

Alliance Hot Stove Baseball League

Manager/Coach Code of Conduct

2020 Season

Coaching a youth sport program such as Hot Stove League baseball is a privilege that is not to be taken for granted. As a Manager or coach, you have an important role in the development of the young children in our community. We strive to teach each child the positive values of trust, good sportsmanship, good citizenship, responsibility, respect, fair play and teamwork – **values they can use throughout their lives**. Baseball embodies the discipline of teamwork. Baseball challenges the players' physical skills and brings into play the excitement of tactics and strategy. The very nature of baseball also teaches that, while every player eventually strikes out, or is on a losing team, there is always another chance for success in the next at-bat or game. With these ideals in mind, the Alliance Hot Stove Baseball League (AHSBL) expects each manager and coach to adhere to the following Code of Conduct:

Sportsmanship

- 1) I will promote good sportsmanship, teach good baseball skills, and have fun in the process.
- 2) I realize, accept, and will practice the principle that a team's reputation is built not only on its playing ability, but also on its sportsmanship, courtesy, and manner.
- 3) I understand verbal abuse of an official, coach, player, or spectator, including obscene gestures, will not be tolerated and that the offender may be removed from the fields at the discretion of an umpire or AHSBL board member.
- 4) I understand coaches will refrain from complaining about perceived bad calls to players and fans.
- 5) I understand all discussions will be held in conversational tones. Under no circumstances will a coach, fan, or player yell at an umpire, coach, fan, or player. The lone exception to this rule is when a coach or player shouts to another coach or teammate during the course of a play as part of that play.
- 6) I understand profanity is expressly forbidden at all times.
- 7) I understand alcoholic beverages and the use of illicit drugs are prohibited at all AHSBL games, including games outside the AHSBL jurisdiction.
- 8) I understand the use of tobacco products on the fields and in the dugouts is prohibited.

Rules and Policies

- 1) I will know and understand the state rules (Ohio Hot Stove League) and, as applicable, local (AHSBL) rules and abide by them. I will instruct my team members in the rules and coach my team in such a way as to motivate each player to compete according to the rules at all times.
 - a. For T-ball league managers/coaches, I will understand the local (AHSBL) league participation rules for my division.
- 2) I will fully comply with the separate Code of Conduct (for parents) completed at registration.

The Umpires

- 1) I recognize baseball is a game of interpretations, and as a result, disputes will occur from time to time. However, it is important that players learn respect. All disputes that are taken up with the umpire will be handled in a civil manner. I understand only managers may initiate such discussions with an umpire. The managers/coaches will conduct themselves with professionalism and once the umpire has made his/her final ruling, the managers will make no further comments about the situation during the game. Any protests must be done in accordance with Ohio Hot Stove League rules. Complaints regarding a situation will be only accepted by AHSBL Board of Directors according to league policy guidelines.
- 2) I understand that most of the umpires are “in training” as well as the players. I recognize that all umpires will make mistakes occasionally, and as manager/coach, I will give the umpires the respect that their position within the game deserves.

Care of Equipment, Fields, etc.

- 1) I will be responsible for the proper care of equipment as provided by AHSBL, and will treat fields and dugouts/facilities as if they were my own – insuring that my team cleans up dugouts after games.
- 2) I will make sure that all league-provided equipment is clean and accounted for when returned after the season.

The Parents and the League

- 1) I will maintain an open line of communication with players and their parents. I will be approachable. When approached by a parent to discuss any issue, I will interact and respond in a courteous manner.
- 2) I will ensure that fans of the team conduct themselves with sportsmanship and maturity at all times while in attendance at game sites and will assist the officials in maintaining control of spectators during games. Players, managers, and coaches of participating teams may not address or mingle with spectators, nor sit in the stands during a game in which they are engaged.
- 3) **I will make sure that rostered coaches and players are the ONLY persons allowed in the dugout or on the field during a game.**

The Team

- 1) I will conduct practices in an organized manner, with a planned agenda that focuses on specific skill development appropriate for the skill level of the players.
- 2) I will focus on providing instruction commensurate with players abilities so all players have the opportunity to advance their skills towards their full potential, gain confidence, and develop self- esteem, as well as establish a solid foundation for further baseball competition.
- 3) I will teach each player, especially through personal example, to be humble and generous in victory and proud and courteous in defeat.
- 4) I understand that managers are appointed by the AHSBL to be responsible for the team’s actions on the field and to represent the team in communications with the umpires, opposing teams, and league. If a manager leaves the field or cannot be in attendance, he shall designate a coach as a substitute who will then be responsible and held accountable for the manager’s duties.
- 5) I understand that participation in the Ohio Hot Stove League tournament at the end of the regular season is expected. I understand that the players on my team deserve the opportunity to participate in the Ohio Hot Stove League tournament. This does NOT apply to T-ball teams.

Non-Game Duties of Managers

Each Manager has duties outside of coordinating practice and managing the games. Accordingly, as a Manager, I will also adhere to the following expectations:

- 1) I will maintain open communication with players and parents to inform them of practices, games and other responsibilities in a timely and efficient manner.
- 2) I will attend all required meetings (AHSBL) unless I am out of town or have a significant previously made commitment. If I cannot attend, I will ensure that one of my assistant coaches attends on my behalf.
- 3) I understand that I am the point of contact between my team and other teams and AHSBL officials. I understand that I am the person that is responsible for my team. I will take my obligations seriously and communicate effectively and in a courteous manner.

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I, the undersigned, agree to follow the Manager/Coach Code of Conduct and comply with all AHSBL and Ohio Hot Stove League rules, policies, and procedures. I understand the violation of the Code will not be tolerated and that violations will subject me to disciplinary action in accordance with the AHSBL By-laws and/or Ohio Hot Stove League rules, and could include a warning, game(s) suspension or season suspension, as well as impact my opportunity to manage or coach in future seasons. I understand that if I am suspended I will not be permitted to attend any league functions (practices, games, etc.).

_____ Signature
_____ Name (printed)
_____ Title (i.e. Manager or coach)
_____ Date

This page is to be returned to the President of the Alliance Hot Stove Baseball League.