



Codes of Conduct for Players, Parents and Coaches

Introduction

Central California Baseball Academy (CC) is baseball academy to provide children an opportunity to develop superior life skills through team play, sportsmanship, top competition, and hard work. Our mission is to provide youth the opportunity to play baseball at the highest level commensurate with their individual ability, potential, and interest. An emphasis on fair play and respect for all participants is a primary element of our Academy's mission. To better achieve that mission, we provide the following Codes of Conduct for all players, parents, and coaches.

These Codes of Conduct are a covenant between players, parents, and coaches to abide by the rules of the game, as well as to maintain a cooperative attitude and uphold the ideals of fair play and sportsmanship. These Codes express our core values and goals. It is essential they be honored and followed.

The Codes of Conduct can be summarized in the following three principles: (1) Demonstrating a positive attitude; (2) Setting a good example; and (3) Maintaining good relationships with all youth baseball participants - including officials, opponents, and our own teams' players, parents, and coaches.

1. Demonstrating a positive attitude

Players, parents, and coaches are expected to show a positive, respectful attitude for everyone involved in the sport. Criticism and disrespect for officials, opponents, coaches or fans undermine the purpose of sport and encourage behavior contrary to the spirit of the game and the mission of CC.

2. Setting a good example

Each person associated with CC is accountable for his/her own behavior at all times on or off the field of play. Parents, coaches and other adults should remember that children learn by example - it is up to the adults to set good examples.

CC will not tolerate conduct that is detrimental to the sport, the participants, or the community. Such conduct includes: Vulgarity by coaches, players or parents; harassment or belittling of officials, coaches or players; verbal abuse, threats or physical violence toward anyone before, during or after a game; and the taunting of opposing players, coaches and parents.

**We require thorough self-restraint by all participants - both players and adults.
Teams must exercise appropriate control over those who fail to control themselves.**

3. Maintaining good relationships

Officials - The umpire's job is a difficult one. All umpires are human and they do make mistakes. Parents or players who believe their team has been treated unfairly or has been assigned an unqualified umpire should speak to their coach after the game. Coaches should inform the appropriate club officials about blatant officiating problems. Coaches should make reports through appropriate channels.

Opponents - Players and coaches are required to maintain a sense of fair play and be respectful of opposing players, coaches and fans at all times. Sportsmanship begins with respect. Without it, the positive competitive environment, which should be a perfect classroom for learning the values of baseball, is completely undermined. Occasionally we will encounter opponents who do not share our values and high standards. If we allow ourselves to be drawn down to their level, we will have lost regardless of the final score.

Our Own Team - In an environment where our children are competing not only against other teams but also frequently against each other, it can be difficult to control jealousies and rivalries. A successful team resembles a family in that members put their own needs second, behind the needs of the team in order to work toward the greater good. The idea of "team first, individual second" is all-important in CC Baseball.



Player's Code

It is a privilege to play on a travel baseball team. As a CC Academy player, I will:

- 1) Play the game for the game's sake, and not just to please my parents or coach.
- 2) Be modest and generous when I win and gracious when I lose.
- 3) Respect the game of baseball and its rules, learn these rules and try to follow them, and play the game fairly.
- 4) Always sprint on an off the field. The effect of hustle in a game is contagious and positively impacts your team and shows your opponent you will not give up.
- 5) Work for the good of my team and give my best effort at all times.
- 6) Show respect for the authority of the umpire, even though I will sometimes disagree with his/her calls.
- 7) I will not leave the dugout to speak to my parent or guardian unless specifically authorized by the coach for a justifiable reason.
- 8) Show good sportsmanship before, during, and after games. I understand that baseball is a game, and that the players on the other team are my opponents, not my enemies.
- 9) Conduct myself with honor and dignity and treat other players as I would like to be treated.
- 10) Help my parents and fans understand the rules of the game so they can watch and enjoy the game better. I will be sure they understand that dissent is not permitted in travel baseball leagues.
- 11) Control my temper and not retaliate, even if I believe I have been wronged.
- 12) Not use or possess tobacco, alcohol, or illegal or performance-enhancing drugs.

Acknowledgement

I have read, understand and hereby agree to abide by and support this CC Academy Player's Code of Conduct. I understand that if I blatantly disregard this code of conduct I can be referred to the Board of Directors for punishment which includes dismissal from the Academy.

