



## Coaches Code of Conduct

Coaching a youth sport program such as Little League Baseball is a privilege that is not to be taken for granted. As a Manager or coach, appointed by the Three Rivers Little League Board of Directors, you have an important role in the development of the young children in our community. We strive to teach each child the positive values of trust, good sportsmanship, good citizenship, responsibility, respect, fair play and teamwork – values they can use throughout their lives. Baseball and softball embody the discipline of teamwork. They challenge players towards perfection of physical skills and bring into play the excitement of tactics and strategy. The very nature of baseball and softball also teach that while every player eventually strikes out, or is on a losing team, there is always another chance for success in the next at-bat or game. With this in mind, TRLL expects each manager and coach to adhere to the following.

### Sportsmanship

1. I will promote good sportsmanship, teach good baseball skills, and have fun in the process.
2. I realize, accept and will practice the principle that a team's reputation is built not only on its playing ability, but also on its sportsmanship, courtesy and manner.
3. I understand verbal abuse of an official, coach, player, or spectator, including obscene gestures, will not be tolerated and that the offender may be removed from the TRLL fields at the discretion of an umpire or TRLL board member. (Feel free to remove yourself from a game! Appoint one of your assistant coaches to take over, cool off and prevent suspension/expulsion from the league.)
4. I understand coaches will refrain from complaining about perceived bad calls to players and fans.
5. I understand all discussions will be held in conversational tones. Under no circumstances will a coach, fan, or player yell at an umpire, coach, fan, or player. The lone exception to this rule is when a coach or player shouts to another coach or teammate during the course of a play as part of that play.
6. I understand profanity is expressly forbidden at all times at Three Rivers Little League events.

### Rules and Policies

1. I will know and understand the rules and abide by them (whether local or national). I will instruct my team members in the rules and coach my team in such a way as to motivate each player to compete according to the rules at all times.
2. I will adhere to all Little League safety guidelines from the TRLL handbook and the TRLL Safety Manual, including participating in Heads Up Concussion training.

3. I will understand the local league participation rules for my division. All coaches must ensure that each player get minimum opportunities to bat and play the field in each game. I also understand that specific rules are also in place to limit the number and frequency of innings pitched by a particular player.
4. I will fully comply with the Player/Parents Code of Conduct.

### **The Umpires**

1. I recognize baseball is a game of interpretations, and as a result, disputes will occur from time to time. However, it is important that players learn respect. All disputes that are taken up with the umpire will be handled in a civil manner. I understand only managers may initiate such discussions with an umpire. The managers/coaches will conduct themselves with decorum and once the umpire has made his/her final ruling, the managers will make no further field protest. Off-field protests may be lodged with the Board of Directors per league policy.
2. I understand most of the umpires are “in training” as well as the players. I recognize that all umpires will make mistakes occasionally, and as manager/coach, I will give the umpires the respect their position within the game deserves.

### **The Parents and the League**

1. I will maintain an open line of communication with players and their parents. I will be approachable. When approached by a parent to discuss any issue, I will interact and respond in a courteous manner.
2. I will understand and explain the philosophies, goals and objectives, and Codes of Conduct of TRLL, i.e. TRLL is organized through Little League International, meant for the enjoyment and development of all the players.
3. I will ensure that fans of the team conduct themselves with sportsmanship and maturity at all times.
4. I will make sure that coaches and players are the only persons allowed in the dugout during a game.
5. I will support (through participation and organization of parents) TRLL in all fundraising efforts and field improvement efforts along with other duties that may be assigned to teams from time to time.  
RECRUIT A TEAM MOM!

### **The Team**

1. I will conduct practices in an organized manner, with a planned agenda that focuses on specific skill development appropriate for the skill level of the players.
2. I will focus on providing instruction commensurate with players abilities so all players have the opportunity to advance their skills towards their full potential, gain confidence and develop self-esteem, as well as establish a solid foundation for further baseball/softball competition.
3. I will teach each player, especially through personal example, to be humble and generous in victory and proud and courteous in defeat.
4. I understand that managers are appointed by the league to be responsible for the team’s actions on the field and to represent the team in communications with the umpires, opposing teams and league. If a manager leaves the field, he shall designate a coach as a substitute who will then be responsible and held accountable for the manager’s duties.

## Non-Game Duties of Managers

1. I will maintain open communication with players and parents to inform them of practices, games and other responsibilities in a timely and efficient manner.
2. I will attend all required coaches meetings, safety and umpiring clinics unless I am out of town or have a significant previously made commitment. If I cannot attend, I will ensure that one of my assistant coaches attends on my behalf.
3. I will complete, obtain and submit to the League all required paperwork, which will include Volunteer Applications, Raffle Tickets and Monies collected.
4. I will make sure that I maintain a notebook containing the, the Player Medical Release Forms, the Local TRLL By-laws and Rules and a copy of the national Little League rule book and make sure it is present at each team practice and game.
5. I understand that I am the point of contact between my team and other teams and TRLL officials. I understand that I am the person that is responsible for my team. I will explain the philosophies, goals and objectives, and Codes of Conduct of TRLL.

BE POSITIVE AND HAVE FUN!

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (printed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date