



RAWLINGS TIGERS

2019 YOUTH 7U-14U PROGRAM



CHAMPIONS. CHOOSE. RAWLINGS.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1** The Mission
- 2** Youth Tiger Coaches
- 3** Tryouts
- 4** Tiger Program
- 5** Tiger Costs
- 7** Tiger Player Commitment
- 8** Fundraising & Community
- 19** Resources in the Digital World
- 10** Our Staff



Check out our Website

for more information about the Tigers



Email shannon@rawlingstigers.com

if you have any questions that we have not answered in this packet

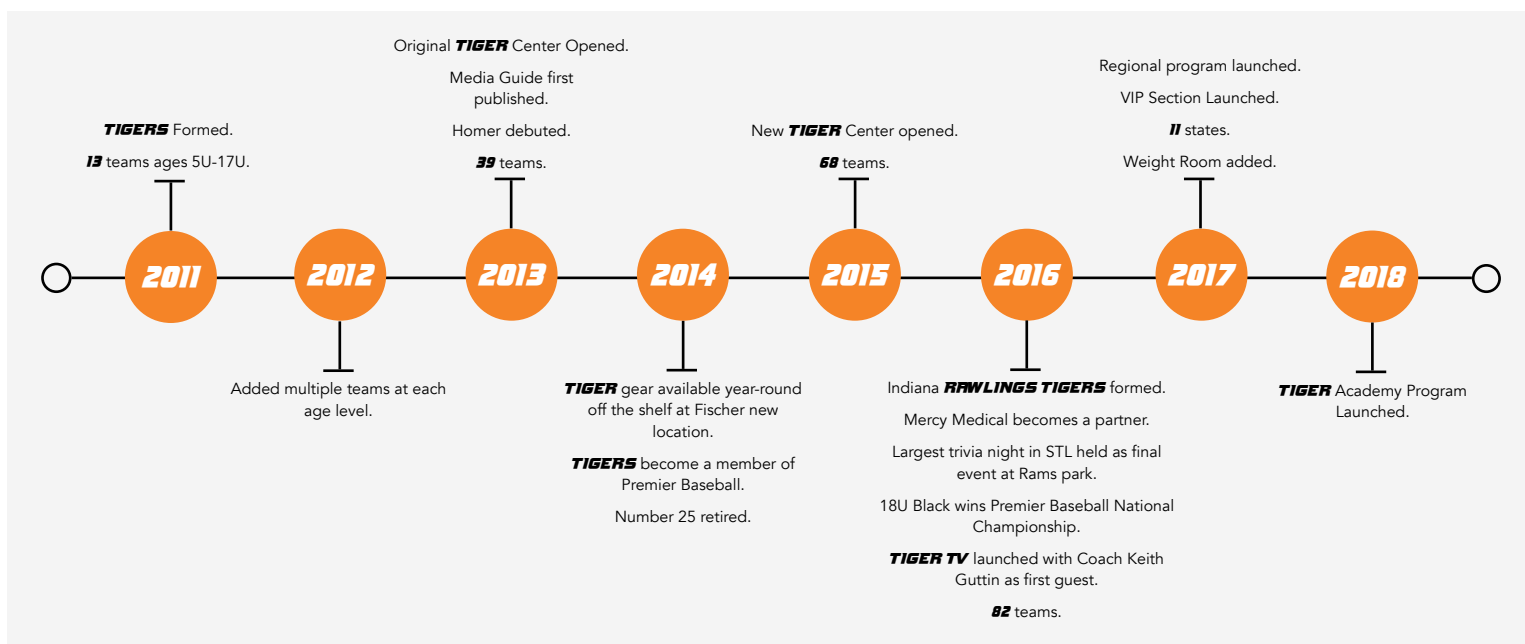




THE MISSION

PROGRAM MISSION

We believe the elite level ball player is not a title that is given, it is earned, and we believe that family, passion, and hard work are the building blocks. It is the Tigers mission to help youth and high school players reach the next level. With relentless dedication to our players and families, we provide support to advance their skills as students and athletes. We seek the best competition while looking for opportunities for exposure. Teamwork, discipline, integrity, sportsmanship, and honesty are the fabric of who we are.



