

CHEVIOT HILLS PONY BASEBALL ASSOCIATION (CHPBA) CODE OF ETHICS AND SPORTSMANSHIP, DISCIPLINARY RULES AND PROTEST PROCEDURES

This Code of Ethics & Sportsmanship, Disciplinary Rules, and Protest Procedures is incorporated by reference into the rules of each respective Division of the Cheviot Pony Hills Baseball Association (CHPBA).

1. CODE OF ETHICS AND SPORTSMANSHIP:

CHPBA is committed to promoting good sportsmanship and developing and maintaining a safe and healthy environment for athletic competition through the game of baseball. CHPBA's Board of Directors believes participation in the league's activities is a privilege that is accompanied by the responsibility to act with dignity, integrity and respect at all times. Individuals associated with CHPBA – players, managers, coaches, officials, and spectators – are expected to conduct themselves in such a manner that represents the highest level of honor, and to observe the tenets of good sportsmanship, honesty, fairness, dignity, civility and respect. CHPBA expects players, coaches, administrators, spectators and any individuals associated with such participants to exhibit the values of good sportsmanship that are included but not limited to those set forth in this Code of Ethics. The following is a non-exhaustive set of principles of fair play and sportsmanship that CHPBA expects all participants to adhere to in this League:

A. Letter and Spirit of Rules:

Managers, coaches and players should comply with the letter and the spirit of the playing rules for their respective Divisions. Purposely ignoring or willfully violating rules established by the League is intolerable, even if both teams agree, and any attempt to compromise these rules may subject each team involved to forfeiture of the game (subject to a properly filed protest). Those who break the rules degrade not only themselves but also the game, their team and the community.

B. Respect for Umpires and Opponents:

Managers, coaches, players and spectators must show respect for the decisions of umpires and the efforts of their opponents and they must conduct themselves so as to dignify the game. All participants should refrain from heckling game officials and from challenging judgment decisions of the umpires. A manager may discuss an occasional rule interpretation if this is done with dignity and sincerity.

C. No Stalling:

Managers, coaches, players and umpires should cooperate in eliminating game delays and stalling tactics.

D. No Heckling:

- (1) Participants are expected to direct remarks and gestures to their players and not attempt to intentionally upset or distract the opposing pitcher or players (*e.g.*, catcher talking to or trying to influence the batter). Managers and coaches shall instill in their players the habit of properly respecting opponents and game officials. Players must not direct unbecoming language, gestures or personal remarks to teammates, opponents, or officials.
- (2) Managers and coaches are responsible, at all times, for the conduct of all players and spectators. Razzing or disparaging the opponent is strictly prohibited. The

game umpire is empowered to enforce this rule and may issue warnings, eject participants, and/or declare a forfeit. The first offense of this rule shall result in a warning delivered to the manager of the offending team that another violation by the offending team may result in the ejection of the manager and/or the forfeiture of the game. An umpire may eject the manager or any other participant or may declare a forfeiture of the game if there is a second offense of this rule by the same team during the same game.

E. No Profanity:

Each participant is expected to conduct himself or herself as a gentleman or a lady, and the use of profanity will result in immediate ejection from the game.

F. No Smoking or Drinking:

No smoking or drinking on the field or from the player's bench will be allowed, with the exception that non-alcoholic beverages may be consumed on the player's bench.

G. No Throwing of Equipment:

Players who intentionally throw bats, protective headgear, or who discard protective headgear while batting or running the bases, may be ejected from the game following completion of any play in progress at the time the violation occurs. Such action does not constitute an out and such players shall be replaced as batters or baserunners, if appropriate.

Unintentional throwing or discarding of equipment described in the paragraph above may result in a warning of either the player or the team. Subsequent incidents may result in an out being called or ejection of the player or both based on the judgment of the umpire.

H. No Attempts to Injure:

Actions by players that are intended to cause harm to another player will not be tolerated (*e.g.*, a pitcher purposely throwing at a batter or a base runner deliberately trying to injure an opponent during a play). Managers or coaches who encourage or tolerate such behavior by their players shall be subject to discipline for the actions of their players.

I. No Intentional Walks:

Intentional walks are not allowed during regular season play.

J. Special Manager and Coach Responsibilities:

- (1) Managers and Coaches should motivate players to conduct themselves with honor, respect and sportsmanship at all times.
- (2) It is the duty of the manager to make sure he or she or another responsible adult is present at the scheduled time of all games and practices.
- (3) Managers, coaches and players shall remain in their designated dugout or on the bench at all times unless otherwise required to be in the field of play (*e.g.*, base coaches, *etc.*). Managers should make a reasonable effort to keep spectators (other than scorekeepers and scoreboard operators) from standing behind the backstop and involve the umpire so that such persons are not a distraction to the batter or the pitcher.

