

STRATHMORE AND DISTRICT MINOR BASEBALL

CODE OF CONDUCT

***NOTE: THIS POLICY** refers to all categories of members of Strathmore and District Minor Baseball (SMBA), as well as to all individuals engaged in activities with SMBA, including, but not limited to, athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, directors, officers, team managers, team captains, administrators, and the Executive Council.*

Code of Conduct Categories:

1. SMBA Etiquette
2. Code of Conduct - SMBA Organization
3. Code of Conduct - SMBA Board Members
4. Code of Conduct - SMBA Players
5. Code of Conduct - SMBA Coaches
6. Code of Conduct - SMBA Parents

1. STRATHMORE AND DISTRICT MINOR BASEBALL ETIQUETTE

Strathmore and District Minor Baseball Association exists to foster and encourage the growth and enjoyment of the sport of baseball by teaching the value of sportsmanship, skills, commitment and competition. We seek to be regarded as leaders in player and coach development, resulting in increased confidence in athletes.

Our philosophy is that the tools we provide as the Strathmore and District Minor Baseball, our players will endeavour to take their baseball talents to whatever level of competition they choose. Although the sport of baseball is our focus youth athletics in general creates leaders in their schools and their community. Through proper guidance and exemplary leadership, the SMBA assists youth in developing the qualities of citizenship, discipline, teamwork and physical well-being. By espousing virtues of character, courage and loyalty, the SMBA is designed to develop superior citizens, as well as superior athletes.

2. STRATHMORE AND DISTRICT MINOR BASEBALL CODE OF CONDUCT

Strathmore and District Mino Baseball is committed to providing an environment in which all individuals are treated with respect. Furthermore, SMBA supports equal opportunity and prohibits discriminatory practices. Members are expected to conduct themselves at all times in a manner consistent with the values of SMBA. Members may be subject to sanctions according to SMBA's Discipline Policy for engaging in any of the following behavior:

- a. Not complying with the rules, regulations, or policies of SMBA, as adopted and amended from time to time;
- b. Not complying with any provisions of the applicable sections of the Code of Conduct,
- c. Deliberately disregarding the Rules of Baseball as amended from time to time,
- d. Verbally or physically abusing any players, officials, umpires, spectators, or sponsors

- e. Showing disrespect to officials, including the use of foul language and obscene or offensive gestures,
- f. Abusing playing equipment or playing area,
- g. Failing to comply with the conditions of entry of an event including any rules regarding eligibility or advertising,
- h. Failing to be available to meet reasonable requests for interviews by the media,
- i. Using tobacco products on-field at any SMBA sanctioned competition,
- j. Any other unreasonable conduct which brings the game into disrepute, including but not limited to, abusive use of alcohol, non-medical use of drugs, use of alcohol by minors.

The Strathmore and District Minor Baseball Code of Conduct shall govern all disciplinary matters to the extent that it conflicts with or augments Baseball Alberta.

3. STRATHMORE AND DISTRICT MINOR BASEBALL CODE OF CONDUCT – BOARD MEMBERS

As a Board Member of Strathmore and District Minor Baseball, I agree to:

- a. Listen and respect opinions of fellow Board Members,
- b. Maintain confidentiality of all internal Board discussions and any other discussions that occur as a representative of the SMBA Board,
- c. Respect and support majority decisions made by the Board,
- d. Participate in Board meetings and actions,
- e. Bring to the attention of the Board any issues that are felt to have an adverse effect on membership,
- f. Keep informed regarding developments that may come before the Board,
- g. Refer complaints to the proper chain of command,
- h. Represent all those that SMBA serves, not just a geographic area, age division, personal association, or interest group,
- i. Declare conflict of interest between individual positions and Board positions as required and abstain from voting when appropriate,
- j. Be loyal to the interests of the membership over and above any personal interests, interest groups or other board memberships,
- k. Demonstrate ethical and professional conduct at all times,
- l. Not to speak for the SMBA when interacting with any staff, public, press, or any other entities without authority granted by the Board,

- m. Be a trustee of the SMBA and ensure it is well maintained, financially secure, growing, and operating in the best interests of the membership.