COMPETITION • DEVELOPMENT • EXPOSURE





YOUTH TIGER COACHES

YOUTH COACHES

Our youth coaches are high character volunteers who have a strong passion for teaching the game and being involved with youth sports. Many of them are parents of players on the team. Our Tiger staff has the utmost trust and respect for our youth coaches and they continue to lead our club every single season while holding our brand high. Before coming on board with our club, coaches interview with our staff, pass a background check and sign an agreement outlining their role with the Tigers.

TEAM MANAGEMENT

Youth teams are managed by the head coach. This includes all areas of running a team throughout the season including schedules, games, batting order, roster decisions, team budget, travel, hotels, playing time, managing parents, team communications plus much more. Our high school staff is available as a sounding board through all of these aspects, but the final decisions belong to the head coach.

TIGERS STAFF SUPPORT

The Tiger staff supports each youth team in areas off the field such as training and player development, facility use, uniform and apparel designs, uniform coordination, fundraising efforts, player placement, insurance, tournament discounts, travel information and events, social media platforms, training videos, practice planning, plus countless other resources that are passed along. We also offer and run an extensive youth tryout for the teams every season.

COACH RESPONSIBILITY AT TRYOUTS

The demand is huge for our Tiger youth program as a large number of families want to be Tigers each year. Each season, the Tiger high school staff coordinates and runs the youth tryout day. Our staff books the fields, does the itinerary, and runs the tryout. We handle all the details from the marketing, advertising, and check-in process. It is an extremely well run and organized tryout.

The youth coaches do the evaluating and will receive detailed registration lists as they arrive to the tryout. Coaches make roster decisions for their team.

After the large club tryout, coaches are welcome to hold individual tryouts to fill remaining spots on their team. On our website, there is a note on each team page indicating if a team is full or has open roster spots. If there are open spots, there is a link for players to email the coach to request a tryout.

If an offer to play is made to a player, the coach then directs the player to register and pay online on the Tiger website. That registration is the commitment from the player to your team.





TRYOUTS

PLAYER TRYOUT INFORMATION

The Tigers Youth baseball club consists of multiple teams at each age level. These teams are coached by volunteer parent coaches. The coaches each set their own roster, schedule and budget. Each of these will vary from team to team. During the 2018 season, we had teams carry as few as 11 players and as many as 14. Some teams played only tournaments, some one league, some two. Many teams travel to out of town tournaments, some stay in the St. Louis area.

At the tryout, participants will be given a description of each team in their age group that includes information about the requirements of that team. The description will also include the number of players that the team needs to fill their roster. At this time, we do not know what the roster needs at each age group will be.

The tryouts are run by our Tigers staff. We will be running the drills while the coaches who are looking for players evaluate. The coaches for each team will make all roster decisions. The Tigers organization only provides the structure and the staff for the tryout. At the tryout, we will provide information about the selection process.

Players need to show up for the tryout ready to go. They should bring what they typically bring to baseball practice. Please arrive a few minutes early to check in and get stretched out.





TIGER PROGRAM

TIGER HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

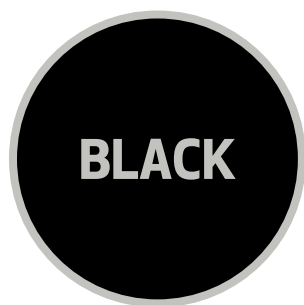
The Tigers have the premier high school program in the St. Louis area. The goal is to develop players and give them the resources and help they need to play college and professional baseball.

The Tigers view our youth system as a large pool of talent that is developing towards 15U baseball. Once the players turn 15, the father coaches then step aside and the players tryout for our high school program which is 100% run and managed with our high school staff comprised of 31 individuals, none of whom are parents.

The Tigers understand that our future for the high school program lies in the hands of our youth coaches and players/families. We want families to be a part of our club all the way up and see it through. It is a unique experience for the families of all age levels, and always starts with player development and the Tiger culture.

