

ALTOONA AREA BASEBALL ASSOCIATION ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY (JUNE 14TH, 2009)

The goals of youth sports revolve around the spirit of competition, sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty and respect. The Altoona Area Baseball Association will provide children a safe, fun atmosphere where they can learn the values of teamwork, discipline and self-improvement that will help make them better, healthier and happier adults.

The Joseph M. Sheetz Youth Baseball Complex is a non-smoking, alcohol free facility. Profanity, threatening language, abusive or violent behavior have no place in youth baseball and will not be tolerated by the Altoona Area Baseball Association. Players, managers/coaches and spectators must show good sportsmanship and respect for others at all times.

Managers/Coaches may only interact with the umpire to review the ground rules before the game, interpret rules during the game and thank them after the game. Managers/Coaches may not leave the dugout without requesting and getting time out from the umpire, may not question an umpire's judgment call and may not yell, jeer, question, criticize or give negative feedback of any kind to an umpire, opposing team member, opposing coach, spectator or league official.

Spectators may not question an umpire's judgment call, and may not yell, jeer, question, criticize or give negative feedback of any kind to an umpire, manager/coach, player or league official. Parents/Guardians may not enter the dugout or press box unless asked by a manager/coach or umpire and all spectators, including parents, shall stay off of the walkway outside of the batting cages before scheduled games. An umpire who feels bothered or threatened by anyone outside the playing field should immediately stop the game, meet with both managers and ask them to inform the spectators of the ZERO tolerance policy. Any manager who feels bothered or threatened by anyone outside of the playing field may request that the umpire stop the game as well. Any spectator who continues will be ejected without further warning. If a spectator refuses to leave, the umpire will stop the game and place both teams in their dugouts until the spectator leaves. If the spectator does not leave within 10 minutes, the umpire shall leave and the game shall be suspended. The Executive Committee will decide if the game will be continued or forfeited.

If an umpire ejects any player, manager/coach or spectator from a game, that person must leave the game site before play can resume. The umpire shall provide a report of the incident within 24 hours of the game.

Nobody shall block any of the drive thru gates to the complex as these are reserved for emergency vehicles. Nobody shall enter the concession stand unless they are a scheduled worker or a league official.

Anyone violating the terms of this policy whether at a game, practice or league event will be subjected to immediate ejection and shall provide the Executive Committee a written explanation of their actions before they are permitted to return to the field. The Executive Committee shall have the right to impose any penalty they feel is justified; however the penalty shall not be less than the suspension for the next played game. Any person refusing to meet with the Executive Committee shall be suspended indefinitely until the meeting is held.

It is the Managers/Coaches responsibility to distribute this ZERO tolerance policy to all players and parents of the team. The terms and conditions of this policy will not be waived if the Manager/Coach fails to distribute this policy.