



BETH - WOOD BASEBALL LEAGUE 2024 CODE OF CONDUCT FOR MANAGERS / COACHES

The **Beth - Wood Baseball League (B - W)** is affiliated with Babe Ruth League Inc. (Baseball) with International Headquarters located in Hamilton Township, NJ. This is a Program of serving our Youth and is geared to provide an outlet of healthful activity and training under good leadership in the atmosphere of wholesome community participation.

The movement is dedicated to help children become good and decent citizens and to help establish a sense of teamwork and fair play. This Program also strives to instill within the individual a goal thereby helping to enrich their lives toward the day when they must take their place in the world.

1. All Managers and / or Coaches **MUST** be certified in accordance with Cal Ripken policy established by Babe Ruth League prior to 1) being on the field with the children and 2) before you can be officially listed on a Team Roster **AND MUST** also have had a complete Background Check performed as well as **MUST** have taken the Abuse Prevention Training Course on line on or before **APRIL 15th** within the past two (2) years (ALL as mandated by Babe Ruth League) **OR** else they will **NOT** be allowed to Coach and be on the field with children.

2. All Managers and Coaches will abide by the following rules:
 - a. Prior to the start of the game, choose the field's designated bench area that is appropriate for your team (home team sits on the first base side and the visiting team sits on the third base side). If this is a practice game or scrimmage or no team has been designated as home or visitor, then a coin flip will determine who will be the home team. If the game is being played on a field without a designated bench area, then the Manager should determine a reasonable bench area for his/her team.

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This area should be in a reasonable position so that all players may view the game at all times and yet be sufficiently away from the baselines and home plate to provide a safe margin of area that foul balls or errant throws can be pursued. The designated bench area should be free of spectators and NO spectators will be allowed between the bench area and the playing field.

- b. All players not actively in the game must be in the designated bench areas.
 - i. A player is actively in the game if that player is fielding, batting, on base, the on-deck batter or warming up at the Manager's / Coach's direction. A player serving as a 1st or 3rd base Coach is also actively involved in the game.
 - ii. A Coach is actively involved in the game if coaching 1st or 3rd base, or pitching (in the Rookies League). A Coach is not actively in the game (not permitted out of the designated area) when his Team is on defense.
- c. All equipment must be intact / safe for their intended use, and kept away from the field of play.
- d. All unauthorized persons must be kept away from the bench area and from interfering with the players on your team during games. This includes parents, spectators & siblings (NO exceptions will be allowed, due to insurance restrictions) !! They should be requested to sit and observe the game from designated bleacher areas.

The maximum number of Coaches (including the Manager and scorekeeper) allowed per team within the bench area may not exceed a total of four (4) adults. Note for District / State Tournaments, the number of Manager / Coaches shall not exceed three (3) adults.



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- e. Any and all questions directed to the umpire or opposing team shall be made by the Manager (NOT Coaches) who shall first request time out from the umpire. When the umpire calls time out, the Manager will then address the umpire in a civil manner at home plate in a modulated voice taking care not to alarm, disturb or harass any player or Coach, or to let their voice carry in any way that the fans might become vocally involved.
- f. Any and all perceived rule infractions by any Manager during a game must be addressed immediately when they occur by pointing out the rules in question to the umpire and opposing Manager in accordance with subsection e of this Code of Conduct. Any infraction or rules violation that is not raised contemporaneously when the infraction or violation occurs shall be deemed waived.
- g. All Players and Coaches shall be instructed by the Manager not to display poor sportsmanship in any manner, either physical or verbal!
- h. Any and all improper and inappropriate physical contact by the Manager or Coaches with any player who is actively in the game, especially base runner, is prohibited.
- i. All Managers, Coaches, and players shall refrain from exhibiting highly emotional conduct as such conduct influences spectators and other players. Managers, Coaches and players should always exhibit good sportsmanship at all times - it's contagious!!

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Should spectators become highly emotional or use profanity during the course of a game the Manager of that team is subject to discipline for their behavior. Should it persist, the Umpires have the right to eject, after first giving a verbal warning, any and all spectators who exhibit this behavior from the ballfield site immediately, upon direction to the Team Manager accordingly; if that Manager refuses to obey this direction, the Manager could be subject to immediate ejection, and Team may be subject to forfeit as well.

