

Hopkins Minnetonka Babe Ruth

- Codes of Conduct -

A. Coaches' Code of Conduct

Responsibilities to Players and Parents

1. A coach's responsibility is to the health and safety of all participants. The coach never must place the value of winning over the safety and welfare of players.
2. A coach should develop the players' appreciation for the game. Coaches should strive to create a fun atmosphere, to encourage players, and to provide positive feedback.
3. Travel and Tournament Team coaches should focus on team development, and work with the expectation that all 12 players will be needed for a successful team. Over the course of a season, each player should have an equal opportunity to participate and contribute. Designation of "role players" is not consistent with HMBR values. While this expectation applies to general team management over the course of a season, coaches may make exceptions to reflect participation or discipline issues, and for specific games such as finals play in tournaments.
4. Travel and Tournament Team coaches are encouraged to use fact-based decisions when managing the team, and to keep game and player statistics. Coaches should use discretion with resulting player statistics, and should not make individual player metrics available in a public fashion.
5. A coach should know and understand the rules of baseball, and instruct players to play within the rules and the spirit of the game at all times.
6. A coach should be a positive role model and set the standard for sportsmanship.
7. A coach should keep sport in proper perspective with the players' academic education.
8. A coach should continue his education in the sport in order to be able to educate the players in technical, tactical, physical and psychological demands of the game for their level of play.
9. A coach should supervise and control his players to avoid or lessen the risk of injuries. Players should be directed to seek proper medical attention for injuries and to follow the physician's instructions regarding treatment and recovery. A coach must not put a player at risk by returning from injury prematurely, or by being forced to play while injured. A coach must never authorize or encourage the use of medicinal or performance enhancing substances.
10. A coach is responsible to manage the team's activities, to enlist other parents to help support the team as needed.
11. Alcoholic beverages should not be consumed prior to a game or practice. Please use proper discretion with post-game/practice activity.
12. Tobacco products may not be used at games or practices.

Responsibilities to Hopkins Minnetonka Babe Ruth

1. Coaches, including Travel and Tournament Team Coaches, represent HMBR and should be ambassadors for the league. They should work in a spirit of cooperation with HMBR officials, coaches, spectators, and players. Coaches should focus first on HMBR and then on their specific team interests. Coaches should not engage in activities detrimental to the interests and operations of HMBR.

2. A coach should know and follow the rules and guidelines set forth by the Babe Ruth League.
3. A coach should contact the appropriate HMBR league official to resolve a conflict with another coach.
4. A coach must complete and submit annually a HMBR background check and consent form.

Responsibilities for the Rules of Baseball

1. A coach should know the rules of the baseball, the Babe Ruth modifications, their intent, interpretation and correct application.
2. A coach must adhere to the letter and spirit of the rules of baseball.
3. A coach must not permit, encourage, or condone player performance that is not within the letter or spirit of the rules of baseball

Responsibilities to Umpires

1. Umpires must have the support of coaches, players, and spectators. Criticism of umpires undermines their purpose in the game.
2. Umpires should be treated with respect before, during, and after the game. Professional respect should be mutual, and there should be no demeaning dialogue or gesturing between umpire, coach and player.
3. Comments regarding an umpire should be made in writing to the HMBR League Coordinator.

Responsibility to Community

1. A coach has a responsibility to promote the game of baseball in the community. Comments and critiques of governing bodies, teams, coaches, players, and parents should be positive and constructive, not prejudicial or inflammatory.
2. A coach has the responsibility to assist his or her players in conducting themselves properly while representing their team, club or league in public.
3. Comments blaming officials, organizers, players, etc. for a loss or unsuccessful endeavor are detrimental and should be avoided.

Game Day and Other Responsibilities

1. A coach's behavior must bring credit to his or her team, club and the sport of baseball.
2. A coach shall exhibit a respectful attitude toward all players, officials, spectators, and other coaches. Verbal abuse or physical assault is unethical, and shall be punishable by suspension or removal from the program.
3. A coach should use his or her influence to control the behavior of the players, parents, and other spectators.

B. Parent Code of Conduct

1. To ensure that players arrive on time for training sessions and games.
2. To inform the coaches, in advance, if your child cannot attend training or a game.
3. To be enthusiastic, yet not critical.
4. To encourage your child and team, but not insult or discourage the opposition.
5. To acknowledge the good play of both teams.
6. To support, and not criticize the coach. If you have any issue with the coach, discuss the matter privately with the coach, or with the appropriate HMBR official. Both you and the coach may benefit from period of reflection following a game before taking up the matter.
7. To refrain from coaching your child or the team; this is the coach's responsibility.
8. To assist the coach where appropriate, and only with the coach's consent.
9. To refrain from open criticism of the umpire or other game officials, and of the opposing players or coaches. Your conduct in this regard will serve as a powerful example to your child and the other players. If you have an issue with the conduct of the Umpire or of the opposing players or coaches, speak privately with your team's head coach, and allow him or her to address the matter in the proper forum.
10. To be positive about the sport, and not allow winning or losing to color your attitude.
11. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted at games or practices.
12. Tobacco products are not permitted at games or practices.

C. Player Code of Conduct

1. To show up for practices and games in the proper uniform and equipment.
2. To get to practices and games on time.
3. To perform to the extent of your potential, according to your expectations and standards. You should have fun, work hard, and become the best player you can.
4. To show proper respect to your coaches and teammates.
5. To show proper respect to umpires and opposing players, coaches and their spectators. Your conduct on and off of the field should reflect positively on you, your team and the HMBR.
6. To assist with field preparation and clean up as requested by coaches and officials.
7. Use of tobacco products in ANY setting is strictly prohibited.
8. Use of alcoholic beverages in ANY setting is strictly prohibited.
9. Use of illegal drugs in ANY setting is strictly prohibited.

Important: Violations may result in player suspension or dismissal.