4. STRATHMORE AND DISTRICT MINOR BASEBALL CODE OF CONDUCT- PLAYERS

As a player for the Strathmore and District Minor Baseball Association, I agree to:

1. Respect my manager and coaches.

The managers and coaches are volunteers who donate their time to our organization and my appreciation of their help should be reflected in all my actions on the playing field. It is my duty to listen to and follow the directions of my manager and coaches and to obey the rules set forth by the manager and coaches of the teams.

2. Respect my team members and other players.

I will not insult, criticize, or verbally abuse any other player. Such behavior does not promote but destroys team spirit and will not be tolerated by the Strathmore Minor Ball Association.

3. Never resort to physical threats or actions to rectify a situation.

Physical outbursts are unacceptable and will be dealt with using a zero-tolerance policy. Any occurrence will be immediately directed to the Executive Council.

4. Always display good sportsmanship.

As a representative of Strathmore and District Minor Baseball, it is my duty to reflect the characteristics of fair play at all times. I will display to others that competition is healthy and I will not lower the standards of the Strathmore and District Minor Baseball by engaging in unsportsmanlike conduct.

5. Be a contributor to Strathmore and District Minor Baseball.

I play baseball not only for my own personal pleasure and benefit, but for the benefit and as a representative of the Strathmore and District Minor Baseball. I will always give 100% to my team by doing the best job that I can.

6. Be proud to be a player for the Strathmore and District Minor Baseball and have FUN doing it!

5. STRATHMORE AND DISTRICT MINOR BASEBALL CODE OF CONDUCT- COACHES

Being a coach can have a very profound effect on the social, emotional, and physical development of an athlete of any age. Each player's experience on the baseball field, whether positive or negative may last their entire lifetime. The Strathmore and District Minor Baseball strives to assure that the coach/athlete relationship and learning environment is always a positive experience so that each player's unique development can be maximized. Above all an SMBA coach must exhibit the highest ethical and moral qualities while being a strong role model for each of the players he coaches. As a coach, you play an integral role in ensuring that these core values are met. Therefore, SMBA asks that you read, and abide by, the Fair Play Code set out below.

- a. I will be reasonable when scheduling games and practices remembering that the players on my team have other interests and obligations,
- b. I will teach the players on my team to play fairly and to respect the rules, the officials, their opponents and their team-mates,

- c. I will ensure all players on my team receive equal instruction, support and appropriate, fair playing time,
- d. I will not ridicule or yell at the players on my team for making mistakes or performing poorly,
- e. I will remember that children play to have fun and must be encouraged to have confidence in themselves,
- f. I will make sure that the equipment and facilities are safe and match the ages and abilities of the players on my team,
- g. I will remember that children need a coach they can respect. I will be generous with praise and will set a good example,
- h. I will obtain proper training and continue to upgrade my coaching skills,
- i. I will treat other coaches, players, umpires, and other officials with respect.

6. STRATHMORE AND DISTRICT MINOR BASEBALL CODE OF CONDUCT- PARENTS

In order to enjoy the season and to allow others to do the same, SMBA asks that parents please follow these guidelines:

- a. I will not force my child to participate in sports.
- b. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for youth, not adults.
- c. I will inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.
- d. I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the league.
- e. I (and my guests) will be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice, or other sporting event.
- f. I (and my guests) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as booing and taunting; refusing to shake hands; or using profane language or gestures.
- g. I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and wellbeing of the athletes.
- h. I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or
- i. I will demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials, and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex or ability.
- j. I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her performance.
- k. I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard, and make my child feel like a winner every time.

- l. I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- m. I will emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit my child over winning.
- n. I will also deemphasize games and competition in the lower age groups.
- o. I will promote the emotional and physical well-being of the athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have for my child to win.
- p. I will respect the officials and their authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront coaches at the game field, and will take time to speak with coaches at an agreed upon time and place.
- q. I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol and I will refrain from their use at all sports events.
- r. I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices, unless I am one of the official coaches of the team.

I also agree that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I will be subject to disciplinary action that could include, but is not limited to the following, **as per the SMBA Discipline Policy**:

- Verbal warning by official, head coach, and/or head of league organization.
- Written warning.
- Parental game suspension with written documentation of incident kept on file by organizations involved.
- Parental season suspension.

I have read and will abide by the rules and guidelines specified in the Code of Conduct.

Name

Signature

Date

Revision	Date	Summary of changes
1	Nov 12, 2023	Initial Document
2	Nov 20, 2023	Formatting (Payton)