- j. Once a game has started, the Umpires are in full control of the Players, Managers and Coaches; they are instructed to forfeit the game for breaches of conduct they determine is detrimental and may eject any Player, Manager, or Coach that violates the rules. Again, please remember that judgment calls (i.e., balls, strikes, calls at bases, etc.) cannot be questioned .
- k. Any and all breaches of conduct by Managers and / or Coaches may be reported to the B - W Executive Board by any witness to the alleged inappropriate conduct. The Board may impose any discipline up to and including the removal of a Manager or Coach from his or her position.

Procedure for handling Manager's / Coach's unacceptable behavior :

- i. The complaint must first go to the respective League Commissioner, who will in turn notify the Player - Agent. The Manager and / or Coach will be notified and requested to discuss this behavior with the League Commissioner and Player-Agent.



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- ii. Upon receiving reasonable notification (including but not limited to phone calls, e-mail, voicemail or correspondence) of the complaint by the League Commissioner and Player - Agent (including the B - W President if warranted), the Manager and / or Coach must make themselves available within 72 hours of such notification to discuss the matter with the League Commissioner and Player - Agent. If the Manager and / or Coach does not make himself / herself available within this time period, the Manager and / or Coach could be automatically suspended from all Manager and / or Coaching responsibilities until he makes himself / herself available to discuss this matter and he receives permission from the League Commissioner to resume his Manager and / or Coaching responsibilities.
 - iii. After an investigation, if the League Commissioner and Player-Agent determine that the Manager and / or Coach violated any rules that are within the spirit of the Code of Conduct that warrant disciplinary action, the League Commissioner and Player - Agent will give their recommendations to the Beth - Wood Executive Board who then may issue any discipline to the Manager and / or Coach that he (they) deems is warranted including but not limited to a Letter of Apology, Suspension and / or Expulsion.
 - iv. Any Manager and / or Coach who is expelled from the Beth - Wood shall never be allowed to Manage or Coach in Beth - Wood Baseball League again!
- I. Any problems that arise within a Team that cannot be settled by that Team's Manager in the first instance, the Manager shall immediately contact his / her League Commissioner and / or B - W Player-Agent immediately for assistance.

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- m. If a Manager/Coach is ejected from a game due to their actions by an Umpire in abuse of the above-stated rules, then said Manager /Coach is not only suspended from returning to the game the game that he / she was ejected from but is also suspended from the next scheduled game as well, and may be subject to further discipline pursuant to subsection k. of the Code of Conduct as noted above.
- n. All Managers/Coaches shall refrain from wearing loose jewelry during practice and / or games. Medical Alert and religious bracelets or necklaces may be worn but must be taped to the body (and remain visible).
- o. All Managers, Coaches, Scorekeepers and Assistants who are present in our dugouts and / or occupy field coaching positions and / or in the stands keeping score are absolutely prohibited from using alcohol, illegal substances and / or tobacco of any type (including chewing tobacco) at any time while coaching under the auspices of our League. This prohibition applies not only at all of our fields, but also whenever and wherever you are coaching B - W players as part of any activity sponsored by our League. This type of behavior will **NOT** be tolerated and any Manager and / or Coach that is seen violating this policy will be subject to immediate suspension and banned from the B - W !!

B - W COACHES' DRESS CODE OF CONDUCT

1. All Managers, Coaches, Scorekeepers and Assistants who are present in our dugouts and / or occupy field coaching positions shall present a neat appearance at all times.
2. It is recommended that all Coaches and Managers be dressed in their Team's uniform jersey if one was provided to them or a collared and sleeved polo "type" shirt. All Managers, Coaches and Assistants who are present in the dugout and / or occupy field coaching positions are strictly prohibited from wearing while coaching: (1) muscle shirts; (2) tank tops ; as well as (3) any clothing that displays any inappropriate language, message content or context (4) any clothing that contains any alcohol or tobacco related slogans, insignias or logos.

