



AUSTRALIAN BASEBALL FEDERATION COACHES / MANAGERS CODE OF CONDUCT

The coach/manager of a team can be a very influential person in a player's life. A key responsibility of a coach/manager at any level is to lead by example; coaches/managers, through their own behaviour, can have an enormous impact (on and off the field), particularly on the development of young players.

The responsibilities and duties of a coach/manager are not simple and should be dealt with in a professional manner. For these reasons and many more the ABF has developed a Code of Conduct for all coaches/managers participating in ABF endorsed and/or organised tournaments, programs and special events.

These principles are considered practicable and are within the aims and objectives of the Australian Baseball Federation.

- I will adhere to Australian law and the requirements of the ABF on Child Protection, Sexual Relations, Anti-Discrimination and Harassment. (see ABF Member Protection Policy available online at: <http://www.baseball.com.au/default.asp?Page=65656&MenuID=Policies/13721/0>)
- I will provide supervision of the behaviour of the team at all times (junior players must **NEVER** be left unsupervised).
- I will avoid unaccompanied and unobserved one-on-one activity with people under the age of 18 years, and will adopt appropriate and responsible behaviour in all interactions with my staff and players.
- I will ensure my decisions and actions contribute to a harassment free environment, and that any physical contact with a person is appropriate to the situation and necessary for the person's skill development.
- I will not criticise players in front of spectators, parents and other teams. Constructive criticism will be provided in a manner which respects the dignity of the player and the team.
- I will accept decisions of the umpire as being fair and called to the best of their ability. I will not abuse or ridicule the umpire nor allow my players to do so.
- I will help to develop team respect for opponents, spectators and officials. I will not criticise other teams, supporters or officials by words or gestures.
- I will set a good example in personal appearance and behaviour.
- I will encourage sportsmanlike behaviour among the players.
- I will ensure whenever possible that all players have equal time on the diamond. Avoid overplaying the talented players - the average players need and deserve equal time.
- I will encourage players to work together as a unified group (teamwork).
- I will keep myself informed of sound coaching principles and seek more skilled advice when necessary.
- I will encourage my team to abide by the guidelines provided in the "Baseball the Australian Way" document.
- I will ensure that press statements and/or interviews, other than those restricted to comments on members of my own team and its involvement in a particular competition, will have ABF approval.
- I will place the welfare and development of the individual above a winning or losing record.
- I will not embarrass my opponents.
- I will not use any form of tobacco or alcohol of any description on the field, in the dugouts, bullpens or while in uniform.
- I will, whenever possible, provide assistance with coaching expertise and knowledge to developing teams.
- I will abide by the tournament rules and regulations established by the ABF
- I will be aware of any player with medical problems.
- I will maintain interaction between coach/es and players on an appropriate level at all times.
- I will strive to develop a positive image and self sufficient attitude with each player.
- I will assist to enforce the ABF Player Code of Conduct.
- I will help to present Australian Baseball in a positive image.