

Bradley-Bourbonnais Little League



American

National

Parents, Fans and Players Code of Conduct

The Board of Directors of Bradley-Bourbonnais Little League has mandated the following Code of Conduct. Anyone affiliated with BBLL will read this Code of Conduct and acknowledge that he or she understands and agrees to comply with the Code of Conduct.

No board member, manager, coach, player or spectator shall, **at any time**:

- ◆ Lay a hand upon, push, shove, strike, or threaten to strike an official.
- ◆ Be guilty of personal verbal or physical abuse upon any official for any real or imaginary belief of a wrong decision or judgment.
- ◆ Be guilty of an objectionable demonstration of dissent at an official's decision by throwing of gloves, helmets, hats, bats, balls, or any other forceful unsportsman-like action.
- ◆ Be guilty of using unnecessarily rough tactics in the play of a game against the body of an opposing player.
- ◆ Be guilty of a physical attack upon any board member, official manager, coach, player or spectator.
- ◆ Be guilty of the use of profane, obscene or vulgar language in any manner at any time.
- ◆ Appear on the field of play, stands, or anywhere on the BBLL complex while in an intoxicated state. Intoxicated will be defined as an odor or behavior issue.
- ◆ Be guilty of gambling upon any play or outcome of any game with anyone at any time.
- ◆ Smoke while in the stands or on the playing field or in any dugout. Smoking will only be permitted in designated area. The only designated smoking area at the Little League complex is behind the left field fence of the Little League field. Smoking is not permitted at the PONY field as this is school property.
- ◆ Be guilty of publicly discussing with spectators in a derogatory or abusive manner any play, decision or a personal opinion on any players during the game.
- ◆ Speak disrespectfully to any manager, coach, official or representative of the league.
- ◆ Challenge an umpire's authority. The umpires shall have the authority and discretion during a game to penalize the offender according to the infraction up to and including expulsion from the game.

The Board of Directors will review all infractions of the Code of Conduct. Depending on the seriousness or frequency, the board may assess additional disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the league

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Managers, Coaches and Players:

As a Manager, Coach or Player, I accept and understand the seriousness of my responsibility, and privilege of representing the community.

Learn the rules of the game thoroughly and discuss them with parents, fans, and fellow players. This will assist both them and you in the achievement of a better understanding and appreciation of the game.

Treat opponents the way you would like to be treated, as a guest or friend. Who better than yourselves can understand all the hard work and team effort that is required of your sport? Never direct remarks at opponents in a taunting manner.

Wish opponents good luck before the game and congratulate them in a sincere manner that you like to be greeted following either victory or defeat.

Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. The officials are doing their best to help promote you and your sport. Treating them with respect, even if you disagree with their judgment, will only make a positive impression of you and your team in the eyes of the officials and all people at the event.

Acceptable Behavior:

- Applause during introduction of players, coaches, and officials.
- Accept all decisions of officials.
- Shake hands with participants and coaches at the end of the contest, regardless of the outcome.
- Treat competition as a game, not a war.
- Coaches and players should search out opposing participants to recognize them for outstanding performance or coaching.
- Applause at the end of the contest for performances of all participants.
- Everyone shows concern for an injured player, regardless of team.
- Encourage surrounding people to display only sportsmanlike conduct.

Unacceptable Behavior:

- Yelling or waving arms when batter is up.
- Disrespectful or derogatory chants, yells, or gestures
- Booing or heckling an officials' decision.
- Criticizing officials in any way; displays of temper with an officials' call.
- Yells that antagonizes opponents.
- Refusing to shake hands or give recognition for good performances.
- Blaming loss of game on officials, coaches or participants.
- Laughing or name-calling to distract opponent.
- Use of profanity or displays of anger that draw attention away from the game.

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Parents and Fans:

The essential elements of character building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship. The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these “six pillars of character.”

I therefore agree:

- I will not force my child to participate in sports.
- I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for youth, not adults.
- I will inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.
- I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the league.
- 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 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 remember that this behavior makes it no fun for Players, Coaches, Officials or other fans
- I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the physical or emotional health and well-being of the athletes.
- I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
- I will demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex or ability.
- 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 praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard, and make my child feel like a winner every time.
- I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- I will emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit my child over winning.
- I will promote the emotional and physical well-being of the athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have for my child to win.
- I will respect the officials and coaches and their authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront them at the game field, and if necessary, take time to speak with coaches at an agreed upon time and place.
- 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 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 promote individual responsibility and will not look to blame coaches, officials or others for on field results.

