## **Coaching Code of Conduct**

Coaches play a critical role in the personal as well as athletic development of their players. They must understand and respect the inherent power imbalance that exists in this relationship and must be extremely careful not to abuse it. Coaches must recognize that they are role models through which the values and goals of a sport organization are channeled. Thus how a player regards baseball is often dependent on the behaviour of the coach. The following Code of Conduct has been developed to aid coaches in achieving a level of behaviour which will allow them to assist their players in becoming well rounded and self confident individuals who will enjoy playing baseball to their full potential.

## **Coaching Responsibility**

- Treat everyone fairly within the context of their activity (regardless of place of origin, colour, religion, gender, economic status or ability).
- Direct constructive criticism at the performance rather than the player.
- Display high personal standards and project a favourable image of coaching.
  - a) Refrain from public criticism of fellow coaches, umpires, players and other program officials.
  - b) b) Abstain from the use of tobacco products while in the presence of players.
  - c) Abstain from drinking alcohol when working with players and at League sponsored events where players are present.
  - d) Refrain from the use of profanity, Insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language in the conduct of his/her duties.
- Ensure that the activity being undertaken is suitable for the age, experience, ability and fitness level of the players and educate the players as to their responsibilities in contributing to a safe environment.
- Consider the players' future health and well being as foremost when making decisions regarding an injured player's ability to continue playing or training.
- Treat opponents and officials with due respect both in victory and defeat and encourage players to act accordingly. Actively encourage players to uphold the rules of baseball and the spirit of such rules.
- Communicate and co-operate with the players and legal guardians. Encourage them to support and be involved with the team and/or program.
- Be aware of the academic pressures placed on student athletes and conduct practices and games in a manner so as to allow academic success.
- Abide by the guidelines of the Little League Safety Code (definition on Safety Code on page 2).
- Respect the dignity of players and all other program participants; verbal or physical behaviours that constitute harassment or abuse are unacceptable (definition of harassment on page 2).
- Abide by guidelines developed for your division as provided by the Co-ordinator.
- Player's physical and psychological well-being takes precedence over winning.

I have read and understand the above statements and agree to conduct myself in a manner that demonstrates the standards established in the Coaching Code of Conduct.

## Safety Code for Little League

- KLL has a designated League Safety Officer who can be reached for our league's policy regarding safety issues.
- Arrangements should be made in advance of all games and practices for an emergency medical service procedure.
- No games or practice can be held when weather or field conditions are not safe, or when lighting is inadequate.
- Playing area should be inspected frequently for proper base placement, holes, damage, glass and other foreign objects.
- Dugouts and bat racks should be positioned behind screens.
- Only players, managers, coaches and umpires are permitted on the playing field during play and practice sessions.
- Coaches to keep unused equipment and gear off the field of play.
- Procedure should be established for retrieving foul balls batted out of the playing area.
- During practice and games, all players should be alert and watching the batter on each pitch.
- During warm-up drills players should be spaced so that no one is endangered by wild throws or missed catches.
- Equipment should be inspected regularly and made sure it fits the player properly.
- Batters must wear protective NOCSAE helmets during practice, as well as during games.
- Catchers must wear a catcher's helmet, with neck protection, and long model chest protector during the game, this rule applies when catching for the pitcher during warming-ups (i.e.: between innings and in the bullpen).
- Except when a runner is returning to a base, head first slides are not permitted.
- During sliding practices bases should not be strapped down.
- At no time should "horse play" be permitted on the playing field or in the dugout.
- Parents of players who wear glasses should be encouraged to use "Safety Glasses".
- Players must not wear watches, rings, pins, jewelry or other metallic items (medic alert bracelet are permitted provided it is taped to the body).
- It is recommended that all players wear an athletic supporter.
- Dugouts to be cleared of garbage after games and practices.
- No metal spikes or metal cleated footwear permitted.

Only Little League approved bats are permitted during sanctioned games.