

PIRATE BASEBALL CLUB CODE OF CONDUCT

As a parent, you play a special role in the development of your daughter or son, and of his/her teammates. Your encouragement and examples ensure good sportsmanship and self-discipline more than any other influence. The opponent is not the enemy and should be treated with respect. While winning is important, playing well and fairly is the essence of the game.

SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

Support your child by giving encouragement and showing interest in his/her team. Help your child work toward skill improvement and good sportsmanship in every game. Teach your child that hard work and an honest effort are often more important than victory.

BE SUPPORTIVE AND YOUR CHILD'S BIGGEST CHEERLEADER

Children learn more by example than by criticism. Work to be a positive role model and reinforce positive behavior in others. Applaud good plays by others on your child's team as well as good plays by the opposing team. Do not criticize any child's performance from the sidelines. Accept the results of each game. Teach your child to be gracious in victory and to turn defeat into victory by learning and working toward improvement.

DON'T BE A SIDELINE COACH OR UMPIRE

Refrain from coaching or umpiring from the sidelines. Parents who shout/scream from sidelines often give inappropriate advice at the wrong time. The coach should be the only sideline voice. You and your child will both enjoy the game more if you put some emotional distance between yourself and the field or play. Umpires are symbols of fair play, integrity and sportsmanship - Do not openly question their judgment or honesty.

DEMONSTRATE A POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD YOUR OPPONENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Opponents are not enemies. Take care to show good hospitality at home and to represent Pirate Baseball Club in a positive way when playing other clubs. Never allow yourself to be drawn into a verbal disagreement with opposing parents or coaches. No one has ever regretted letting "cooler heads prevail."

REMEMBER THAT YOUR CHILD WANTS TO HAVE FUN

Your child is the one playing baseball, not you. Children must establish their own goals - to play the game for themselves. Take care not to impose unreasonable demands on your child. Let your children experience the fun of playing as well as the challenge of excelling.

VIOLATIONS OF THE PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Violations of the Parent Code of Conduct may result in:

- A Parent suspended or removed from a game for misconduct.
- A Coach being suspended or removed from a game for a misconduct.
- A Player benched by the coach for parent misconduct before, during, or after a game.
- A Member or Family could be released from the Club.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

Parent Violations

Parents who do not follow the Code of Ethics will be subject to corrective action. It is the philosophy of the Pirate Baseball Club and its Membership that parents shall not spoil the experience of participation in youth sports for the children. The following guidelines have been established for addressing problems with parents/spectators. Note: These guidelines are not absolute in dealing with behavioral problems. Severe situations could warrant harsher sanctions.

1. Verbal Warning: League administrator/coach will discuss the undesirable conduct with parents and stress that this behavior will not be tolerated. Coach will document conversation and submit to Admin.
2. Written Warning: League administrator, coach, or umpire will notify the Pirate Baseball Club of continued breach of Code of Ethics and Parent Membership Organization will arrange a meeting with the parents. A formal letter of reprimand will be given to the parent stating that the next offense could lead to a suspension or ban.
3. Game Suspension: Letter will be drafted by Admin explaining that the parent will be banned from attending the team's next game. The next offense could result in a season-long suspension.
4. Season Long Suspension: The parent will be banned from attending any future league contests. The parent will remain on suspension until a formal request for re-instatement is made. The Pirate Baseball Club Administration & Membership Leadership will review the re-instatement request and determine if the suspension will be lifted.

Athlete Violations

Players who fail to adhere to the Code of Conduct may be subject to disciplinary action. Therefore, Pirate Baseball Club has instituted a Corrective Action Policy to establish appropriate consequences for inappropriate behavior. Note: These guidelines are not absolute in dealing with problems. Severe situations could warrant harsher sanctions.

1. Verbal Warning: Coach will discuss inappropriate conduct with the player and parents and emphasize that this behavior will not be tolerated. Coach will document this discussion and provide a copy to Membership Admin.
2. Period Suspension: Coach will bench offending player for a period of time during a game when he/she should be playing. Coach will inform Membership Admin as to why the child is sitting out playing time.
3. Game Suspension: Coach will bench the offending player for one entire game when he/she should be playing. Coach will inform the Pirate Baseball Club of the 3rd offense, at which time the player and the parent must attend a meeting the coach and Membership Admin representative before the player is allowed to resume playing. The player will be warned that the next offense could result in his/her expulsion from the club.

4. Club Expulsion: The participant on the 4th offense may be expelled from the league and no refund will be given. The parent will need to make a formal request to be re-instated into this club. The player and parent will next meet with Membership Admin prior to the start of the next season to determine if the child is capable of playing within the guidelines of the program.