



Kingston Cal Ripken League Code of Conduct



The Board of Directors of Kingston Cal Ripken has mandated the following Code of Conduct for all managers, coaches, parents and players.

Managers & Coaches

Managers and coaches are the primary behavior role models in our league. They are expected to treat all players, umpires, parents and fans, including all opposing team personnel, with courtesy and respect at all times. This includes:

- providing positive encouragement to all players.
- maintaining a calm demeanor on the field, while not letting emotions boil over.
- respecting umpires calls, and avoiding confrontations or disputes over calls or rules interpretations. Never aggressively approach or strike an umpire and avoid negative comments or criticism during the game.
- avoid foul or abusive language near players at all times.

All managers, coaches are expected to emphasize fun, teach skill development and offer all players a general knowledge of the game of baseball.

Parents

All parents must be reminded that the Kingston Cal Ripken league is a recreational youth sports league. Unlike a professional sports game where yelling at players and criticizing umpires is perceived as normal, this type of behavior is not acceptable at any youth baseball game.

Any parent who crosses the line with negative, abusive or foul language towards any coach, parent or umpire is subject to immediate removal from the premises.

Any parent who creates an uncomfortable environment around the field may also be asked to leave the premises. Failure to do so could result in the use of higher local authorities.

Instead, always encourage your child and nourish their dreams, not your own. You can do this by:

- emphasizing fun
- remind your child the importance of good sportsmanship and being a good teammate.
- offer feedback to your child after the game and not during the game, when managers and coaches are teaching the game.

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Players

All players will be taught by their managers and coaches the importance of good sportsmanship and how to act as a youth athlete in the game of baseball. Managers and coaches should warn all of their players on the consequences for poor sportsmanship and enforce disciplinary action when these situations arise.

Player behavior issues include, but are not limited to:

- throwing any object, including bat or helmet, in frustration to any call or play during the game.
- using foul or inappropriate language or making any gesture that would be seen as disrespectful during the game.
- talking back to any manager, coach or umpire during the game.
- failure to line up for hand shake after the completion of any game.

Consequences

All managers and coaches are required to discuss the code of conduct with their players and parents and enforce positive behavior at all times.

Any player who's conduct or behavior violates the leagues code of conduct, beyond their initial warning, is subject to a 1-game suspension. A second offense is subject to a 2-game suspension and a third offense up to the remainder of the season.

Managers and coaches should also warn parents and spectators regarding any behavior issues that take place outside of the fence, including use of foul language of and conduct that is detrimental to the youth athletes on the field. After one warning, the parent will be asked to leave the premises.

Any parent that continually demonstrates poor behavior as recognized by a manager or coach will be made aware to the Board of Directors in which further disciplinary action will occur, with the assistance of the Kingston Police Department (if necessary).

Any manager or coach who's conduct is viewed as detrimental to the players, parents or umpires is subject to suspension as determined by the Board of Directors.

Remember: Bad experiences with youth sports at an early age can impact a child's willingness to continue their participation. Work together with everyone in the league to make this experience one they will enjoy and remember.