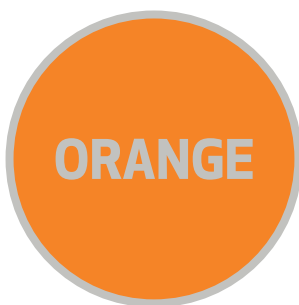
OUR COLOR SYSTEM

The Tigers Youth program is comprised of teams 7U-14U. Our teams range in competition categories that are set with Black, Orange, and White levels play. All of these levels are determined by each youth head coach. A team commits to the color for the year and are welcome to move up or down the following season if the team changes in competition level. Parameters are followed to dictate which level our youth teams play at.



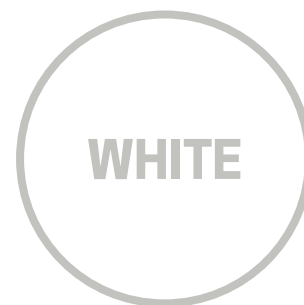
BLACK

- Focus on player development.
- Plays highest level available in league play if they play in a league.
- Plays AAA and Major tournaments. A minimum of one Major tournament is required.
- Required to play at least one travel tournament. Multiple travel tournaments are probable.



ORANGE

- Focus on player development.
- Plays in one of the top two levels in league play if they play in a league.
- Plays in AA or AAA tournaments. Must play in one AAA tournament.
- Will more than likely travel, but it is not required.



WHITE

- Focus on player development.
- Plays at any level of league that they choose.
- Plays in open level or AA tournaments. No requirements to play in Major, AAA or AA events.
- Possibility of travel is at the coach's discretion.





TIGER COSTS

The Tigers offer two distinct programming options that each family will choose from: **CLUB OR ACADMEY**. This is **NOT** a decision made by your head coach, these are decisions made by each individual family in our Tiger organization. The training level you choose below has no bearing on the team you are on, the color of your team, or your son's level and ability.

Choose the option below that fits your family considering: time, financial means, sports played, etc.

THE CLUB PLAYER

COST \$550

The Club Player option will be very similar from a training and time commitment as past seasons have been. We will continue to push content and stress on topics covered in our youth development plan.

- 9 club training days (6 indoors during the winter and 3 outdoors in June).
- Team facility use. Each team will get 1.5 hours per week of facility slots during the winter months. The team will also have access as a group during the spring and summer. These times will all be scheduled with the head coach.
- Discounts at Balls-N-Strikes Ballwin on all lesson packs, cage rentals and programs. For Club players, this translates to:
 - Private lesson 6 packs for \$240
 - 10% off any cage rental at BNS Ballwin
 - 10% off selected camps at BNS Ballwin
- Youth team tryout day organized by our HS staff
- Pre-designed uniform and apparel choices all set for your team
- Access to our resources: coach curriculum meetings upon request, Tiger TV, interviews and videos, social media outlets, VIP access to the Tigers website, discounts from Rawlings and other vendors.
- Team insurance is included to cover teams for all tournaments, leagues and practice fields.
- Tiger fundraising opportunities. 2018 season consisted of media guide sales, trivia night, TJ's Pizza sales and dough raisers.
- All other costs are part of the team budget and are determined by the head coach. These costs could include the following: tournament fees, team insurance, uniforms, outdoor practice facilities, team equipment, additional training and any other expenses determined by the coach. These costs will vary by team. Tiger fundraising opportunities can be used to cover any of these costs if families choose to participate.
- The fees for Club players are paid online through the Tigers website and are due by August 15, 2018.

COMPETITION • DEVELOPMENT • EXPOSURE





TIGER COSTS

THE ACADEMY PLAYER

COST \$995

The Academy Player option will be much more in depth for families that want more. The Academy Player training program has been designed to greater prepare our youth players for the 15U high school season with us. We want freshmen to arrive in our HS program better understanding our system and development model. This can only be done through increased training with our youth players. It is in line more with our HS Training structure, which has been received with wonderful reviews from our families and area high school coaches. The time commitment will be more, and the training will be more specific to each player.