2. DISCIPLINE:

Violations of this Code of Ethics, expressly or impliedly, are subject to disciplinary actions by the League.

A. Player suspensions:

Player violations of this Code of Ethics are subject to disciplinary actions by the League's Executive Board. A manager may also suspend a player for one game if the player is disobedient or engages in unsportsmanlike conduct. Prior to such manager-imposed suspension, the manager must immediately notify the player's parents and the Division Commissioner stating the reasons for the suspension. The manager-imposed suspension shall be subject to the review and approval of the Division Commissioner. Longer suspensions may only be made by the Executive Board.

B. Disciplinary actions for managers, coaches and other adult participants:

Adult participants in the League engage with each other and with players in a variety of roles – as managers, coaches, spectators, administrators, and parents. There are a myriad of circumstances too numerous to describe in which conflicts may arise. Recognizing the difficulty of establishing specific penalties for all situations, the respective Division Commissioners, in consultation with the Executive Board, shall have the exclusive discretion to impose penalties and other disciplinary actions to be taken against any adult participant or any player who violates this Code of Ethics or engages in any other unacceptable conduct detrimental to the League. In fashioning a disciplinary action that meets the severity of the offense, the League may impose a variety of sanctions included but not limited to the following:

- (1) Warning. The offending person is advised of the offense in writing and notified that repetition of the offense will result in a more severe penalty.
- (2) Suspension. The offending person is advised in writing that he or she has been suspended from all league activity for a specific number of games or days.
- (3) Dismissal. The offending person is advised in writing that he or she has been dismissed from the league for the remainder of the current season.
- (4) Expulsion from the league. The offending person is to be advised in writing that he or she has been barred from present and future participation in the league, permanently, or for a specific number of seasons.

3. ILLEGAL AND INELIGIBLE PLAYER PENALTIES:

A. Penalty for use of illegal players may include forfeiture of games in which such players participated; provided such games are protested by any of the league managers or officers in writing within 48 hours of the game or games in question. An illegal player is one who is not legally a member of a team as stated in the applicable rules for that Division.

B. Penalty for use of an ineligible player, upon appeal by the opposing manager or notification by the official scorer or league officers, when the official scorebook or other league records verify the ineligibility of the player concerned, may include the immediate removal of the player from the lineup and ejection of the team manager from the game. Both the player and the manager may be declared ineligible to participate in the next scheduled game played by the team.

- (1) An ineligible player is one who is legally a member of the team, but who is ineligible to play or to pitch in a particular game or games because of the limitations set forth in

these Rules and Regulations, or as the result of a previous rules violation or disciplinary action.

- (2) For purposes of interpreting this rule, a player shall not be considered in violation of the rules until at least one pitch has been thrown to the batter after the point of violation.
- (3) In the event the manager of an ineligible player refuses to remove the player from the lineup and the manager does not leave the field when the appeal is made, and verified, the game is subject to forfeit.
- (4) When the ineligible status of a player is not established until after completion of the game, the game shall stand as played, but the player and manager shall be ineligible to participate in the next game played by the team, or the next game played after the ineligible status has been determined.

4. GAME PROTEST PROCEDURES:

A. What may constitute a protest:

- (1) A protest can only be made on a rule infraction and not on the umpire's judgment.
- (2) If the protesting team wins the game, the protest shall not be filed.

B. Protest procedure:

- (1) The umpire and the opposing manager must be notified at the time of the particular occurrence, before the next pitch, that the manager is protesting or the protest cannot be made.
- (2) After the game, the protest must be made in writing and turned into the Division Commissioner within 48 hours.
- (3) The protest must be specific, listing:
 - (a) the date
 - (b) the time
 - (c) the inning
 - (d) the teams involved
 - (e) the diamond number
 - (f) the umpire's name
 - (g) a complete description of the play and the rule violated.
- (4) Statements from the umpire and witnesses should be included.
- (5) All protests will be judged and settled by a Protest Committee and their decision will be final. Before the protest is determined, both managers or their representatives will be given an opportunity to explain their account of the circumstances and views on the protest.
- (6) The Protest Committee shall consist of the Chairman of the Rules Committee, all Executive Committee Members, and the Commissioner for the Division in which the Protest is filed. The Chairperson of the Rules Committee shall chair the Protest Committee and shall call a meeting whenever necessary. A quorum must be present to act.

- (7) Any member of the Protest Committee involved in the protest under consideration shall not vote. If the Chairperson is involved, the Chair shall pass to the highest CHPBA member not affected.
- (8) If the replay of a game or a portion thereof is deemed advisable, it shall only be played if it could have a bearing on the playoffs. The game shall be scheduled as soon as possible.

The Board of Directors reserves the right to modify, change, delete or add to any of the items contained in this Code of Ethics, Sportsmanship and Disciplinary Rules.