Player's Name: _____

Player's Signature: _____ Today's Date: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Academy Signature: _____



Parent's Code

As a parent, you play a special role in the development of your son, and of his teammates. Your encouragement and good example will do more to ensure good sportsmanship and self-discipline than any other influence. The other team is the opponent, not the enemy, and should be treated with respect. While winning is important, playing well and fairly is the essence of the game

1. Support your child

Support your child by giving encouragement and showing interest in his/her team. Help your child work toward skill improvement and good sportsmanship in every game. Teach your child that hard work and an honest effort are often more important than victory.

2. Always be positive

Children learn more by example than by criticism. Work to be a positive role model, and reinforce positive behavior in others. Applaud good plays by others on your child's team as well as good plays by the opposing team. Do not criticize any child's performance from the sidelines. Accept the results of each game. Teach your child to be gracious in victory and to turn defeat into victory by learning and working toward improvement.

3. Don't be a sideline coach or umpire

Parents are not to coach their child during a game or practice. Parents who shout or scream from the stands often give inappropriate advice at the wrong time. The coach should be the only voice. You and your child will both enjoy the game more if you put some emotional distance between yourself and the field or play. Officials are symbols of fair play, integrity and sportsmanship - Do not openly question their judgment or honesty.

4. Demonstrate a positive attitude toward your opponents and their families

Opponents are not enemies. Take care to show good hospitality at home and to represent CC in a positive way when playing other teams. Never allow yourself to be drawn into a verbal disagreement with opposing parents or coaches. No one has ever regretted letting "cooler heads prevail."

5. Remember that your child wants to have fun

Your child is the one playing baseball, not you. Children must establish their own goals - to play the game for themselves. Take care not to impose unreasonable demands on your child. Let your children experience the fun of playing as well as the challenge of excelling.

I/we will set a good example to my/our child in his/her baseball development by adhering at all times to the following:

- We will not criticize the umpire openly or directly, during or after games. Any criticism shall be done in writing, sent to my coach and my club representative, not verbally.
- We will give only positive feedback to players.
- We will cheer at all games within the spirit of fair play and shall do our best to cheer the effort regardless of the outcome. We will be mindful that loud cheering in "lopsided" games in which our team is winning by a large margin can be misunderstood and viewed as disrespectful to the other team..
- We shall do our best to teach our players to become students of the game.
- We shall show the quality of our sportsmanship during and after each game and help our child remember to thank the umpire after the game without regard to the result.



- We shall do our very best to have our child prepared for every game. We will have our child arrive on time or early to all practices and games.
- We shall support the learning efforts of the players, the coaches, and the umpires by demonstrating our patience.
- We understand that improper behavior at a game may result in a parent being asked to leave the field by the umpire, game official, or team supervisor or coach.
- We shall leave the coaching to the coach during the game. We shall not give our child instructions during the game.
- We will not enter the dugout or talk to our player during the game. We will do our best to provide our son water or sports drinks before the game or practice. We will also discourage our son from leaving the dugout to speak to us.
- We understand that the team supervisor or Board Member can, and will if necessary, suspend our individual privilege to watch our child play should we behave in a manner that is rude or otherwise offensive.
- We agree to do our best to have as much fun watching the game as the players should have playing the game.
- We will get involved with playing baseball with our son. We understand repetition is crucial for player development.
- We understand that communication is paramount; we will let the team supervisor and/or coach know in advance of our son's ability to participate in practice or games.
- We understand that the use of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal substances during a game or amongst players is not acceptable.

Acknowledgement

I/We have read, understand and hereby agree to abide by and support this CC Academy Parent's Code of Conduct. I/we understand that failure to abide by this code of conduct can cause me/us to be referred to the Board of Directors for possible disciplinary action which could include dismissal of our child from the Academy.

Player's Name: _____

Parent's Signature: _____ Today's Date: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Academy Signature: _____



Coach's Code

The CC Academy Coach's Code enumerates basic requirements of coaches which are organized under four principles. They are: Setting a good example; keeping players safe; ensuring that all participants in CC have a positive experience; and relating to game officials in an exemplary manner and encouraging players to do the same.