- 5-week Tiger hitting class modeled after our HS training set up and structure. Players will meet 1 time per week for this. The hitting classes will run November - December.
- 6-week Tiger pitching class. Player will meet 1 time per week for this. Core strength and injury prevention will be a focus along with building proper mechanics. The pitching class will run February and March.
- 5 outdoor training practices scheduled for the spring and summer. These times and locations are TBD. The focus for the outdoor clinics is defense and baseball awareness and instincts. This will allow our staff to teach the game within the game in a more in-depth structure than being inside. The 5 outdoor training practices will not include hitting and pitching.
- 9 club training days (6 indoor during the winter and 3 outdoor in June).
- Team facility use. Each team will be scheduled for facility use indoors during the winter months. The team will also have access as a group during the spring and summer.
- Discounts at Balls-N-Strikes Ballwin on all lesson packs, cage rentals and programs. For Academy players, this translates to:
 - Private lesson 6 packs for \$225 (normal Tiger rate for Club players is \$240).
 - 25% off any cage rental at BNS Ballwin
 - 25% off selected camps at BNS Ballwin
- Includes a player facility pass valid to use the cages at Balls-n-Strikes Ballwin on a walk-in basis from the date of registration until July 15, 2019.
- Team insurance is included to cover teams for all tournaments, leagues and practice fields.
- Youth team tryout day organized by our HS staff
- Pre-designed uniform and apparel choices all set for your team
- Access to our resources: coach curriculum meetings upon request, Tiger TV, interviews and videos, social media outlets, VIP access to the Tigers website, discounts from Rawlings and other vendors.
- Tiger fundraising opportunities. 2018 season consisted of media guide sales, trivia night, TJ's Pizza sales and dough raisers.
- All other costs are part of the team budget and are determined by the head coach. These costs could include the following: tournament fees, team insurance, uniforms, outdoor practice facilities, team equipment, additional training and any other expenses determined by the coach. These costs will vary by team. Tiger fundraising opportunities can be used to cover any of these costs if families choose to participate.
- The fees for Academy players are paid online through the Tigers website and the initial \$550 is due by August 15, 2018. Families have the option of paying in full or making two payments; the second is due October 31, 2018.

COMPETITION • DEVELOPMENT • EXPOSURE





TIGER PLAYER COMMITMENT

PARENT AND PLAYER AGREEMENT

Parents who accept a slot on a Rawlings Tigers team for their child agree to the following:

1. Parents will register their player online by the deadline set by the club including paying the club fees.
2. Players are asked to commit to their coaches for a minimum of one year and coaches are asked to make the same commitment to their players. The timeframe of a year is considered to be from the time the offer to play is made until the end of the following spring season.
3. Parents agree to get their player fitted for their uniforms during the timeframe set for fitting and to order all pieces of the required uniform including:
 - a. Jersey or jerseys as designated by the coach
 - b. Tigers pants
 - c. Tigers helmet
 - d. Tigers equipment bag
 - e. Tigers game cap
 - f. Any other uniform item required by the coach
4. Parents agree to pay their coaches for team expenses in a timely manner. Some of these expenses include the following:
 - a. Outdoor practice facilities
 - b. League fees
 - c. Tournament fees
 - d. Team equipment
 - e. Other items determined by the head coach
5. Players are expected to follow the Tigers uniform code.
6. Players are expected to remain in the dugout during all games.
7. Parents and other fans are expected to uphold the standard of the Tigers while watching games. This includes refraining from criticizing players on either team, umpires and coaches.
8. Parents (other than specifically designated coaches) are not allowed in the dugout at any time during games.
9. The Tigers expect that players will take advantage of additional training outside of their team events.
10. Tigers players are encouraged to use Rawlings products including bats, gloves and catcher's gear.
11. Players and parents are expected to follow the guidelines and philosophies of the Rawlings Tigers club. These can be summed up with the idea that player development comes before everything else.
12. Players and parents are expected to follow any other specific guidelines set by their coaches.

The Rawlings Tigers commit to providing a program outline in writing to players every year. The program will include cage time at Balls-n-Strikes in one of the 3 buildings as well as training programs for players.





