

# **WCBA Player and Coach Code of Conduct**

## **Bench and Field Conduct**

1. A coach, player, substitute, attendant or other bench personnel shall not:
  - a. Leave the dugout during a live ball for an unauthorized purpose;
  - b. Fake a tag without the ball;
  - c. Carelessly throw a bat;
  - d. Wear bandannas. Players, however, may wear most jewelry unless the jewelry worn is judged to potentially harm or injure the player or their opponent. Umpire discretion to remove potentially distracting/dangerous items from pitchers; for example: arm compression sleeves, sunglasses, etc.
  - e. Hit the ball to players on defense after the game has started;

### **PENALTY:**

At the end of playing action, the umpire shall issue a warning to the coach of the team involved and the next offender on that team shall be ejected.

### **Behavior:**

The following behavior from coaches or players will result in immediate ejection by the umpire from the current game, practice, or WCBA Baseball approved activity, as well as a mandatory suspension of the next full game and such other action as the WCBA Board deems appropriate. In addition, the following behavior by spectators or guests will result in immediate removal from the venue at the WCBA or Umpire discretion. The WCBA Board may take further action as they deem appropriate. If this

1. Arguing with umpires or other game officials;
2. Engaging in offensive behavior;
3. Unsportsmanlike conduct;
4. Abusive, harmful or unwarranted disruptions to the game;
5. Throwing bats, helmets, gloves, or other equipment in anger;
6. Using profane, obscene or vulgar language;
7. Verbal or nonverbal disrespect or bullying directed towards VFW Baseball, umpire, game official, league official, player, manager, coach or spectator.

### Further player, coach or spectator illegal actions:

1. Intentionally moving to a position to be hit in the head by a pitch
2. Initiate malicious contact on offense or defense;
3. Call "Time" or use any command or commit any act for the purpose of causing a balk;
4. Leave their positions or bench area during a fight or physical confrontation; or
5. Have physical contact, spit, kick dirt or engage in any other physical action directed toward an umpire.

### **PENALTY:**

The umpire shall eject the offender from the game. Umpire or WCBA Board Member will have the spectator removed from the venue. Failure to comply shall result in game being forfeited. In (2), the ball is immediately dead, if on offense, the player is ejected and declared out, unless he has already scored. If the defense commits the malicious contact, the player is ejected; the umpire shall rule either safe or out on the play and award the runner(s) the appropriate base(s) he felt they would have obtained if the malicious contact had not occurred. In (5), a coach who attempts to prevent a fight or restore order is not in violation of the rule. In (6), a player or coach consciously makes forceful physical contact with an umpiring official, that player or coach will be ejected for the remainder of that contest, as well as the following 3 games. The suspension may be reviewed and altered by the WCBA Board.

A coach who is ejected shall leave the vicinity of the playing area immediately and is prohibited from further contact, direct or indirect, with the team during the remainder of the game. He may return when requested to attend to an ill or injured player.

Players loosening up to bat shall remain in the area of their team's on-deck circle while the pitcher is warming up.

## **Use of Tobacco, Alcohol, Drugs, or School Suspension**

Participating in the following 5 areas or types of conduct, by coaches or players, at any time during the year shall constitute a violation of the Code of Conduct.

1. Use of or possession of chewing tobacco, smoking tobacco, or any nicotine delivery device.
2. Out-of-School Suspension for any reason
3. Use of or possession of or being Under the Influence of alcoholic beverages.
4. Use of or possession of or being Under the Influence of mood-altering substances not prescribed by a physician, or possession of drug paraphernalia.
5. A felony or misdemeanor (other than a minor traffic violation).

### **Penalty:**

Rules 1 and 2:

1. First Violation: Loss of eligibility for 2 events
2. Second Violation: Loss of eligibility for 4 events
3. Third Violation: Loss of eligibility for 12 calendar months
4. Fourth Violation: Permanent loss of eligibility

Rules 3 – 5:

1. First Violation: Loss of eligibility for 12 months
2. Second Violation: Loss of eligibility for 12 months
3. Third Violation: Permanent loss of eligibility

### **Exceptions:**

**Voluntary Admission:** The suspension period will be reduced by half upon the student's voluntary admission to violating the Code of Conduct. In cases where a student has been cited for a violation of law that also violates the standards of the Code of Conduct, or has been suspended from school, the reduced suspension is not an option.

**Guilty by Association:** A student guilty by association to any of the conducts listed above shall be subject to a meeting arranged with parents, administration, and school counselors. Additional "guilty by association" incidents are subject to further evaluation and enforcement of the West Central Penalties.

## **Coaches Code of Ethics**

The function of a coach is to educate players through participation in sports competition. Each player should be treated with the utmost respect and his or her welfare should be considered in decisions by the coach at all times. Accordingly, the following guidelines for coaches have been adopted WCBA.

1. The coach shall be aware that he or she has a tremendous influence, for either good or ill, on the education of the student and, thus, shall never place the value of winning above the value of instilling the highest ideals of character.
2. The coach shall uphold the honor and dignity of the profession. In all personal contact with officials, region coordinators, tournament directors, SD VFW Baseball administrators, the media and the public, the coach shall strive to set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct.
3. The coach shall take an active role in the prevention of drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse. The coach shall avoid the use of alcohol and tobacco products when in contact with players.
4. The coach shall master the contest rules and shall teach them to his or her team members.
5. The coach shall not seek an advantage by circumvention of the spirit or letter of the rules.
6. The coach shall exert his or her influence to enhance sportsmanship by spectators, both directly and by working closely with parents and administrators.
7. The coach shall respect and support game officials.
8. The coach shall not indulge in conduct which would incite players or spectators against the officials.
9. Public criticism of officials or players is unethical.
10. The coach should meet and exchange cordial greetings with the opposing coach to set the correct tone for the event before and after the contest.