1. Setting a good example

The coach's example is powerful. If a coach insists on fair play, concentrates on players' enjoyment of the game and their overall, long term development, and supports the umpire, players and parents will notice. If a coach discourages (or allows) players to play outside the rules, are overly concerned about the results, and/or criticize the umpire or opposing coach, players and parents will also notice. Above all, children deserve a coach they can respect.

Coaches, in all contact with CC players, parents, officials and coaches, should strive to set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct. Before, during, and after the game, they should be an example of dignity, patience and positive spirit.

- Coaches should ensure that their players' baseball experience is one of fun and enjoyment, and improvement in skill (winning is only part of it). Players should never be yelled at, lectured or ridiculed for making mistakes or losing a game. Players should never be spoken to or treated in a demeaning manner on or off the field of play. Coaches should be generous with praise when it is deserved.
- Coaches should avoid any conduct which could be construed as physically or verbally abusive.
- Coaches should completely refrain from verbal dissent during a game with an opposing coach's bench.
- Coaches should honor all professional relationships with colleagues, associations, the media, officials and the public. Conflicts of interest and exploitation of these relationships must be avoided.
- Coaches should not fraternize with the players and should keep the relationship professional in nature.
- Coaches shall not retaliate against players by obviously reducing playing time should a parent voice a valid grievance against the coaching staff or incidents that occur during games or practices.
- Coaches understand they must recommend any extreme disciplinary action such as team dismissal to the Board Coaches Committee for their action. No coach shall dismiss a player or take extreme punitive action on his own.
- Coaches shall not use alcohol, tobacco, any illegal substances or performance-enhancing drugs during a game, practice, or travel event in which they are primarily responsible for their players conduct and well-being. Coaches will not promote or tolerate the use of alcohol, tobacco, any illegal or performance-enhancing substance amongst players.

2. Keeping players safe

Coaches should have the safety of the players in their charge as their first priority at all times. Coaches should be familiar with the facility(ies) and fields on which their teams practice and play, and be mindful of the levels of fitness and skill of each one of their players. Coaches should also be familiar with the rules of the game, current with principles of age-appropriate coaching, and aware of applicable existing rules and regulations.

- Coaches should check players' equipment and playing facilities frequently. They should meet safety standards and be appropriate for the age and ability of players.



- Coaches should follow the advice of a physician when determining when an injured player is ready to play again. During a game, and in an absence of medical advice, coaches should err on the side of caution in permitting an injured player to return to play.

3. Creating a positive experience

CC wishes to ensure that games are fair, positive and enjoyable experiences for the children and adults involved. A baseball game should be friendly and unifying - a spirited social and athletic occasion for players, coaches, umpires, and spectators.

- Coaches should require all players and spectators to adhere to the highest level of sportsmanship at all times. During the game, the coach is responsible for the sportsmanship of the players and the parents. If a player is disrespectful, irresponsible or overly aggressive, the coach should remove the player from the game. Coaches should explain acceptable behavior to players and parents at a preseason meeting. Encourage parents to make positive comments about good play by either team. Prohibit them from yelling at players and the umpire.

4. Relating to officials

Coaches should demonstrate respect for the official and his/her role. Coaches can help umpires improve by letting them concentrate on the game, accepting their inevitable, occasional mistakes, and offering constructive post-game comments.

- Before a game, coaches should introduce themselves to the umpire and the opposing coach during the plate meeting. During the game, they should typically not address the umpire except to request a substitution. If they feel the umpire is making repeated bad calls, they should calmly speak with the umpire one on one to share their concerns. They should never berate an umpire. After the game, they should thank the umpire and ask players to do the same.
- A small disagreement should be discussed with the umpire calmly after the game. For major complaints, or if the umpire appeared to be unfair, biased, unfit, or incompetent, report opinions to the Tournament Director;.

Acknowledgement

I have read, understand and hereby agree to abide by and support this CC Coach's Code of Conduct. I understand that failure to abide by this code of conduct can be a referral to the Coach's Committee for possible disciplinary action, which may include a suspension from coaching, reassignment to coach another team, and/or dismissal from the Academy.

Coach's Name: _____

Coach's Signature: _____ Today's Date: _____

Academy Signature: _____