

COACHES' CODE OF CONDUCT

This Code is in addition to and is not intended to be a substitute for the Code of Conduct contained in the Minor and Major League Rules

General Principle. The primary function of a coach is to facilitate the youth sports environment, and educate Athletes through participation and competition. Each Athlete shall be treated as though he or she is the coaches' own child, and his or her welfare shall be considered uppermost at all times. All coaches shall be aware that they have a tremendous influence on the well being of the Athletes, and thus, shall never place their personal issues above the value of instilling the highest ideals of character in their players. NCLBL is a significant and highly visible organization within our community and its reputation as a safe and value-oriented environment for our children must be maintained beyond reproach. It is the responsibility of all coaches, board members and officials to conduct themselves as models for the community and behave accordingly while part of the NCLBL family. Coaches, officials and board members must be mindful that the appearance of impropriety if often as damaging as an actual improper act.

Specific Principles. All Coaches shall conduct themselves with dignity as a citizen of the community, recognizing and accepting that they shall:

- (a) Uphold the honor and dignity of the profession;
- (b) Set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct in all personal contact with athletes, sports officials, parents/guardians, spectators, and the public;
- (c) Not engage in any behavior which would endanger the health, safety, or well-being of any coach, parent, player participant, official or any other attendee;
- (d) Not encourage any behavior which would endanger the health, safety, or well-being of any coach, parent, player participant, official or any other attendee;
- (e) Take an active role in the prevention of drug and alcohol abuse;
- (f) Never tolerate the use of alcohol or drugs when in contact with Athletes;
- (g) Master the contest rules and teach them to his or her team members;
- (h) Not seek an advantage by circumvention of the spirit or letter of the rules;
- (i) Exert an influence to enhance sportsmanlike conduct by spectators or others, or not indulge in or tolerate conduct which would incite players or spectators against the officials;
- (j) Respect and support the decision of the officials;
- (k) Encourage players to treat any coach, parent, player, participant, official or any other attendee with respect;
- (l) Not engage in any verbal or physical threats or abuse or use offensive or derogatory language aimed at any coach, parent, player, participant or official
- (m) Not encourage any child or other person to engage in any verbal or physical threats or abuse or use offensive or derogatory language aimed at any coach, parent, player, participant or official
- (m) Meet and exchange cordial greetings with the opposing coach to set the correct tone for the event before and after a particular contest;

ANTI-BULLYING POLICY

NCLBL is committed to making our league a safe place for all players, coaches and umpires. We strive to treat each other with respect, and we work to prevent bullying and help all involved with the League feel safe. The League will not tolerate bullying within the League and coaches, players and umpires should not tolerate bullying behavior.

Bullying behaviors include the following when done in person, by proxy, or through electronic means (cyber-bullying):

- Hurting someone physically by hitting, kicking, tripping or pushing
- Stealing or damaging another person's possessions
- Ganging up on someone
- Teasing someone in a harmful way or creating a hostile environment at school
- Using put-downs, such as insulting someone's race or making fun of someone (because of race, religion, gender, disability, or sexual orientation)
- Touching or showing private body parts
- Spreading rumors or untruths about someone
- Excluding someone on purpose or trying to get others not to play or associate with someone else
- Materially and substantially disrupting games or practices or orderly operation of the League

NCLBL coaches, players and umpires are expected to:

- Treat each other respectfully
- Refuse to bully others
- Refuse to let others be bullied
- Refuse to watch, laugh, or join in when someone is being bullied
- Try to include everyone in play and socializing, especially those who are shy or tentative
- Report bullying to a the President of the League

SOCIAL NETWORKING

Use of social media by coaches and players is prevalent and destined to expand. Contact between coaches and current players through social media should be limited to communicating about team events, i.e. practice times, rain-out dates etc. NCLBL coaches are asked not to initiate or accept social media "friend" requests from current players (of any age) or former players under the age of 18. Coaches must be diligent to avoid disseminating downloads, websites or other materials to players that is not NCLBL or baseball related.

The League encourages the use of professional discretion when "friending" former players who are 18 years or older. When doing so, coaches should recognize that many former players have online connections with current players, including younger siblings

and under-aged friends, and information shared between recent players is likely to be seen by current players as well.

Coaches are discouraged from “friending” parents of current or prospective players due to the inherent conflicts of interest and potential appearances of favoritism or impropriety.

All coaches, Board members and umpires of NCLBL are required to:

1. avoid any conduct which may cause a child to be injured or abused; and
2. take steps to reduce any risk of injury or abuse.
3. avoid conduct that would take on the appearance of impropriety

The League takes the above obligations very seriously. Coaches, Board members and umpires must immediately report any concerns, questions, or suspicions of potential injury, abuse or violations of this Code to the President of the League.