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3. Managers and Coaches shall wear either : (1) ankle length jeans, casual or warm-up pants ; or (2) neat casual type shorts. All shorts should be solid colored athletic, coaches or causal style shorts which are knee to mid thigh length. Causal shorts should be of a "khakis" style with 4 pockets or less. Cargo shorts, below the knee or board shorts are strictly prohibited.
4. Managers and Coaches should wear their Team's cap during the games. Extra hats were provided for each Team so all Coaches should have a cap. Respect the support our Team Sponsors have given us by wearing the Sponsor's cap.
5. Managers and Coaches should wear appropriate footwear, including shoes, sneakers and / or baseball cleats at all times. No sandals, open toed or open backed shoes are allowed to be worn by a Manager and / or Coach at any time.

MANAGERS / COACHES PLEDGE :

As a Manager / Coach, I clearly recognize that Managers / Coaches are role models for the Team members and all participants involved in the activity, and that sports helps to develop a sense of teamwork, self worth and sportsmanship. As such, I fully agree to abide by the following :

1. Place the emotional and physical well being of my Players ahead of personal desire or external pressure to win.
2. Do my best to provide a safe playing environment for all participants.
3. Lead by example by demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all involved.
4. Provide a sports environment for my Team that is free of drugs, tobacco, alcohol and abusive language and refrain from their use at ALL sporting events.

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5. Respect the Game and League Officials and communicate with them in an appropriate manner. If, as a Team Manager or Coach, you happen to be a spectator at your child's game, you shall fully respect and support the Manager / Coaches on the field, as you would expect and deserve to be treated, and shall neither intimidate nor make any negative comments or remarks during and / or after the game.
6. Be knowledgeable of the League Rules and Regulations and teach these Rules to all Players on my Team.
7. Encourage my Team members to play by the League Rules and respect the rights of other Players, Coaches, Fans and Officials.
8. Be responsible for my own behavior and also the behavior of my Team members, their Parents and Fans. If you witness any unacceptable or negative behavior on behalf of any players, parents and fans, Managers MUST immediately report these to their League Commissioner (who in turn will notify the Player - Agent) for remedial action.
9. Never knowingly permit an injured Player to play or return to the Game without proper medical approval (refer to Beth - Wood's Safety Policy for additional information pertaining to this). If a player has been injured, either on the field of play or elsewhere and cannot play baseball, the Manager MUST refrain from playing that player until a written doctor's note is received allowing said player to resume playing without restrictions.
10. Refrain from ever using alcoholic beverages, illegal substances and / or tobacco while at any of the Fields (either local or elsewhere), including the bleacher and other areas where the public / children could be located, and / or in direct supervision of my Players. It is strictly prohibited and any abuse will result in an automatic expulsion from the League.



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This also pertains to any personal use of alcohol and illegal substances that might affect your judgment and / or behavior at any practices and / or games. If it is determined that your judgment and / or behavior is directly impaired by the use of these, this is also strictly prohibited and any abuse will result in an automatic expulsion from the League.

11. Never physically, verbally or mentally harm a child in my care.
12. Ensure my Players are supervised by myself or other designated adults and never allow my Players to be left unattended or unsupervised after a Game or Practice
13. It is mandatory for every Manager / Coach conduct a CAP (Coaches / Athletes / Parents) Meeting to provide my Team's Parents with my coaching philosophy and practice / game approach before the start of the season. For All Star Team Managers, you MUST have either the Beth - Wood President and / or Player - Agent present at this meeting.
14. Comply fully with the League's Background Check policy and verify that all Coaches / Assistants on my Team have completed a Background Check prior to their participation (Practices or Games) with the Team AND have acknowledged the League's Child Abuse / Molestation Risk Management Program. Also fully comply with the League's requirement that ALL Managers / Coaches have a valid Coaches Certification from Babe Ruth League prior to their first practice.
15. Make every effort to improve my knowledge of Coaching techniques and shall attend such training as is offered by the League so that I can teach the sport properly to my Players.



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**REMEMBER - AS MANAGERS AND COACHES YOU PROUDLY
REPRESENT OUR LEAGUE AND YOUR TEAM ...
AS SUCH, SHOULD BE DRESSED AND ACT APPROPRIATELY !!**

**NO NEED TO EXECUTE - THIS FORM MUST BE
ACKNOWLEDGED / AGREED TO BEFORE MANAGERS / COACHES CAN
BE ALLOWED ON THE FIELDS WITH OUR CHILDREN FOR BETH -
WOOD BASEBALL.**