

SASKATOON PEE WEE BASEBALL CODE OF CONDUCT - 2009 SEASON

SASKATOON PEE WEE BASEBALL exists to promote the baseball skills and sportsmanship of its participants. It is proud of the level of conduct and sportsmanship that has been shown in the past and expects all coaches and players to ensure that this will continue. The following code of conduct for coaches and players details the level of behaviour expected of all participants, including spectators, in this league.

1. **Respect all umpire decisions.** Coaches and/or players are encouraged to ask politely for explanation of a particular ruling that is not clear to them, but they should remember that **judgement calls cannot be disputed**. The League has a **ZERO TOLERANCE** policy for both verbal and physical harassment of umpires by coaches or players. (League rule 15)
2. The League understands that team coaches have no control over the behaviour of spectators. However, coaches are expected to explain to their parents and fans that both players and umpires are **learning** in this league. **SUPPORTIVE COMMENTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME; CRITICISM OF PLAYERS OR UMPIRES IS NOT. In the event of excessive verbal abuse by spectators, umpires have been instructed to halt the game and ask the team managers to inform the spectators that if such abuse continues, the game will be called** (League rule 16). The League President also has the right to instruct the umpires to call the game if he/she considers spectator behaviour is inappropriate.
3. Any form of unsportsmanlike conduct e.g. swearing, excessive noise from the bench, derogatory comments from the catcher, or other action designed to distract an opposing player, is not acceptable and may lead to ejection of the offending players or coaches from the game. (League rule 14)
4. Use of any nicotine product by the coaching staff (including parent volunteers) on the playing field or in or behind the players' bench is not permitted during a game (Baseball Canada rule). The clubhouse and the bleachers are also non-smoking areas.
5. Prior to the commencement of the game, players must stay off the infield until their team takes its infield warm-up (League rule 4(1)).
6. **EACH TEAM IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CLEANING UP ITS BENCH AREA AFTER EACH GAME** and to place garbage in the container provided. (League rule 4(j))
7. The SBA dress code will be followed. Coaches should dress so that their team affiliation is apparent e.g. sweat pants and golf shirt in appropriate colours, and team cap. **Coaches wearing shorts, thongs or sandals will not be permitted on the field or in the players' bench area.**
8. Players are expected to take pride in their appearance while in uniform. Coaches should ensure that their players do not go on to the field without a cap, with their shirt not tucked in, shoelaces undone, etc.
9. Teams are encouraged to play to win, but not at all costs. Overly aggressive base running, deliberate blocking of the base path and/or jostling between baseman and runner will not be tolerated. Offending players may be ejected from the game (League rules 12(e), 14).
10. Coaches are requested to ensure players realize that, regardless of their frustration level, throwing or kicking equipment after e.g. being struck out, is not acceptable behaviour and may result in ejection.
11. Any catcher making derogatory comments to a batter will be considered to be behaving in an unsportsmanlike manner and may be ejected from the game.
12. Coaches are expected to treat all players on their team equally in terms of innings played (League rule 3(d)). The League hopes that coaches will use the league games to allow their players to develop the ability to play in many positions. Coaches should never forget that this is a **LEARNING LEAGUE**.

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