FUNDRAISING & COMMUNITY

TIGER BOOSTER CLUB, FUNDRAISER

It is very possible to get 100% of your fees paid for through our Tiger Booster Club opportunities. The Tiger Booster Club will once again be hosting three fundraisers this year for all the players in the club ages 5U-18U.

1. TRIVIA NIGHT WE WILL BE HOSTING ON February 22, 2019 @ SLUH

If you get a table, you will get an equal cut of the proceeds raised. Last year's event held at SLUH was massive and families that bought a table received a check back for around \$400.

2. TIGERS MEDIA GUIDE AD SALES

All high school players are required to sell at least one ad for our Tiger Media Guide. 70% of all the ads you sell will go directly back to you as the player. You can sell as many as you would like.

3. TJ'S PIZZA SALES

Twice a year, the Tigers do a Pizza Sales campaign using TJ's pizza fundraising service. 40% of all sales go directly back to you for selling. In 2018, our club sold over \$22,000 in pizzas.



TIGER UP COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Rawlings Tigers take great pride in giving back to the community in the greater St. Louis area. Our "TIGER UP" community service program has events throughout the calendar year where all of our teams do work to help local charities through community service efforts. We have tremendous support from our families and truly believe we can make a difference in touching lives around St. Louis. This is our way of giving back to the community and those in need.





RESOURCES IN THE DIGITAL WORLD

Being a Tiger doesn't stop once you leave the field or facility, it's part of who you are. We understand the importance of connecting in your world and are committed to supplying you with the best resources possible. Through our website, Tiger TV, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, the Tigers are always at your fingertips.



WEBSITE

Our website offers a bevy of information about the Tigers. From a play list of pump-up music to information about getting into and playing at the collegiate level, rawlingstigers.com is your go-to location for all things Tigers.

[Check out our Website](http://rawlingstigers.com)



TIGER TV

Our commitment to instructions is second to none. With videos on topics ranging from hitting, fielding and pitching to mental approach and safety, our videos provide a refresher course at your fingertips.

[Follow Us on YouTube](#)



FACEBOOK

Want to know about upcoming Tiger events? Become a fan of our Facebook page.

[Follow Us on Facebook](#)



TWITTER

Curious how the Tigers teams are playing this weekend? Have something to add about your own Tigers team? Join the conversation.

[Follow Us on Twitter](#)



INSTAGRAM

Heard about the cool new gear out or want to see pics of your team when you won the tournament? See all things photos here.

[Follow Us on Instagram](#)

SOCIAL NUMBERS



COMPETITION • DEVELOPMENT • EXPOSURE





STAFF



AARON JAWOROWSKI

President & Founder

University of Missouri Columbia
1997 MLB Draft Pick

Email:
jaws@rawlingstigers.com

Phone:
314-497-8992

HIGHLIGHTS

All-American,
All-Big 12,
Academic All-American

Mizzou single-season
record holder: RBIs (101),
doubles (28)

1996 Mizzou Athlete of the
Year

1997 Draft Pick,
Minnesota Twins

Aaron is the founder and president of the Rawlings Tigers Baseball Club. He is also the founder of Balls-n-Strikes which was established in 1999. He has helped grow Balls-n-Strikes into 7 locations and continues to expand the premiere brand of indoor baseball facilities. He is currently the owner/operator of Balls-n-Strikes Ballwin, which is the original Balls-n-Strikes.

Upon graduating from Lafayette High School in 1994, Aaron played 3 years of collegiate baseball at the University of Missouri where he earned All-American honors, All-Big 12 honors, and Academic All-American Honors. He still holds the following records at MU: single season RBI's (101), single season doubles (28), top 5 in MU history in single season at bats (249), single season extra base hits (43), and single season total bases (154). In 1996 Aaron was named the "Mizzou Athlete of the Year", was twice named the "Mizuno National Player of the Week", finished leading all of D1 schools with 101 RBIs that season and was also named the "Big 12 Tournament MVP" going 15-20 in that tournament with 15 RBIs and 6 doubles -- breaking Robin Ventura's record of hits and RBIs in a tournament. That same year, 1996, Aaron hit 4 home runs in a double-header vs Nebraska and also had 8 consecutive hits in a double-header vs Oklahoma and Oklahoma State. His freshman year in 1995 he had a walk-off home run against Oklahoma State, the #1 team in the country at the time, and also a walk-off home run against SEMO before his freshman year was cut short with a torn ligament in the elbow. His first two collegiate home runs came in a doubleheader in Stillwater against the Cowboys.

