

**Berlin Youth Baseball and Softball
Code of Conduct
Parent/Family Agreement**

It is the policy of Berlin Youth Baseball and Softball (BYBS) that its members shall conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike and positive manner when representing BYBS at games, tournaments, practices, and other related activities. BYBS members are defined as players, coaches, trainers, parents, guardians, and other BYBS supporters.

BYBS will not tolerate behavior which brings BYBS, a team, or a game into disrepute. BYBS believes the attitude shown by parents towards coaches, umpires, the opposition, as well as the proper perspective of the importance of winning versus losing, are of paramount importance. Inappropriate comments or actions by adults focused on short-term success rather than long range benefits of the youth undermines the essence of competition and introduces stresses which are inappropriate for children.

Parent/Family

Parents/Families will not approach any player, coach, other parent, or spectator of the opposing team, or umpire before, during, or after a game as any attempts to do so may be perceived to be threatening. Parents/Families are responsible for the behavior of any other family members or friends present at a BYBS event.

Parents/Families will not question the umpire's or the assistant umpire's judgement. The umpire is a symbol of fair play, integrity, and sportsmanship. Many officials are young adults learning how to umpire the game. Treat them with respect.

Parents/Families will treat coaches and BYBS umpires with respect even when they may disagree with decisions made by those individuals. **Comments or complaints should not be directed at coaches or umpires, they should be directed to the Berlin Youth Baseball & Softball Board.** Any attempt to contact a coach or umpire without going through the board will result in discipline.

Find current board members such as VP of Baseball , VP of Softball , President on the BYBS website

<https://www.berlinyouthsports.org/bybs-about>

Comments or complaints should be made in a respectful manner at a time and place that is appropriate for such discussion; a **mandatory waiting time of 24 hours and not to exceed 48 hours after the incident** is required to allow for better reflection and clearer heads for the discussion. Parents/Families need to understand both coaches and BYBS umpires are allowed to enjoy free-time away from baseball and softball discussions.

Parents/Families must model good sportsmanship. Keep the comments positive, remind other parents, if needed, and accept reminders from others if they occur. Social media posts are also a part of showing good sportsmanship . Please refrain from targeting specific coaches, umpires, players, or other parents in a negative way. Profanity, violence and abuse of any nature will not be tolerated. Derogatory language, including that directed at a person's race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, national origin or physical appearance, will not be tolerated.

Parents/Families will not "coach" from the sidelines. What you say to a player may be contrary to the wishes of the coach. This applies both in games and during practice.

Parents/Families and supporters will only sit in designated areas. The acceptable area is generally on the bleachers or outside the fence down the baselines, away from the team dugouts and away from behind home plate. Entering onto the field or into the dugout to discuss plays and calls is not permitted.

Parents/Families will emphasize skill development over winning. Parents/Families have an incredible influence over their children and demonstrate being a positive role model. Parents/Families will take time to help their kids practice their skills at home and set expectations for players to work hard and participate during practices & games.

Parents/Families will interact positively with other parents and supporters of the opposing team as well as their own team.

Parents/Families will support all players from their child's team and will be welcoming to all team families on and off the field. Do not gossip or criticize teams, other players, coaches, or umpires.

Parents/Families will encourage their child to have fun and enjoy their teammates and the competition. Be supportive, unconditionally! Accept wins, losses, and ties.

Parents/Families will commit to their child's attendance at practices, league games, and tournament games. Parents/Families should review the practice, game, and tournament schedules in advance. Unforeseen circumstances

may arise, and parents/families will agree to give advanced notice (as much as possible) due to medical or family situations.

Parents/Families will support their team and BYBS by volunteering their services when needed. Volunteers are the cornerstone of the success of Berlin Youth Baseball & Softball.

Parents/Families will agree to pay all BYBS fees at the time the fees are due, return all required forms and purchase BYBS uniforms by their due dates. Failure to do so will result in players being removed from participation.

By checking the box, I acknowledge I have read and understand the Code of Conduct for Berlin Youth Baseball and Softball. I agree to abide by these guidelines. I understand that if I do not follow this Code of Conduct, I (possibly including my child and supporters) will be asked to leave the BYBS activity (such as a game or practice), may result in my child getting suspended (for future activities), and/or may require me to withdraw my child from the program.

Parent Signature

Date