



Airdrie Little League Coach Code of Conduct

Coaching Little League Baseball is a privilege that is not to be taken for granted. Coaches have an important role in the development of the young children in the community. Airdrie Little Leagues' goal is to teach each child the positive values of good sportsmanship, fair play and teamwork.– values they can use throughout their lives. Coaches set an example for Little Leaguers® by displaying the high level of sportsmanship that Little League expects of all its participants and respecting all players, coaches, umpires, and volunteers.

Keeping Players Safe

Coaches should have the safety of the players on their mind as their first priority at all times. Coaches should be familiar with the facilities and the fields on which their team practice and play, and be mindful of the levels of fitness and skill of each one of their players. Coaches should also be familiar with the rules of the game, current with principles of age-appropriate coaching, and aware of applicable existing rules and regulations.

Creating a Positive Experience

Coaches should make sure that all players and spectators adhere to the highest level of sportsmanship at all times. During a game, the coach is responsible for the sportsmanship of the players and the parents. Coaches should explain what is acceptable behavior to players and parents at a preseason meeting. Coaches should encourage parents to make positive comments about good play by either team and prohibit parents and spectators from yelling at players, coaches and umpires.

Relating to Officials

Coaches should demonstrate respect for any official and his/her role. Coaches can help umpires improve by letting them concentrate on the game, accepting their inevitable, occasional mistakes and offering constructive post-game comments.

As an Airdrie Little League coach, I WILL:

- Do my best to create a baseball experience that will be of enjoyment, while focusing on the development of the players' skills as well as striving for them to play to the best of their abilities all the times. I will be generous with praise when it is deserved.
- Avoid any conduct which could be construed as physically or emotionally abusive.
- Will completely refrain from verbal dissent during a game with an opposing coach's bench as well as the umpires.
- Recommend any extreme disciplinary action, such as a team dismissal to the league board for their actions. No coach shall dismiss a player or take extreme punitive action on his/her own.
- Check players' equipment and playing facilities frequently. They should meet safety standards and be appropriate for the age and ability of the players.
- Follow the advice of a physician when determining when an injured player is ready to play again. During a game, and in an absence of medical advice, coaches should err on the side of caution in permitting an injured player to return to play.
- Impress upon players and parents the importance of adhering to a high level of sportsmanship at all times and explain to them the possible consequences of failing to behave respectfully during practices and games.

- Introduce myself to the umpire and the opposing coach during the plate meeting. During the game, I will speak to the umpire respectfully. If I feel that the umpire is making repeated bad calls, I will calmly speak with the umpire one on one to share my concerns. I will not berate the umpires.
- Understand that small disagreements can be discussed with the umpire calmly after the game. **I will report** major complaints to my League Board.

Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs

I will refrain from using alcoholic beverages, smoking tobacco or marijuana, vaping or consuming any other drug or intoxicant on the diamond, in the dugouts, in the stands or in the vicinity of any players during games, practices or team meetings.

I understand that failure to abide by this Code of Conduct can cause me to be reported to the League Board for disciplinary action that may include my dismissal as coach of the team.

I pledge to follow this code of conduct.

Coach Name: _____

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____