Aaron was then drafted in the 1997 MLB draft after his junior year of college where he was featured on the "Top 100 Prospects List" in the country by Baseball America. He chose to forgo his senior season at Mizzou and signed a minor league contract with the Minnesota Twins. While in the minor leagues, he went on to finish his degree in secondary education and graduated in 1998. He played 4 years of minor league baseball with the Minnesota Twins and the New York Yankees which included being invited to the Minnesota Twins fall instructional league in 1997. During the summer of 1997, he led the Appalachian league in RBIs and finished 2nd in the league in home runs and also led his Twins team in RBI, HR, At-Bats, Doubles, and extra base hits. He also played for the River City Rascals in-between the Twins and Yankees and hit the first ever home run at the new TR Hughes Stadium -- 1 of 16 home runs for him that summer. Aaron retired from pro-ball in 1999 to launch Balls-n-Strikes on a full-time basis. He brings that same competitive passion that he had on the field for teaching kids and high school ballplayers.

In 2006 he began to franchise Balls-n-Strikes locations, which now has 7 franchises across Missouri. Balls-n-Strikes has brought in the following major baseball programs to St. Louis area for camps: LSU, Mizzou, SLU, MO State, SEMO, Mississippi State, Arkansas, and Arizona State. His Balls-n-Strikes Ballwin facility has been the winter training home for numerous major league and minor league players over the last 18 years.

Aaron launched the Rawlings Tigers Baseball Club in the summer of 2011 with one team at each age level from 5U through 17U. It was a very successful first year in player development and getting the Tigers program on the map. For our 8th season, 2018, the Tigers have reached the 1,000 ballplayer plateau and is now the largest club in the United States with 66 Tiger teams in the St. Louis market.

In a short amount of time, the Tigers have had 129 of their players go on to play college baseball.

In May of 2017, Aaron and his staff launched the Tigers Regional Program, giving players and teams around the country the opportunity to become Tigers. They have full regional clubs started in Southern Indiana, Indianapolis, IN, Omaha, NE, and Jonesboro, AR. They also have individual teams in Austin, TX, Cincinnati, OH, Paducah, KY, Knoxville, TN, Tulsa, OK, and Oklahoma City, OK. A unique template is set up for teams to follow and use the many resources the Tigers provide.

Aaron has countless contacts in the baseball industry both locally and nationally from his playing days, from both building the Balls-n-Strikes brand across the Midwest, and from launching the Rawlings Tigers program. This has enabled him to assemble the best possible coaching staff in the Midwest for the Rawlings Tigers Baseball Club. This network of contacts will also help tremendously as our Tigers continue to graduate high school and enter college and/or pro baseball. He has the ability to provide a premier instructional staff, a premier facility, and a baseball network second to none to every Tiger player in the program.

Aaron is a leader in the sense of providing vision and a direct path to where the Tigers are heading, but at the same time lets his coaches coach and trusts their baseball knowledge and skills. He also has strong organizational, administrative, and business skills making the Tiger experience a very enjoyable and memorable one for all families involved. Aaron has an open, outgoing personality while always being available. He likes to be hands-on with the program, and works year-round every day building the Tiger brand.

He is married to Paula Jaworowski and has two children: Nolan and Ty.





