

Salem NH Softball Zero Tolerance Policy

10-8-2014

This document serves as a first and final warning to everyone involved with the Salem NH Softball League (Players, Coaches, Fans, Parents, Umpires.)

- **Coaches** who make negative comments or argue shall immediately be ejected from the game upon the umpires discretion. Being ejected carries an automatic two game suspension. In addition, the coach must attend a hearing with the Salem NH Softball Board of Directors before resuming coaching duties. The length of the suspension may be extended as a result of the facts presented at the hearing.
- **Players** who argue or engage in negative behavior shall be immediately ejected from the game, upon umpires discretion. The player must serve an automatic 1 game suspension. Players will be confined to their bench area for the remainder of the game and any additional outbursts will result in a forfeit.
- **Parents / Fans** are to stay in the stands and not the dugout area to allow the coaches to do their job properly.
- **Parents / Fans** who argue or engage in negative behavior (complaining, yelling, taunting, etc.) shall be removed from the field. Play will stop while this process is carried out, and the time limit for the game will be suspended until the parent/fan is removed from the area. The head coach for the team will approach the unruly fan(s) and inform them they must leave. If the parent or fan refuses to leave within two minutes, the police will be called or the game will end with a forfeit charged against the offending team.
- Any argument, discussion, activity or disagreement that becomes physical or involves a physical threat, whether in jest or not, will result in an immediate, indefinite suspension for any adult involved. Law enforcement will be contacted by the Board of Directors should the situation involve physical abuse or threats to a child from an adult.
- Players involved in any physical misconduct will face a 2 game suspension and be subject to a hearing with the Salem NH Softball Board of Directors. The length of the suspension may be extended as a result of the facts presented at the hearing.
- Any one coach may ask for “time-out” to speak with the umpire regarding a question over a rule interpretation. A brief, respectful conversation is expected. If the situation remains unresolved, the team may exercise its right to play the game under protest based on the incorrect rulebook interpretation and be subject to a hearing with the rules committee to decide the outcome of the game, if the protester desires. Scorebooks from both teams must be brought to the meeting with the rules committee.
- An umpire’s decision on balls & strikes is FINAL. They are judgment calls and not subject to complaint or debate. Fair/foul balls & safe/out calls may be appealed to the umpire by one coach ONLY if there is more than 1 umpire, otherwise they are not subject to debate.