

PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

I understand that travel baseball is a competitive sport and **there are no guarantees as to the amount of playing time or position that my child will play in games.** Every effort will be made to be as fair as possible. I am aware that the team has limited membership, and as such that my child's participation is crucial in maintaining the high standards of play the team is working to attain.

The objective of Green Mountain Lightning is to provide your child with a wholesome atmosphere in which to engage in a healthy athletic competition.

Another goal of Green Mountain Lightning is to build character in our young adults. Because of the excitement and high emotion of some of our games, guidelines regarding what the organization expects from parents and their children appear in this agreement and the player's code of conduct.

The essential elements of character building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and good citizenship.

Please know that cheering, excitement and exuberance is encouraged, but please be careful and always express this in a positive manner. Even when being vocal in an attempt to help a child, you should avoid acting or saying anything that is demeaning to your child or someone else's.

By signing this agreement you understand you are not by yourself in a vacuum when things are said and done at games. Your child, the players and parents from both teams observe and hear everything that is said and done. Parent's poor or over-the-top behavior will ruin the experience for others.

Parents are welcome to attend practice and help if the coaches request it. However, **During Games, only the coaches will be allowed in the dugout and/or the bench.**

The organization will not tolerate any behavior on the playing field or in the stands which hinder the spirit of sportsmanship and cooperation that we are trying to encourage.

1. **DO NOT COACH YOUR CHILD FROM THE STANDS.** The coach and player on the field probably have specific signs, or prearranged scenarios to ask a player to do something. Do not interfere with that Coach's instruction.
2. Abusive and foul language will not be tolerated.
3. Conduct of any guests of parents is the responsibility of the parent/guardian whose child will participate on the team.
4. This is a travel program and I will do my part to have my player attend all practices, tournaments, games, scrimmages and fundraisers at the designated time.
5. **Remember,** the manager and coaches are all volunteers. Please think twice before saying something critical.

6. I will make sure my child remains in the dugout/bench when they are not in the game, and to cheer on their teammates.
7. I will remember that children participate in sports to have fun and that the game is for the kids, not adults.
8. I will inform the coaches of an ailment, injury of physical disability that may affect the safety of the child or others.
9. I will not openly complain about or, bring up, team issues or my displeasure about other players in front of my child, other players or team parents.
10. I will respect the umpires, coaches and other parents and will not confront, hit, strike, assault, offensively touch, taunt, verbally harass, threaten, or degrade them. I will take time to speak with the coaches at an agreed time or place.
11. I will not engage in any conduct that would be considered unbecoming, unsportsmanlike, or offensive, including but not limited to, spitting, throwing equipment or other objects, offensive and/or threatening gestures.
12. I will teach my child to play by the rules and to understand the concept of what it means to be a team player.
13. I will not yell at, criticize, or ridicule my child or any participant for making a mistake or losing a competition.
14. I will immediately leave the facilities I am ejected and told to leave the area of the game and surrounding area. If not, I will be responsible for the team forfeiture and my child will be removed from the team.
15. I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility, verbal abuse, or violence.
16. No alcohol or drug use is allowed at any games, scrimmage or practice.
17. I will not use technology/social media to verbally abuse coaches, other players, parents or umpires.
18. It is understood that I may withdraw my child from the team at any time upon written notice to the head coach. No fees will be refunded. Any equipment, if required, must be returned to the organization upon request.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____