

BELMONT YOUTH BASEBALL
CODE OF CONDUCT

First Edition
Approved 22 February 2002

1.0) GENERAL PRINCIPLES APPLICABLE TO ALL PARTICIPANTS

1.1) Trustworthiness. All participants shall:

- (a) Be honest, and never deceive, cheat or steal;
- (b) Have the courage to do the right thing;
- (c) Work to build a good reputation;
- (d) Demonstrate loyalty to family, friends, teammates, and country.

1.2) Respect. All participants shall:

- (a) Treat others with respect, and be considerate of the feelings of others;
- (b) Demonstrate a tolerance toward differences;
- (c) Use good manners, and avoid offensive language and taunting;
- (d) Never slander, degrade, threaten, hurt or hit anyone; and
- (e) Deal peacefully with anger, insults and disagreements.

1.3) Responsibility. All participants shall:

- (a) Use self-control and self-discipline;
- (b) Be accountable for all choices and actions;
- (c) Demonstrate reliability; and
- (d) Exhibit supportive behavior and a positive attitude.

1.4) Fairness. All participants shall:

- (a) Adhere to all laws, rules, policies, and guidelines;
- (b) Be open-minded and demonstrate the ability to listen to others;
- (c) Not pass blame carelessly;
- (d) Share equitably and take turns for a particular situation as appropriate; and
- (e) Never take advantage of others.

1.5) Caring. All participants shall:

- (a) Demonstrate compassion, kindness, and forgiveness; and
- (b) Provide assistance to others in need when appropriate.

1.6) Citizenship. All participants shall:

- (a) Respect authority and demonstrate cooperation; and
- (b) Properly care for all equipment, uniforms, facilities, and playing fields.

2.0) ATHLETES' CODE OF CONDUCT

- 2.1) General.** All Athletes shall recognize that being a member of the community carries with it responsibilities and rewards, and they shall not only embrace those responsibilities, but also conduct themselves both on and off the playing field/facility in a way that exhibits respect for others and them self.
- 2.2) Specific Principles.** All Athletes shall therefore resolve themselves to conduct them self with dignity as an athlete and as a citizen of the community, recognizing and accepting that they shall:
- (a) Accept accountability for all behavior and its outcomes;
 - (b) Honor obligations and promises;
 - (c) Exercise self-control;
 - (d) Be willing to be fair with others in dealings on and off the playing field/facility;
 - (e) Take pride in themselves and their accomplishments, but never at the expense of demeaning another person or group;
 - (f) Respect the efforts of others;
 - (g) Respect authority;
 - (h) Play by the spirit, not just the letter, of the rules of the game/event; and
 - (i) Strive to make the community better through support and contribution as a member and as a citizen.

3.0) PARENTS'/GUARDIANS' CODE OF CONDUCT

- 3.1) General.** All parents' and guardians' shall pledge to provide positive support, care, and encouragement for their child participating in the activities of Belmont Youth Baseball by following this Code of Conduct.
- 3.2) Specific Principles.** All parents' and guardians' shall therefore resolve to conduct themselves with dignity as a citizen of the community, recognizing and accepting that they shall:
- (a) Encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice, or other youth sports event;
 - (b) Place the emotional and physical well-being of their child and the other Athletes ahead of a personal desire to win;
 - (c) Support efforts to create and maintain a safe and healthy environment;
 - (d) Support coaches and officials working with their child, in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all;
 - (e) Demand a sports environment that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and refrain from their use at all youth sports events;
 - (f) Do their very best to make youth sports fun, and remember that it is a game for youth;
 - (g) Encourage their child to treat other players, coaches, spectators, officials, and others with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability; and
 - (h) Promise to help their child enjoy the youth sports experience in whatever way possible, such as being a respectable fan, assisting with coaching, or providing transportation.

4.0) COACHES' CODE OF CONDUCT

4.1) General. 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 the value of winning above the value of instilling the highest ideals of character.

4.2 Specific Principles. All Coaches shall therefore resolve to 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) Take an active role in the prevention of drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse;
- (d) Avoid the use of alcohol and tobacco products when in contact with Athletes;
- (e) Master the contest rules and teach them to his or her team members;
- (f) Not seek an advantage by circumvention of the spirit or letter of the rules;
- (g) Exert an influence to enhance unsportsmanship conduct by spectators or others, or to indulge in conduct which would incite players or spectators against the officials;
- (h) Respect and support the decision of the officials;
- (i) Meet and exchange cordial greetings with the opposing coach to set the correct tone for the event before and after a particular contest;

5.0) ENFORCEMENT OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT

5.1) Responsibility. Responsibility for enforcement of this Code of Conduct shall reside with the Board of Directors of Belmont Youth Baseball.

5.2) Spectators. For implementation of this Code of Conduct, spectators who are directly associated with a particular Athlete shall comply with the same criteria as for Parents'/Guardians', and the same enforcement action shall apply.

5.3) Enforcement Action. The Board of Directors of Belmont Youth Baseball shall take whatever measures necessary to enforce this Code of Conduct, up to and including any of the following actions:

- (a) Removal of an Athlete from the program due to his or her failure to comply with this Code of Conduct;
- (b) Removal of an Athlete from the program due to the failure of his or her Parent/Guardian to comply with this Code of Conduct; or
- (c) Dismissal of a Coach from the program due to his or her failure to comply with this Code of Conduct.