



Atwater Youth Baseball 2026 – Coaches’ Code of Conduct

Purpose

The purpose of this Code of Conduct is to ensure that all coaches, assistant coaches, and bench coaches uphold the highest standards of sportsmanship, safety, respect, and leadership. As role models, coaches shape not only players’ skills but also their attitudes, values, and enjoyment of the game.

By agreeing to coach in Atwater Youth Baseball (AYB), you commit to following this Code of Conduct in both word and action.

Section 1. Expectations of Conduct

1. Respect and Sportsmanship

- Always demonstrate respect toward players, parents, umpires, opposing teams, board members, and spectators.
- Refrain from yelling, arguing, or using abusive language toward any participant.
- Promote positive cheering and sportsmanship from your players and parents.
- Accept all umpire decisions as final. Protests or disputes must be handled through appropriate league channels after the game.

2. Player Development and Safety

- Provide a fun, inclusive, and instructional environment for all players.
- Ensure that safety is always the top priority — follow all league safety protocols and equipment standards.
- Treat all players fairly and equally regardless of skill level or background.
- Strive to provide equal playing time for all players. Encourage and nurture the growth of each player.
- Abstain from conduct that could endanger the emotional or physical well-being of any player.

3. Communication and Professionalism

- Communicate respectfully with parents and league officials.
- Refrain from discussing players or families negatively with others.
- Represent the league positively in all interactions, including social media and public settings.

4. Substance Use and Behavior

- Alcohol, tobacco (including vaping), and illicit drugs are strictly prohibited at all AYB practices, games, and events.
- Coaches must not attend games or practices under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

5. Compliance with League Rules

- Follow all AYB rules, schedules, and administrative procedures.
- Support league-wide initiatives promoting sportsmanship and community engagement.

Section 2. Violations and Consequences

Violations of this Code of Conduct will be reviewed by the Atwater Youth Baseball Board of Directors. Consequences will be applied based on the severity and frequency of violations.

Level 1 – Minor Violation

Examples:

- Disrespectful behavior toward an umpire, parent, or opposing coach
- Inappropriate language (non-abusive)
- Minor failure to follow game or safety protocols

Consequences:

- Verbal warning from a Board Member
- Documentation of the warning in league records

Level 2 – Moderate Violation

Examples:

- Repeated disrespect after a verbal warning
- Arguing publicly with officials
- Inappropriate social media post related to the league

- Failure to control team or parent behavior

Consequences:

- Written warning and/or one-game suspension
- Mandatory meeting with AYB Board before returning to coaching duties

Level 3 – Major Violation

Examples:

- Verbal abuse or intimidation of an umpire, player, parent, or board member
- Use of profanity or threatening behavior at an AYB event
- Attending a game or practice under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Encouraging or allowing unsafe play

Consequences:

- Immediate ejection and suspension pending review
- Two-game minimum suspension upon board review
- Possible season-long suspension depending on circumstances

Level 4 – Severe or Repeat Violations

Examples:

- Physical altercation or attempted physical harm
- Repeated Level 2 or 3 offenses
- Bullying, harassment, or discriminatory conduct of any kind

Consequences:

- Immediate removal of all coaching responsibilities
- Possible permanent ban from Atwater Youth Baseball

Section 3. Appeals

Coaches may appeal disciplinary decisions within 7 days of notification by submitting a written appeal to the AYB Board. The board will review and determine whether to uphold, reduce, or overturn the disciplinary action.

Section 4. Acknowledgment

All coaches (including assistant and bench coaches) must sign this acknowledgment form prior to the start of the 2026 season:

I, _____, have read and understand the Atwater Youth Baseball 2026 Coaches' Code of Conduct.

I agree to abide by these standards and accept the consequences for any violation.

Coach Signature: _____

Date: _____