



Lincolnwood Baseball Association

CODE of CONDUCT

Players, Parents, Spectators & Coaches

One of the primary goals of the Lincolnwood Baseball (& Softball) Association ("LBA" or the "Association") is to ensure that all of its participants (players, parents, spectators, coaches, and officials) have a **positive & fun baseball/softball experience** through maintaining the highest standard of sportsmanship and ethical behavior at all times. To accomplish this goal, a Code of Conduct has been adopted by the Association.

Player Rules

It is understood that by registering to participate in LBA, the parents agree (for himself/herself, as well as for his/her children, relatives, spectators) that his/her children will abide by the following Player Rules while on the playing field or practice field or in the dugout or their surrounding areas or at any LBA sanctioned event.

Players SHALL:

- Display good sportsmanship at all times
- Follow the direction of the coaching staff
- Respect all coaches, players, league officials, umpires and spectators
- Make every attempt to be on-time and ready to play for all games and practices
- Be responsible for removal of their litter from the dugout & playing/practice field

Players shall NOT:

- Attend any LBA activity if the player is displaying symptoms of, or has tested positive for, COVID-19.
- Use foul or obscene language or gestures
- Engage in physical altercations of any kind
- Quit on the team
- Argue with umpires
- Abuse or mistreat any equipment
- Throw any object in a show of temper
- Argue with or show disrespect to coaches
- Display discourtesy to opposing players, coaches, or spectators

Parent & Spectator Rules

It is understood that by registering a child to participate in LBA, the registrant's parent or guardian agrees (for himself/herself, as well as for his/her child, relatives, spectators) to abide by the following Parent & Spectator Rules while around the playing field or practice field or dugout or surrounding areas or at any LBA sanctioned event.

Parents and Spectators SHALL:

- Be positive role models
- Try to assist the coaches, players and Association by volunteering their services when/where needed
- Display and instill in all players the principles of good sportsmanship and team play
- Conduct themselves in a manner that best serves the interests of ALL the players
- Remind their child to show respect for all other players, coaches, umpires and spectators
- Treat ALL players, coaches, umpires and spectators with respect
- Comply with the decisions of the Association
- Support the rules, regulations and bylaws established and endorsed by the Association
- Be respectful of the officials umpiring the games
- Be drug and alcohol free while at any LBA baseball event
- ***Commit to having your child on-time and ready to play for games and practices*** or communicate with the coach when not possible

Parents and Spectators SHALL NOT:

- Allow their child to attend any LBA activity if the player is displaying symptoms of, or has tested positive for, COVID-19
- Use foul or obscene language or gestures
- Engage in physical altercations of any kind
- Argue balls/strikes or abuse umpires in any way
- Throw any object in a show of temper or disgust
- Enter the field of play (exception being to tend to an injured player)
- Argue with or show disrespect to coaches, players, other parents, or LBA officials
- Drink alcohol while at a game or practice or any LBA sanctioned event
- Use any illegal substances while at a game or practice or any LBA sanctioned event
- Display discourtesy to opposing players, coaches, other parents or spectators, or LBA officials

Coaches Rules

All coaches must remain unconditionally supportive of the LBA commitment to the ideals of good sportsmanship, team play, honesty, loyalty, courage, and respect for authority and others. The coaches shall remain sensitive to the physical and emotional well-being of the players on their team AND the players on the opposing team, and will generally abide by the following Coaches Rules:

Coaches SHALL:

- Be positive role models – on and off the field
- Instill in their players the principles of good sportsmanship and team play
- At all times enforce the Code of Conduct as it applies to self, players, parents & spectators
- Conduct themselves on and off the field in a manner that best serves the players

