

Winter Park Babe Ruth Coach's Code of Conduct

You have elected to participate as Manager or Coach in Winter Park Babe Ruth ("WPBR"). Coaching in a youth sports program is a privilege that is not to be taken for granted. Managers/coaches are appointed by the Board of Directors of Winter Park Babe Ruth. You as a manager/coach have an important role in the development of the young children of Winter Park. We strive to teach each child the positive values of good sportsmanship, fair play, and teamwork, values that they can use throughout their lives.

As an appointed Manager or Coach to WPBR you are expected to fulfill your responsibilities as a youth sports coach by pledging to adhere to the following code. You understand that all coaches are expected to adhere to these and all Winter Park Babe Ruth rules and codes of conduct.

As a WPBR Manager or Coach I pledge to:

- Follow official Babe Ruth and WPBR local rules with no exceptions, to include the official Babe Ruth League guidelines for bats, in all games and practices.
- Treat the use of the WPBR baseball fields and lights as a privilege and to follow the guidelines of the City of Winter Park and WPBR as it relates to the authorized use of the baseball fields and turn off the lights when not in use.
- Place the emotional and physical well being of my players ahead of my personal desire to win and remember that the game is for the children, not the adults.
- Treat each player as an individual and with respect, while teaching the importance of being part of a team and putting the team ahead of individual goals.
- Provide players with positive feedback and constructive criticism.
- Focus on developing the skills of all the players on my team.
- Dress appropriately for all games and practices and to lead by example at all times, by using appropriate language and behavior.
- Interact with all opposing coaches, parents and umpires in a professional manner. At no time will I yell from the dugout or coaches' box to an umpire, nor will I respond to comments from fans during a game.
- Encourage good sportsmanship by teaching my team to win or lose graciously.
- Compete fairly and do nothing to gain an unfair competitive advantage.
- Demand a drug, alcohol, and tobacco-free sports environment for myself, coaches and players.
- Participate in required activities such as field preparation and concession stand assignments.
- Contact my assigned WPBR Commissioner and report any type of physical or verbal abuse and/or any non-fair or non-sportsmanlike play that I witness firsthand.
- Discuss any coaching or officiating concerns with the coach/umpire after the game is completed, and if not satisfied, then with my assigned WPBR Commissioner. I will discuss any concerns about how the league is run with my Commissioner and/or with the WPBR Board as a whole.

Any infraction of the above rules will result in a report being delivered to the Board of Directors of Winter Park Babe Ruth for consideration of further action, as appropriate.

First Offense: The Board of Directors, at a minimum, will provide a written warning to the offender, detailing the consequences of future infractions. Depending upon the severity of the infraction, nothing precludes the Board of Directors from banning an offender from all WPBR activities, including, but not limited to, practices and games, for a period of time deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors.

Second Offense: The Board of Directors may institute a wide range of penalties for repeat offenders, beginning with the second offense, as deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors. Such penalties include, but are not limited to:

- Suspension from all coaching activities for a prescribed period of time.
- A ban from participating in all WPBR activities for a set period of time or number of games.
- Severe violations can result in suspension from all WPBR activities for the remainder of the current season or tournament.

Third Offense: The Board of Directors may choose to apply any of the penalties prescribed for a second offense. In the most extreme of circumstances, the Board of Directors of Winter Park Youth Baseball, Inc. may hold a meeting to determine whether or not the individual should be permanently banned from all future WPBR activities. The individual in question must receive a certified letter of such a hearing at least one week prior to the meeting, and must be given the opportunity to speak at the meeting.

Physical Abuse - Physical abuse of an official, coach, player, or spectator will result in immediate expulsion from the WPBR fields at the direction of an umpire or a WPBR board member. Anyone expelled for this reason may not return to the WPBR fields or participate in any WPBR activity until the Board of Directors of Winter Park Youth Baseball, Inc. approves.

Any person who has been suspended or banned from league activities may petition, in writing, to the Board of Directors of Winter Park Babe Ruth for a review of the penalty. The petition should be delivered to the league President. The Board of Directors will meet as soon as reasonably possible to consider the petition. The aggrieved parties will have the opportunity at the meeting to present their appeal.

I have read and understand this WPBR Code of Conduct. I understand that failure to comply with this Code of Conduct will result in a review by the WPBR Board of Directors and the Board may assess disciplinary action. The penalties for infractions will generally be based on the nature of the infractions up to and including the revocation of coaching privileges for the current season. I agree that I will have an opportunity to be heard, but that all decisions by the WPBR Board of Directors are final.

Signature _____ Date _____

Name _____