

VERNON BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

COACH'S CODE OF CONDUCT

The player/coach relationship is a privileged one. **Coaches** play a critical role in the personal as well as the athletic development of their players. They must understand and respect the inherent power imbalance that exists in this relationship and must be extremely careful not to abuse it. **Coaches** must also recognize that they are conduits through which the values and goals of the Vernon Baseball Association are channeled. Thus how a player regards playing baseball is often dependent on the behavior of the coach.

A **coach** must not exploit this privileged relationship with players for personal, ideological, material or other advantage.

Coaches are responsible for their own behavior as well as that of their players. This **Code of Conduct** has been developed to aid coaches in achieving a level of behavior that will allow them to assist their players in becoming well-rounded, self-confident and productive citizens.

As a coach in the VERNON BASEBALL ASSOCIATION I promise to:

1. Review the relevant VBA Codes of Conduct with both the players and parents of my team. I will demand that my players and/or assistant coaches and parents respect and abide by all relevant VBA Codes of Conduct.
2. Ensure that all players and assistant coaches are knowledgeable in all rules and regulations pertaining to the baseball league in which my team will be playing.
3. Place the emotional and physical well-being of my players and game officials ahead of any personal desire to win.
4. Remember that I am a youth coach and the game is for the benefit and development of the children.
5. Always keep the players best interest at heart and will do my best to teach them, through a positive attitude & fair play; the skills of baseball and sportsmanship.
6. Be fair and just and not criticize players publicly. I will treat each player with respect and as an individual.
7. Treat every player and game official with respect & dignity.
8. Praise and encourage all of my players.
9. Always strive to maximize the individual potential of each player, while respecting each player's level of commitment, and to provide an equal opportunity to all players.
10. Develop a team spirit and encourage each player to support one another.
11. Respect games officials, and encourage each player to support and respect the game officials.

12. Do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all players.
13. Use coaching techniques appropriate for each of the baseball skills I teach.
14. Not use profanity at any time during practices and or games.
15. Provide a drug, alcohol and smoke-free sports environment for our children and all children participating in the sport of baseball. Do my best to create and maintain an enjoyable atmosphere for players, game officials and parents.
16. Not condone bullying of any team member. I also commit to take the appropriate action to resolve any instances of such behavior in a fair, consistent, and timely manner.
17. ALWAYS put the children's safety, care and feelings ahead of my own.
18. Do my best to provide a safe and secure facility.
19. Review and practice the necessary first aid principles needed to treat injuries of my players.
20. If I observe any violations of this Code of Conduct by other coaches or those to be followed by either Parents or Players, I will abide by and adhere to the VBA Conflict Resolution Policy in dealing with the matter of concern, if necessary. (Please refer the www.vernonbaseball.com for this Policy)

Please note that it is important that you have read and understand this VBA Code of Conduct as described above. Any failure on your behalf to comply with the above may result in a temporary or permanent removal from all VBA sponsored activities and negation of my coaching privileges.