- Honor commitment to treat each and every player on the team fairly and to give all equal opportunity while trying to teach the game of baseball/softball to the best of their ability
- Help your players develop self-confidence.
- Be prepared for practices and games
- Ensure that in winning or losing, the utmost in respect and good sportsmanship is displayed
- Endeavor to share training skills with other coaches
- Treat ALL players, parents, spectators, coaches, officials & LBA members with respect
- Provide instruction in a manner that is constructive and supportive
- Continue the opportunity for player instruction throughout the season by holding practices on game-day days, off-nights or weekends
- Comply with the decisions of the Association and observe all rules, policies, procedures as established by LBA or any affiliated league
- Be responsible for the care and well-being of players entrusted to their care
- Be responsible for the care and maintenance of LBA equipment
- Be drug and alcohol free
- Be tobacco products free in the dugout or on the playing field

Coaches SHALL NOT:

- Tolerate, condone or ignore behavior from players, parents, spectators or other coaches that endangers the health and well-being of a child
- Use foul or obscene language or gestures
- Engage in physical altercations of any kind
- Argue with umpires
- Abuse or mistreat LBA equipment
- Throw any object in a show of temper
- Argue with or show disrespect to other coaches, players, parents, spectators or LBA members
- Display discourtesy to opposing players, parents, coaches, or spectators
- Intentionally lie to or mislead a game official to gain an advantage
- Instruct a player to hit a batter or base runner with a thrown ball
- Instruct a player to spike or otherwise attempt to injure another player
- Use drugs or alcohol prior to or during an LBA sanctioned event
- Use tobacco products in the dugout or on the playing field

Violations – General

Conduct deemed detrimental to the LBA Youth Baseball & Softball Association will be considered a violation or infraction of the Code of Conduct. It is the responsibility of the players, coaches and parents to enforce the Code of Conduct by informing the LBA Board -- by contacting any members of its Executive Committee, in writing (whether via letter, email or fax), of any questionable conduct.

In the event of a report of a Code of Conduct violation, the Executive Committee of LBA shall review (and if deemed necessary, investigate) the complaint and take appropriate action, including providing a written response to the reporting party at the conclusion of any investigation or review. All written reports of Code of Conduct violations shall be reviewed (and if deemed necessary, investigated) and responded to within a reasonable time frame of LBA's receipt of the complaint.

Violations of the Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action, including, but not necessarily limited to, censure, revocation of certain Association privileges, suspension (generally), suspension (of travel activities), or even expulsion from the league. In the event that the Executive Committee determines that expulsion is the appropriate disciplinary action, before same shall be official the Board of Directors of LBA shall first be required to render a majority vote confirming any such recommendation.

Violations - Specific to Player/Coach Ejection

If a player, head coach, or assistant coach is ejected from a game, the umpire and ejected party will be required to notify any officer on the Executive Committee in writing (whether via letter, email or fax) a written explanation as to why there was an ejection. An opposing coach shall also be permitted to report his observations. These explanations and/or observations shall be given as soon as practicable, and in no event later than two (2) days after the incident.

The ejected party shall NOT be allowed to participate in ANY games until the Executive Committee of LBA has conducted a review of the ejection. If any officer on the Executive Committee considers it necessary, inquiries or interviews may be conducted – for example, of the ejected party, the umpire who executed the ejection, the opposing coach – in order to gather information.

Based upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the officers that comprise the Executive Committee of LBA, the Executive Committee may conclude/determine that a suspension is appropriate.

Recommended Suspension lengths*:

- Ejected from one game- 1 game suspension
- Ejected from second game- 3 game suspension
- Ejected from third game- expulsion from LBA

*Please Note: The above suspensions are recommended minimums, and may be adjusted, upward or downward, based upon the nature of a particular infraction and/or prior incidents.

Policy Acknowledgement

If during the course of the season circumstances require a change to this policy, each family will be informed of the change(s) and will be expected to comply with such changed policy.

Please direct all inquiries regarding this policy to any of the officers that comprise the Executive Committee of the LBA, as follows:

President, John Dreuth
Vice-President, Rick Hoffman
Vice-President, Michael Bartholomew
Secretary, Andy Strauch
Treasurer, Donna Dreuth

General LBA information may also be available on our Lincolnwood Baseball Association website:
www.LWBBA.org