

Code of Conduct

STMA Youth Baseball Association

Code of Conduct for Players, Parents and Coaches

The goal of the STMA Youth Baseball Association is to assure that its members (players, parents, coaches, and officials) have a positive baseball 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 Board Members of the Association.

It is understood that by registering to participate in the association, you, your fans, and associates agree to abide by the Rules as set forth in this document while on the playing or practice field or at any Association 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 and the litter of their fans from the playing/practice field

Players shall NOT:

- 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

Parents and Spectators SHALL:

- Be positive role models
- 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 the players
- Make sure that their children 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 STMA youth 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:

- 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
- Argue with or show disrespect to coaches, players, or other parents
- Abuse any substances
- Display discourtesy to opposing players, coaches, or spectators

All Coaches must remain unconditionally supportive of the STMA 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.

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, and spectators
- Conduct themselves on and off the field in a manner that best serves the interests of the players and the Association
- Honor commitment to each and every player on the team to teach the game of baseball to the best of their ability. This commitment demands that the coach be: knowledgeable about the game (skills training, rules, etc.), fair in their assessment and ability and assignment of field positions
- Be fully 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, and Association Officials 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 bye days, off-nights or weekends
- Comply with the decisions of Association officials and observe all rules, policies, procedures as established by the Association or affiliated League
- Be responsible for the care and well-being of players and STMA equipment entrusted to their care
- Be drug and alcohol free
- Do NOT use tobacco products in the dugout or on the playing field

Coaches SHALL NOT:

- Tolerate behavior from players, coaches, or spectators that endanger 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 STMA equipment
- Throw any object in a show of temper
- Argue with or show disrespect to any coaches, players or spectators
- Display discourtesy to opposing players, 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 at an Association event
- Use tobacco products in the dugout or on the playing field

Conduct deemed detrimental to the STMA Youth Baseball Association will be considered a violation of the Code of Conduct. It is the responsibility of the players, coaches, parents, umpires and to enforce the Code of Conduct by informing the Board Members and President in writing, of any questionable conduct.

In the event of a report of a Code of Conduct violation to an Association official, the Board Members shall investigate the complaint and take appropriate action, including a written response to the reporting party at the conclusion of the investigation and review. All written reports of Code of Conduct violations shall be investigated and responded to within a reasonable time frame of the complaint.

Violations of the Code of Conduct will result in disciplinary action from the league, including, but not limited to, censure, suspension, revocation of Association privileges, suspension of travel activities, or ejection from the Association. The Board Members shall be responsible for investigating and enforcing the Association rules, including the Code of Conduct, bylaws, and constitution.

STMA reserves the right to suspend/relieve any coach of their duties prior to the Code of Conduct review by Board Members.

Code of Conduct Rules Specific to Player/Coach ejection

If a player, head coach, or assistant coach is ejected from a game, the umpire and ejected party will communicate to the board members or President via email why there was an ejection.

The ejected party shall NOT be allowed to participate in ANY games until the Board Members have met to conduct a review of the ejection.

The Board Members shall interview the ejected party, along with the umpire who executed the ejection, allowing each to present their side.

Based upon the findings of the board members, a vote shall be taken to determine if there shall be a suspension.

Recommended lengths of suspensions shall be as follows:

- Ejected from one game – 1 game suspension
- Ejected from second games – 3 game suspension
- Ejected from third game – ejection from Association

Note: The above suspensions are recommended, and may be adjusted based upon the severity of the infraction.

2009 Team: _____ Age Level: _____

By signing below you agree to the above stated Code of Conduct set forth by STMA Youth Baseball.

Head Coach: _____

Assistant Coach: _____

Assistant Coach: _____

Assistant Coach: _____

Assistant Coach: _____

Player: _____ Parent: _____

Player: _____ Parent: _____

Player: _____ Parent: _____

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