



## ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

It is the responsibility of all managers and coaches to maintain the highest standards of personal conduct and sportsmanship for themselves and their players. Abusive and obscene language, violent play (intent to injure), violent conduct, fighting and other behavior detrimental to the game have no place in youth baseball and will not be tolerated. A manager's responsibility for umpire support and spectator control includes the times prior to, during and after the game.

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

Umpiring is a difficult job, and even the best umpires will make mistakes. Errors by umpires are never an excuse for bad behavior on the part of managers, coaches, players, or spectators. They are part of the game, so plan to control yourself and your player's behavior. Anger, threats, and other abusive behavior will not be tolerated. The umpires in this league are generally young people, just a few years older than the players. They are learning the craft of umpiring just as the players are learning to play. Please treat them as you would want your son treated if he were umpiring.

Therefore,

All communications with umpires shall be done in a courteous and respectful manner.

Managers and coaches will instruct players to treat the umpires in a reasonable and respectful manner. A manager may call time out or approach an umpire between innings to ask for clarification on a ruling, interpretation of a rule, etc., **AS LONG AS IT IS DONE IN A POLITE, NON-THREATENING MANNER.** After a game, a manager may approach an umpire to offer friendly advice or constructive criticism as long as it is done in a polite and civilized manner. Absolutely no sarcasm, no harassment, no intimidation and no profanity will be tolerated.

Umpires will have the authority to deal with abusive, unruly, or profane spectators.

1<sup>st</sup> offense: A verbal warning will be issued. The offender will be put on notice that further abuse will be cause for ejection from the area.

2<sup>nd</sup> offense: Ejection. The umpire will be the judge of when the offender is far enough away to resume play, but the offender should be out of sight and earshot of the field.

Managers and coaches will support the umpire in dealing with unruly spectators.



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