



ST. JOE'S PONY BASEBALL

Code of Conduct

Part One: General Code of Conduct

The Board of Directors of St. Joe's Park Pony Baseball has enacted a code of conduct that will apply to each age division of our league.

The purpose of this code is to ensure that every player at every age level has the opportunity to compete in an environment of good sportsmanship, with positive support from all coaches, officials, other players and all spectators in attendance. The Board will insist on upholding and maintaining the highest integrity, free of the effects of irresponsible conduct by coaches, athletes, parents, spectators, and officials.

While the league encourages instruction, so as to help player's skill levels to improve, winning and the pressure that mounts as a result from those efforts will not be the primary focus of the league. Instead, the focus of the league is to build character among our players. The league model for character building is that our coaches, athletes, officials, and parents/spectators behave in a way that teaches and exemplifies good behavior and sets a positive example for our kids. Everything you say and do should be consistent with the Six Pillars of Character consisting of: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship.

Expectations of Managers, Coaches, Players and Spectators

Managers, Coaches and Parents are expected to:

- 1) be open and understanding,
- 2) show patience,
- 3) have the capacity and willingness to work with young players,
- 4) be reasonable in their demands on the players and remember that the game is for them, and
- 5) emphasize good sportsmanship at all times.

The Manager, Coaches and Parents must help their players understand that winning is secondary and giving their best effort is primary. When a Manager/Coach is focusing on the effort a player puts forth, it will make the player more confident with their abilities.

St. Joe's Park Pony Baseball will not tolerate unsportsmanlike conduct within any of our divisions. Board members, managers/coaches, players, parents and spectators are expected to conduct themselves as positive role models within the community. Managers and coaches are to recognize that they hold positions of trust and responsibility.

Managers, Coaches, Players, Parents and Spectators will:

- 1) Show good sportsmanship at all times
- 2) Not use abusive language or swear
- 3) Not ridicule or harass umpires or allow coaches, parents or players to do so
- 4) Not throw or kick equipment or other items

While baseball "chatter" is sometimes used during a game, loud obnoxious noises or screaming with the intent to rattle the opposing pitcher is prohibited. Intentional distractions, such as banging or rattling dugout fences will not be tolerated. After each game, in the spirit of good sportsmanship, all managers, coaches and players shall form two opposing lines and proceed through a traditional, orderly "handshake line". No coach or player shall avoid participation in this line or exhibit unsportsmanlike conduct in the line.

Part Two: Managers/Coaches Code of Conduct

As a manager or coach of a St. Joe's Park Pony Baseball team, I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care, and encouragement for each child participating by following this Code of Conduct:

- 1) I will demonstrate the St. Joe's Park Pony Baseball Six Pillars of Character, at all times, during practice, games and meetings, comprising good character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship.
- 2) I will never use profanity or be crude in front of players or parents.
- 3) I will never verbally criticize, intimidate or physically abuse any player or official.
- 4) I will maintain open lines of communication with my player's parents.
- 5) I understand that managers and coaches are responsible for controlling the action of their players and parents so they do not verbally or physically abuse other players, parents, or officials.
- 6) I understand that managers and coaches must provide an environment free of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, and weapons of any kind.
- 7) I will endeavor to place the emotional and physical well being of my players ahead of my desire to win.
- 8) I will endeavor to set a good example and be generous with my praise when it is deserved.
- 9) I will not jeopardize a player's health by allowing him/her to enter or re-enter a game once he/she is injured. I will always be alert for any signs that would indicate a safety hazard.
- 10) I will follow the advice of a physician when determining when an injured child is ready to play again.
- 11) I will ensure that activities serve as a foundation for life learning and are structured to help the athlete achieve their potential in spirit, mind and body.

Part Three: Parents' Code of Conduct

As a parent of a St. Joe's Park Pony Baseball player, I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care, and encouragement for my child participating by following this Code of Conduct:

- 1) I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice or other youth sports event.
- 2) I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my child ahead of any personal desire to win.
- 3) I will insist that my child plays in a safe and healthy environment.
- 4) I will provide support for coaches and officials working with my child to provide a positive, enjoyable experience for all.
- 5) I will demand a drug, weapon, tobacco, and alcohol-free sports environment for my child and agree to assist by refraining from their use at all youth sports events.
- 6) I will remember that the game is for the children and not for the adults.
- 7) I will do my very best to make youth sports fun for my child.
- 8) I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans, and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed, or ability.
- 9) I will promise to help my child enjoy the youth sports experience within my personal constraints by assisting with coaching, being a respectful fan, providing transportation or whatever I am capable of doing.

Attest:

I also understand and accept that appropriate behavior of coaches, players, parents and fans is to be expected. I also understand that ALL coaches, players, and parents are REQUIRED to agree to the above "Code of Conduct." Inappropriate behavior as determined by the Board of Directors is grounds for censure, suspension or expulsion from the league and/or ballpark based on the leagues zero tolerance policy.

In addition to the above, I also understand that each player must participate in any and all fundraising activities and that I am monetarily responsible for fulfilling this obligation. Failure to do so may result in my child becoming ineligible to participate in any and all league activities.

Finally, I understand that the registration fee and any other fees associated with this league are nonrefundable after the first game of the current season begins.

Enacted:10/27/2014 Modified: 10/01/17

St. Joe's Pony Baseball Board of Directors