

# Milton National Little League

“Umpires call the game. Coaches coach the game. Players play the game.”

## Players

It is a privilege to play on a team and to be a part of Milton National Little League. Therefore, players must follow the Milton National LL rules during all Milton National LL activities including practices, games, tournaments and other organized Milton National LL activities. To remain a player in good standing the player will follow the following rules and guidelines:

- Treat opponents, officials and spectators with respect.
- Adhere to the Milton National LL/MNLL rules and policies.
- Show good sportsmanship before, during and after training and games.
- Respect officials and accept their decisions.
- Win without boasting, lose without excuses.
- Encourage parents and spectators to show respect and good sportsmanship.

## Parents / Spectators

Milton National LL is honored to have incredible and supportive parents and spectators. It is important to remember that the players respond to the actions and behaviors of the spectators. Spectators are expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship and show respect to all the players and officials by adhering to the following:

- Do not coach players from the sidelines during the game.
- Do not criticize the officials or coaches.
- Cheer and support all players regardless of the outcome.
- Communicate with the coach and create a supportive relationship.
- Understand and respect the different roles of parents and coaches.
- Understand that improper behavior at an event may result in a parent being asked to leave field or event by an umpire or other official and respect that action.
- At all times show empathy for the young developing Milton National player.
- Adhere to Milton National LL (MNLL) zero tolerance policy.

## Umpires

Officials are responsible for conducting the game through enforcement of the rules of the game. As such, they need to ensure that they consistently interpret actions on the field and fairly apply the enforcement of the laws. Officials are expected to:

- Know the rules and understand the game.
- Place safety of the players above all other considerations.
- Treat players and coaches courteously and demand the same from them.

- Work cooperatively with fellow umpires when more than one present.
- Be fair, firm and consistent in all decisions.
- Maintain confidence, poise and self-control from start to finish of the game.

## MNLL Zero Tolerance Policy

All individuals responsible for a team and all spectators shall support the umpire. Failure to do so will undermine the umpire's authority and has the potential of creating a hostile environment for the players, the umpire, and all the other participants and spectators.

Consequently, MNLL has adopted and modified the following rule:

- No one, except the players and head coaches, are to speak to the umpire during or after the game. Exceptions: Coaches may ask questions about the current count or for explanations of a call made.
- Absolutely no disputing calls from parents, players or assistant coaches. **NO YELLING** at the umpire, **EVER**, and no criticism, sarcasm, harassment, intimidation, or feedback of any kind during or after the game.
- A head coach may politely dispute a call, if he/she believes the rule is not being interpreted correctly. In this case, a coach may have 5 minutes to find the rule in the official Little League rule book and provide this to the umpire and other head coach. After reading the rule, the umpire has final call over the decision and both coaches must accept this decision as final. An assistant coach or parent may not dispute a call.
- Understanding that there may be times where a younger umpire in A, AA or AAA levels might make a mistake, if the head coaches both agree that a call was made in error, they may take this opportunity to conference with the umpire and agree as a group as to the best course of action. This process should be done with respect to the umpire.
- Violators may be ejected and are subject to disciplinary action by the MNLL Sportsmanship Review Committee.

If coaches or spectators have questions regarding particular calls, rules, or a umpire, or wish to give feedback regarding a umpire, please contact the Milton National LL umpire coordinator for the game in question, or contact the MNLL president.