

# Flemington Raritan Baseball

## COACH CODE OF CONDUCT

### PREAMBLE

The essential elements of character-building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship. The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these six pillars of character.

I therefore agree:

1. I understand that I am representing my team and Flemington Raritan Baseball and will act accordingly at all times.
2. I understand that coaching is a position of trust. Therefore, I will be a positive role model for my players and will maintain my personal integrity and dignity at all times.
3. I will always remember that my players are involved in the sport of baseball for fun and enjoyment, and I will do everything possible to keep the game fun and enjoyable.
4. I will remember that I am a youth coach, and that the game is for the children and not the adults.
5. I understand that winning is a consideration, but not the only one, nor the most important one. I will care more about my players than winning a game.
6. I will place the well being of every player above my personal desire to win.
7. I understand that being a coach means being, first and foremost, a teacher. I will teach my players basic baseball skills, techniques and strategies, and will give all my players the opportunity to improve their skills, gain confidence and develop self-esteem through practice and game situations.
8. I will learn and know the rules of the game and the policies of the league and the league and shall support and uphold them always.
9. I will know and understand the league playing time guideline and will give every player an opportunity to play as much as possible. I will never, knowingly or intentionally, violate any provision of the club playing time guideline.
10. I will always display good sportsmanship and fair play, and will encourage the same from my players, colleagues, opponents, parents and spectators.
11. I will respect the umpires and league officials and their authority during every game. I will never dispute, challenge, or excessively argue any decisions made by them, or confront any umpire or league official at the field before, during or after a game. Whenever necessary, I will take the time to calmly and rationally discuss any situation or call made during a game with a referee or league official in the manner authorized by the League rules.
12. I will never swear, use profanity or make obscene gestures, or engage in any inappropriate behavior or conduct, at any time.
13. I understand that the game of baseball is a team sport and will treat all my players in a fair and equal manner. I will stress that teamwork and being a team player are more important than any individual goals.
14. I will always have a positive attitude and will always praise my players for trying hard, playing fair and doing their best, regardless of the outcome of the game.
15. I will never criticize or yell at any player for making a mistake or losing a game. I will not tolerate any physical or verbal abuse in youth sports.
16. I will maintain an open line of communication with my players and parents. I will explain my goals and objectives for the team, as well as the rules of the game and the policies of the club and league, whenever requested or necessary, to the best of my ability.
17. I will inspect all equipment used by my players on a regular basis to insure its safety.
18. I will demand a sports environment that is free from drugs and alcohol and will refrain from their use at all games, exhibitions, practices and events. I will never coach a game or conduct a practice if I am under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
19. I will be humble in victory and gracious in defeat.
20. I know that to play the game is great, but to love the game is greater.

I acknowledge that this Code of Conduct has been adopted by Flemington Raritan Baseball under the authority granted by New Jersey law, including but not limited to N.J.S.A. 5:17-1 et sec. I agree that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I will be subject to disciplinary action by Flemington Raritan Baseball that could include, but is not limited to the following:

- Verbal warning;
- Written warning;
- Coach game suspension with written documentation of incident kept on file by the club;
- Coach season suspension;
- Coach removal;
- Any other discipline consistent with the by-laws of the league and/or N.J.S.A. 5:17-1 et. sec.

Coach Signature

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Date: