



## Code of Conduct

All club officials, spectators and players are expected to abide by this code of conduct for the enjoyment of the game of baseball. Everyone who watches or participates in the game has the right to be treated fairly, with dignity and respect.

*Players: It isn't whether you win or lose, but how you play the game*

- ◆ Play for the fun of it!
- ◆ Compete by the rules and abide by the umpires' decision.
- ◆ Control your temper and never harass others by insulting, bullying, threatening or ridiculing behaviour for any reason whatsoever (including race; gender; religion or other).
- ◆ Support and encourage your team mates.
- ◆ Never spit, swear, or use other unacceptable language or gestures. Set a good example.
- ◆ Work hard for yourself and your team. Give your best!
- ◆ Be willing to train and prepare for the game- preparation helps prevent injury and increases the level of enjoyment.
- ◆ Play when you are fully fit. To play with an injury will handicap your team and expose you to the risk of more serious injury.
- ◆ At all times co-operate with your coach, other team officials, Club officials, teams mates and opponents - without them you do not have a competition.
- ◆ Remember the goals of the game are to have fun and improve your skills. Be modest in success and gracious in defeat.
- ◆ Do not drink alcohol or smoke cigarettes at games, training or club events.
- ◆ Unless prescribed by a doctor, all drugs (including sports enhancement drugs) are banned as they can harm your health and/or negatively impact the sport. Refer to the Australian Baseball Federation anti-doping drug policy: [www.baseball.com.au](http://www.baseball.com.au)

*Parents & Spectators: Children learn best by example*

- Remember that children play organised sport for fun. Enjoy their involvement. They are not playing for the entertainment of spectators only, nor are they miniature professionals.

- Applaud good performances and efforts by each team. Congratulate all participants upon their performance regardless of the game outcome.
- Respect the decisions of all officials. If there is a disagreement let the team coach manage it by the appropriate procedure.
- Never ridicule or scold your (or any) child for making a mistake during training or games. Use instead positive comments which are motivational.
- Make no criticism by word or gesture. Do not swear or use unacceptable language.
- Do not drink alcohol or smoke cigarettes at junior events (training or games).
- Control your temper and never harass others by insulting, bullying, threatening or ridiculing behaviour for any reason whatsoever (including gender and race).
- The use of violence in any form is illegal under government legislation and will not be tolerated.
- Show respect for your team's opponents. Without them there would be no game.
- Do not drink alcohol or smoke cigarettes at games, training or club events.

## Coach & Officials: *The game is for the children not the club/coach*

Recognise the value and importance of volunteer coaches and officials. They give of their time and resources to provide recreational activities for your child.

- ★ Coach for the fun of it.
- ★ Be organised – parents and players will notice if not.
- ★ Young children get bored quickly- so make training interesting.
- ★ Help develop the skills of all players.
- ★ Never punish a child with laps etc. If misbehaving, ask the player to sit on the sidelines for 10 minutes before inviting them back. Remember, a bit of fun is okay.
- ★ Supervise players and ensure a safe and healthy environment at all times.
- ★ Demonstrate sportsmanship - compete by the rules and abide by the officials and umpires' decision.
- ★ Encourage your players and their parents do the same.
- ★ Applaud good plays from either team.
- ★ Control your temper and mentor others if they are losing theirs. Remember, your behaviour is setting an example to children.
- ★ Never ridicule or scold a child for making a mistake during a game or training. Only positive comments are motivational.
- ★ Never swear or use unacceptable language. Set a good example.
- ★ Never harass others by insulting, bullying, threatening or ridiculing behaviour (words or gestures) for any reason whatsoever (including gender and race).
- ★ Do not drink alcohol or smoke cigarettes at junior events (training or games).

- ★ Give all players a fair share of time on the diamond.
- ★ Never remain alone with a child who is not your own and ensure at least two adults are present at games and training.
- ★ If a child is injured or upset make sure they are attended to promptly.
- ★ Unless prescribed by a doctor, all drugs (including sports enhancement drugs) are banned as they can harm your health and/or negatively impact the sport. Refer to the Australian Baseball Federation anti-doping drug policy: [www.baseball.com.au](http://www.baseball.com.au).

***Please Note:*** Breaches of this code should be reported to the team coach initially. If the complaint concerns a team coach or official, then to the club Secretary.

*In the event of a serious or repeated breaches of this Code of Conduct, the Club executive reserves the right to impose sanctions. That may mean: a warning; suspension from one or more games; revoking the player/coach/official's position with the club, or other.*