



BASEBALL PEI POLICY

Electronic Devices Policy

1.1 Overview

- Mobile phones and other electronic devices with recording capabilities (audio or video) have increased the risk of bullying, abuse and misconduct. The ability to take and share photos and videos without others' knowledge has raised concerns from Baseball PEI.
- This policy refers to the use of "electronic devices," which can include but is not limited to:
 - Mobile phone/device
 - Camera
 - Voice Recorder
 - Tablet
- This policy shall be reviewed by coaches and team officials with their respective teams before beginning on-field activities.

1.2 Usage Prohibited

- The use of any electronic device by Baseball PEI members is prohibited in any bench/dugout, changing room, washroom, or shower during any practice, game, or event that is sanctioned by Baseball PEI unless otherwise stated herein.

1.3 Exceptions

- Although the use of electronic devices is prohibited as stated above, Baseball PEI recognizes that there are special circumstances where the use of an electronic device may be practical:
 - A coach may use an electronic device to take a video and/or pictures for coaching purposes.
 - Examples of coaching purposes would be a coach taking a video/picture of a player's swing (to highlight areas to change/improve), timing the running speed of a player around the bases, et cetera.
 - A coach and/or manager may use an electronic device for scorekeeping or counting pitches for the game.
 - Photographs or recordings may be taken of players on the playing field during a game or a practice.
 - Photographs or recordings may be taken in such unique circumstances as a victory celebration, team party, et cetera, where all persons are appropriately dressed, have been advised that photographs or recordings are being taken, and have given permission.
 - If a team wishes to have music playing in the changing room and/or the bench/dugout, it is acceptable for a designated coach or player to operate an electronic device to play music.
 - In the event of an emergency or if a player must contact a parent/guardian for a serious matter.

1.4 Discipline

- The privacy and dignity of our players is the first priority. Any incident involving the violation of another person's privacy (e.g. the taking of unauthorized photos or videos) through the use of an electronic device will result in immediate discipline to any persons involved.
- For first, second or third violations that are considered "minor" (e.g. using an electronic device for text messaging, social media, et cetera) as determined by the player's minor baseball association, minor baseball associations will have the jurisdiction to enforce the discipline as outlined in Section 1.5.
 - For "AAA" zone teams, the minor baseball association of which the team plays the majority of their home games/practices will assume the role of enforcing discipline for a first, second or third minor violation.
- For "major" violations (e.g. bullying, harassment, crude photography or videotaping, et cetera) as determined by the appropriate age category Director, upon request for review by the player's minor baseball association, the appropriate age category Director shall have jurisdiction.
 - Please note that the appropriate age category Director shall have the right to permit other members of the Board of Directors of Baseball PEI to assist him/her in investigation and/or determining discipline.



1.5 Violations

- Athletes/Players:
 - First Minor Violation: After confirmation by appropriate age category Director, the player and their parents/guardians shall be formally warned by their applicable minor baseball association, and Baseball PEI shall be informed of the warning.
 - Second Minor Violation: After confirmation by appropriate age category Director, the player and their parents/guardians shall be formally warned by their applicable minor baseball association, and a meeting – whether in-person or electronic – shall be held between the offending player, the player’s parent/guardian, that player’s minor baseball association president, and any other person deemed necessary by the minor baseball association president. Upon the conclusion of that meeting, Baseball PEI shall be informed.
 - Third Minor Violation: After confirmation by appropriate age category Director, the player shall be suspended from team activities such as regular-season games, tournament and exhibition play for the next two (2) consecutive games or one (1) week of a season, whichever is greater. The player may not be on the field or in the bench/dugout (or, if the field has it, a changing room for the players) during this period. A meeting – whether in-person or electronic – shall be held between the offending player, the player’s parent/guardian, that player’s minor baseball association president, and the appropriate Baseball PEI age category Director.
 - Fourth Minor Violation or any Major Violation: After confirmation by appropriate age category Director, the player shall be suspended indefinitely from team activities such as regular-season games, tournament and exhibition play. There shall be a meeting, either in-person or electronically, between the player, the player’s parents/guardians, the player’s minor baseball association president, appropriate age category Baseball PEI Director, and any other person deemed necessary by the age category Director. Upon the conclusion of that meeting, the age category Director, on behalf of the Board of Directors of Baseball PEI, shall make a final decision on discipline. The player may not be on the field or in the bench/dugout (or, if the field has it, a changing room for the players) during the period in which they are suspended.
- Coaches/Parents/“Adult(s)”
 - Considering the vulnerability of minors and the seriousness of an adult (parent, volunteer, et cetera) using an electronic device in any area where a photograph or recording of a player in undress or a vulnerable situation, any violation of this Policy by an adult shall result in an indefinite suspension pending a meeting, either in-person or electronically, the adult’s minor baseball association president, appropriate age category Baseball PEI Director, and any other person deemed necessary by the age category Director.

1.6 Recommended Practices for Coaches and Teams

- This policy greatly relies on the cooperation of minor baseball coaches and management and it will be the responsibility of each minor baseball team’s coaches and management to decide how they will enforce this policy:
 - Asking players to leave their phones at home, in the car, or with their parents/guardians.
 - Collecting players’ electronics at the entrance of a changing room and/or bench/dugout, storing them, and returning them as players leave.
 - Assigning one coach or player (e.g. captain, rotating player each week, et cetera) to be in charge of the designated “music phone.”

