

# **Northwest Arkansas Little League**

## **COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT**

The role of a coach is to ensure a positive baseball experience for all players regardless of ability. The impact that a coach can have on a player's development as an individual is significant. The ball field offers a place to develop both as an athlete and individual, and a player will carry the lessons learned on that field throughout life. Each player should be treated with the utmost respect, and his or her welfare should be always considered in decisions by the manager/coach.

Thank you for your willingness to volunteer as a coach. You are the face of Northwest Arkansas Little League. Accordingly, the following Coaches Code of Conduct has been adopted by the NWARLL Board of Directors. By signing below, you agree to all terms set forth therein.

### **CONDUCT AND ETHICS**

- I will be a positive role model for all players and demonstrate fair play and sportsmanship to all my players.
- I will act professionally and take responsibility for my actions.
- I am aware that I have a tremendous influence on the players I coach and thus, will never place the value of winning above the value of instilling the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, integrity, and respect for others.
- I will remember that I am a youth sports coach, and the game is for children and not adults.
- I will strive to enhance the sportsmanship exhibited by my coaches, players, parents, and those associated with my team with special emphasis on respecting the rights, dignity and worth of athletes, coaches, other volunteers, friends, and spectators.
- I will respect and support umpires. I will not indulge in conduct which would incite players or spectators against umpires.
- I will ensure my language, manner, punctuality, preparation, and presentation demonstrate high standards of NWARLL.
- I will treat everyone equally regardless of sex, race, ethnic origin, religion, disability, or ability.

### **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

- I understand that I am responsible for helping to ensure that the health, well-being, and development of athletes takes precedence over a win/loss record.

- I will adhere to all pitch count rules and in the absence of rules act in the best interest of player health and physical well-being regardless of situation.
- I will provide a physically and emotionally safe environment for practices and competition.
- I will exhibit sound injury and risk management practices and will encourage players to seek medical advice when required.
- I will provide a sports environment for my team that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and I will refrain from their use at all youth sports events.
- I will ensure that all equipment is safe and ready for play.

### **MANAGING / COACHING**

- I will treat each player as an individual, remembering the potentially significant range of emotional and physical development within the same age group.
- I will be fair, considerate, and honest with players and communicate with them using simple, clear language.
- I will communicate regularly with my players' parents/guardians during the season.
- I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all my players.
- I will use those coaching techniques appropriate for all the skills that I teach.
- I will be knowledgeable about the rules of Little League and NWARLL and I will teach and explain these rules to my players.
- I will remain fair and impartial during player evaluations and help select the best team to represent NWARLL in district and other tournaments as appropriate.
- I will not actively recruit players from NWARLL with the intent of having them leave NWARLL to play elsewhere.
- After due process, should I be asked by the NWARLL to step down as a coach I will do so willingly and without incident.

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Manager/Coach Name (Print) Date

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Manager/Coach Signature