

COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

The Coach's primary role is to teach ALL kids assigned to his/her team the fundamental skills of baseball/softball in a fun, challenging and safe way. Coaches agree to attend any league mandated events. Coaches shall remain unconditionally supportive of the Organization's commitment to the ideals of a positive and fun atmosphere, good sportsmanship, team play, honesty, loyalty, courage and respect for authority. Skill development takes priority. Winning "at all costs" is not an acceptable attitude. Coaches agree to follow these principles:

- Coaches will teach the game of baseball/softball to the best of their ability, but will continually work to improve their own understanding of the skills of the game and how to teach those skills.
- Coaches will be positive role models and will do their best to provide a positive experience for the players and for the parents.
- Coaches will display and teach their players the principals of good sportsmanship, respect and team play whether the team is winning or losing..
- Coaches will provide organized team practices each week that will provide for the development of both team and individual skills and will make full effort to provide practices that are both fun and challenging for the players.
- Coaches will not ridicule or demean players, umpires or league officials.
- Coaches will be responsible for the conduct of their players and the parents during games.
- Coaches will treat all players, parents, spectators and league officials with respect.
- Coaches will not tolerate behavior that endangers the health or well-being of a child.
- Coaches will comply with the decisions of league officials and observe all rules, policy and procedure as established or endorsed by HVABSA.
- Coaches will be drug and alcohol free while at any HVABSA athletic event.
- Coaches will not use any tobacco products in the dugout or on the playing field.

CONSEQUENCES

All members of the Organization are subject to consequences which may lead to discipline or possible termination of membership as determined necessary by the HVABSA Board of Directors due to failure to comply with the Code of Conduct. All members agree to abide by these rules as part of their registration in the program. It is the responsibility of all members to be familiar with the guidelines set forth in the Code of Conduct.

I also agree that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I will be subject to disciplinary action that could include, but is not limited to the following:

- Verbal warning by official, head coach, and/or head of league organization
- Written warning
- Game suspension with written documentation of incident kept on file by organizations involved
- Game forfeit for coach or excessive parent violation of conduct rules
- Suspension for the remainder of the season

Disciplinary Policy for Coaches

The HVA Board of Directors will review all reported incidents of behavior considered detrimental to the game where a coach is involved and will determine the appropriate action. As a rule, The Board will act on a simple majority vote with a Three Strikes & You're out rule and will implement the following actions.

- First Incident - Written Warning plus up to 3 game suspension
- Second Incident - Written Warning with a 1 year suspension
- Third Incident – relieved of coaching duties

However, the Executive Board (league president, vice-president, VP-Baseball and VP-Softball) will have the authority to modify the punishments established above to maintain fairness in the event of extenuating circumstances and to ensure that any actions taken are for the betterment of the league.

Note: Any manager/coach/parent that has been ejected from a game must leave the playing field area for the rest of the game and retire to the parking lot. Any threat or abusive contact made by a manager/coach, parent or any other person will not be tolerated – this will draw a punishment up to and including a 1-year suspension from the HVA league.

PLAYERS CODE OF CONDUCT

I, as a player, understand that it is my responsibility to attend all team functions and to respect and obey the coach while at team activities. It is also my responsibility to work to improve my skills as a player by practicing on my own in addition to team practices. Above all else, I will demonstrate good sportsmanship to my teammates and to other teams and will show respect for the authority of the coaches and umpires when on the field.

Players **shall...**

- Respect all coaches, players, league officials, umpires, spectators, and opponents
- Treat others fairly – be a good teammate
- Give 100% of your effort in practice – hustle all of the time
- Display good sportsmanship and team play at all times.
- Follow the direction of the Coaching Staff.
- Make every attempt to be on time and ready to play for all games and practices.
- Follow safety rules and do not endanger others on the field
- Take care of league equipment
- Leave other player's equipment alone unless you have permission to use it
- Show respect for the game of baseball or softball by knowing and following the rules of the game, by controlling your emotions when calls don't go your way and by respecting the decisions of the umpire and coaches

Players **shall not...**

- Use abusive or profane language.
- Taunt or embarrass any other player.
- Question an umpire's call.
- Abuse, mistreat or mishandle any league equipment or property (e.g., throwing batting helmets)

Use "chatter" designed to distract a pitcher or batter – "chatter" should encourage your team, not belittle or distract players on the opposing team

PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT

Parents will remember that this is a recreational program focused on player development over the win/loss record. Parents should stay positive at all times and show support for all of the players. I, as a parent member of HVABSA, do therefore agree:

- I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for youth, not adults.
- I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices, unless I am one of the official coaches of the team.
- I will have my child to all practices and to all games on time and will notify the coach of any physical disability / ailment that will prevent my child from playing or that may create an unsafe environment.
- I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard, and will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participant for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her performance.
- I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the league and will respect the officials and their authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront coaches at the game field, and will take time to speak with coaches at an agreed upon time and place.
- I (and my guests) will be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice or other sporting event.
- I (and my guests) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as booing and taunting; refusing to shake hands; or using profane language or gestures.
- I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
- I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol and I will refrain from their use at all sports events.
- I will not force my child to participate in sports.