent with the league’s standards, we will ask them to pack their bags and return home. We believe that living in a family’s home is a privilege that the players should respect and appreciate.

Host families take a player (or players) into their homes over the course of ten weeks during the summer season. Players arrive during the last week of May and generally stay through the second week of August, at the latest. We ask that you provide breakfast and or lunch items daily. Most of the players will eat at the stadium after home games or on the way home from away games.

Leesburg Lightning games are free admission and we welcome you to come and support your player. Our players appreciate the fans at Pat Thomas stadium.

The ideal number of players per host family is two, although one is great, as well. Host families are not responsible for player transportation. We are looking for host families willing to commit to the entire season. Be aware that players will often return very late from games (as late as midnight). Keep in mind these will be college students between the ages of 18-21.

Expectations for host family:

1. Provide player(s) with their own room and bed. (Two players can stay in one room)
2. Provide a place for player(s) to do laundry.
3. Have food available for your player(s).
4. Provide your player(s) with clear expectations and house rules from the beginning. If problems arise, communicate with our Host Family coordinator.
5. Have Fun! Interact with your player(s) Get to know them. Our players and families usually develop life long bonds.

All host family/player relationships substantially differ from player to player. Each host family and player should communicate about the following issues:

1. Arrangement regarding food needs.
2. How to handle late night arrivals from games (IE use of back doors, late night showers, etc.)
3. Guidelines relating to having friends or family over to host family’s home, including friends spending the night (including guidelines for female guests) and meals for guests. Some host families do not mind this, while others do.
4. Laundry usage.
5. Particular rules for times when the host family is out of town.
6. Any other issue of importance to either the player or the host family.

Many of our players are under the age of 21. Because of this and in an effort to be clear and direct, our organization does not allow Host Families to provide alcohol to players regardless of age. Players above the age of 21 are legally able to drink alcohol and purchase it on their own. However, even if your player is over 21, feel free to establish your home as a no drinking zone.

Drugs are strictly forbidden, as is underage drinking.

We have not had many problems with player placements. Team players appreciate host families' hospitality and generally behave as guests in your home. If there are any problems, we ask that you contact the host family coordinator who will work to try to resolve it with the player. If the problem is major, we will remove him immediately.

If you have any other questions or concerns, feel free to contact Elizabeth Knowles 352-504-7360 ejknowles61@yahoo.com Erin Burtoft 352-455-0583 burtjake@embargmail.com