



Host Family Program FAMILY Application



Introductory Information

Players

The Visalia Rawhide players are drafted by the Arizona Diamondbacks, and come from all different states as well as many different countries. Getting to this level of professional baseball requires discipline and dedication. This attitude also transfers into their life off the field—they are polite, respectful, and grateful.

Players: Background Info

All draftees of the Diamondbacks must report to Spring Training in Scottsdale at the end of winter. They will play in several practice games before they are assigned to either the parent club, or one of their minor league affiliates. As soon as our players find out they will be playing here in Visalia they have approximately 2 travel days to get into town (arriving end of March/early April). They then have about 3 days to figure out their housing situation before the season starts.

The Players: In Season Schedule

Once the Rawhide's season is off and running these players have very little down time. They play 140 regular season games between April and early September—70 home, and 70 road games. Home games last until 10:00pm typically. This gets the players out at about 11:00pm. After they track down some dinner they usually don't get home until midnight or later. The next day they will either sleep in until they have to get up and go to the field for warm-ups, or they will have to attend a team workout at the gym before heading to the field.

The team will have an average of 6 home games in a row before heading out on the road for about 6 games.

As soon as the season is over, the players will pack up and leave town any time between a couple of hours after their last game, up to a couple of days (depending on flight availability).

Why Players Choose a Host Family

- At this level, our players receive a limited monthly salary (they aren't making the big bucks quite yet!)
- Finding a decent apartment with a flexible 5-6 month lease is difficult.
- Turning on all utilities and finding temporary furniture is difficult.
- They are hardly ever at home.
- They never know when they will be called up, sent down, released, traded, or get injured and have to leave town on short notice.
- Living with a Host Family provides the players with a home away from home and a connection to an unfamiliar city.

What to Expect as a Host Family

- Hosting a player is very similar to hosting a foreign exchange student. A host family is expected to provide rent-free basic accommodations: bedroom (w/ a big enough bed), and access to a bathroom, laundry facility, and fridge.
- Since they are coming in from all different locations, some may or may not have a car. Host Families are not required to provide transportation, however an occasional lift to the field is very appreciated. Most times if a family can house more than one player, they will pair themselves up to make sure everyone has a ride.
- Each player is responsible for his own food, although many families will occasionally provide players with meals.
- It is left up to the individual household to set up their own set of house-rules.
- And don't forget the fun and friendship that you develop during your time together! Most families stay in contact with "their" players for years after they leave Visalia —on their way to the Big Leagues and beyond!

How to Become a Host Family

Still interested? If so, please fill out our questionnaire and return it to the attention of Julian Rifkind (Julian@rawhidebaseball.com). You will then be contacted with more information.

Players will also receive a similar questionnaire and will be set up with families based on their compatibility.



Host Family Program FAMILY Application



Housing Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Your home is: House Condo/Townhouse Apt. Other: _____

Location of your home: In City Limits Outside city limits _____ miles from ballpark

Will the player need a car to get to and from the stadium and your home? Yes No

Accommodations provided to the player will be? _____

(i.e. separate bedroom, separate bathroom, share family guest bathroom, etc.)

Personal Information

Any children living in the home with you? No Yes _____ # _____ Ages

Names: _____

Any pets living in the home? No Yes What type and how many? _____

Has anyone in your household ever been convicted of a felony? Yes No

Would you prefer a player who does not use a tobacco product? Yes No No Preference

Would you prefer a player who does not drink alcohol? Yes No No Preference

Are there any rules you would like to have relayed to potential players by our office? If so, what are these rules?

Are there expectations you have for the player such as participating in family activities (please try to remember the players' work and travel schedule), purchasing their own food, using a phone card for all calls, or no overnight guests, etc.? If so, what would you like or expect from the player?