STAFF



DAVID BIRKBY

General Manager

University of Missouri S&T

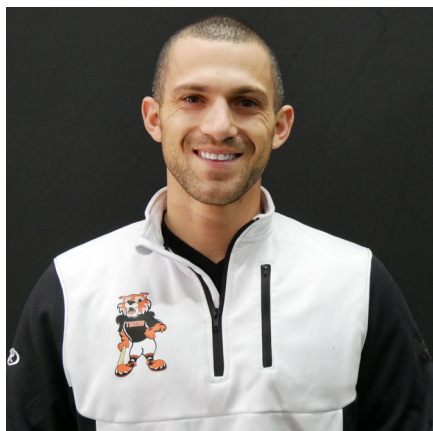
Email: dbirkby@rawlingstigers.com

Phone: 314-607-0709

David started his career at Parkway West High School where he was named All-State as a senior. He then accepted a scholarship to Meramec Community College where he played for one year after which he transferred to Missouri University of Science and Technology and finished his last 3 years of college baseball. While at S&T, David graduated with a Business Management degree. David just recently finished with his Master's degree from Lindenwood University in Sports Management.

David played a huge role in getting the entire Tiger program launched during the inaugural season with the Tigers and was the assistant coach of the 15U team in 2012. That fall he was the head coach the 18U team and led them to a very successful fall season which was capped by a GMB tournament win. David spent his second summer on the 17U team as an assistant to Brian Unger and the two had another successful season.

Currently, David is the Assistant General Manager of the Rawlings Tigers and also is the assistant to Aaron Jaworowski in marketing and administrative projects with the Rawlings Tiger organization including taking the lead on two major projects: our new "Rawlings Tiger website" and are very informative "College Resource Center." David manages the High School Video Recruiting Profile's and many day-to-day activities of the Tigers. David also teaches pitching and hitting lessons at Balls-n-Strikes Ballwin along with coordinating the Balls-n-Strikes summer camp program. Dave is a very thoughtful, reliable piece of our Rawlings staff and brings a lot different skill sets to the organization. He works relentlessly for the good of the program.



SPIKER HELMs

High School Director

UMissouri State University

Email: spiker@rawlingstigers.com

Phone: 314-800-4914

Spiker Helms attended high school at St. Francis Borgia. He then played two years at Longview Community College where he received all district and all region honors as well as Longview Community College's Athlete of the Year award. He then transferred and played two years at Missouri State University under head coach Keith Guttin. At Missouri State, Spiker played second base, right field, and center field for the Bears where he was a captain for the 2012 season. In that season the Bears made an appearance in the NCAA Tournament-Coral Gables Regional, he received second team all Missouri Valley, ranked 13th in the nation in doubles, and named to College Baseball Hall of Fame National Weekly All-Star Lineup (Feb 29th).

Professionally, Spiker played for the Kansas City T-Bones, Gateway Grizzlies, and the Raton Osos. He is currently the Head Coach of the 16U Black Team. The Tigers are thrilled to have Spiker's knowledge and passion for the game in our program.





STAFF



SHANNON HOFFMAN

Director of Operations

Email: shannon@rawlingstigers.com

Phone: 636-394-2255

Shannon Hoffman is the Director of Operations for the Rawlings Tigers Baseball Club and is also the Office Manager for Balls-n-Strikes Ballwin. Shannon has extremely strong organizational and administrative skills, and she does a tremendous job handling schedules and day to day operations. She takes a customer first approach each and every day, has a very positive attitude and is always available. She is an integral part to the Tigers through her hard work with the website, uniform coordination, program promotions, and she also handles the entire "TIGER GEAR" team on-line store.

She is definitely a people person and she loves what she does. The Tigers are very fortunate to have Shannon involved in our organization.

She is married to Don Hoffman and has two children: Alex and Zack.



SANDY STROHM

Special Projects and
Events Coordinator

Email: sandy@rawlingstigers.com

Phone: 636-394-2255

Sandy Strohm first joined the Tigers staff in 2015 with her first assignment of booking summer travel hotel rooms. Since then, her role has grown as Special Projects and Events Coordinator to include fundraising, Trivia Night lead and supporting the Tigers staff in various roles.

Sandy's background includes marketing coordinator for Central States Coca-Cola and private label products in St. Louis. She has a small business called Sandy's Cheesecakes. She is married with a daughter in graduate school and a Tigers alumni son attending college in the fall.

