



Capitola-Soquel Little League



CSLL Code of Conduct

It is the goal of Capitola-Soquel Little League (CSLL) to provide a safe and enjoyable environment for our children to learn and play the game of baseball. The basic goal of Little League has always been to give children a game that provides fundamental principles (sportsmanship, fair play and teamwork) they can use later in life to become good citizens. In addition, Little League Regulation XIV(a) states that “the action of players, managers, coaches, umpires and league officials shall be above reproach.” The CSLL Board of Directors has therefore instituted this Code of Conduct, to ensure that the behavior and conduct of all participants in CSLL activities are consistent with the goals and rules of CSLL and Little League Baseball.

All participants in CSLL activities, including players, managers, coaches, umpires, scorekeepers, league officials, volunteers and spectators have a responsibility to display proper behavior at all times. Any participant guilty of improper conduct at any game or practice will be asked to leave the sports facility and will be suspended from the following game. The CSLL Board of Directors may take disciplinary actions against any participant in the league whose behavior is not consistent with this Code of Conduct or is detrimental to the operation of CSLL. Disciplinary action may include warnings, game ejections, game suspensions, or expulsion from the league. While this Code of Conduct lists certain behaviors that would result in disciplinary action, it is not exhaustive and other conduct not specifically listed here could also result in disciplinary action.

Player Code of Conduct

1. I will learn the rules of the game and follow them.
2. I will always be respectful of my teammates, players on opposing teams, umpires, managers and coaches, league volunteers, spectators, and the property and fields of CSLL.
3. I will not use unsportsmanlike conduct. This means that I will use self-control at all times and will not use bad language or make unfriendly remarks. I will not hit, hurt or threaten anyone else. I will not throw a bat, ball, helmet or other equipment in anger. I will not boast, boo, taunt, or refuse to shake another player’s hand after a game.
4. I will encourage my teammates and will not criticize their mistakes or the mistakes of the players on the opposing team.
5. I will accept the umpire's decisions without argument.
6. I understand that I may be forced to leave the game or the league if I do not follow these rules.

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Parent Code of Conduct

1. I will follow all of the above rules and will insist that my child and other family members do the same.
2. I will set a good example of sportsmanship for my child and others to follow.
3. I will let the coaches do the coaching and will refrain from coaching any player except to provide encouragement.
4. I will not criticize the umpires, managers, coaches, players or the opposing team in front of others.
5. I will not engage in public displays of anger, and will not use profane or obnoxious language or gestures.
6. I will not heckle, jeer or distract players, umpires, managers or coaches.
7. I will never ridicule or yell at a child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition.
8. I will not use tobacco (or electronic cigarettes), drugs or alcohol while attending any game or practice, and will not come to any game or practice under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
9. I will be responsible for my guests and will ensure they follow the rules set forth in this document.
10. I will voluntarily remove myself from the field if directed to by an umpire, manager or league official.

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Manager/Coach Code of Conduct

1. I will follow all of the above rules (exception: Parent Code of Conduct, Item #3).
2. I will demonstrate good sportsmanship and be a positive role model to the players.
3. I will instruct the players in good sportsmanship and will remove players from competition who demonstrate unsportsmanlike conduct.
4. I will remove any player from the game or practice when even slightly in doubt of his/her health, whether or not as a result of an injury.
5. I will refrain from verbal or nonverbal conduct that is offensive, creates a hostile environment or is demeaning to athletes or fellow coaches. I will refrain from arguments in front of players and spectators.
6. I will be jointly responsible, together with the game officials, for the conduct and the control of teams and spectators. Anyone who violates the Code of Conduct by becoming out of control or aggressive will be asked to leave the game and the field. This Code of Conduct was approved by the CSLL Board of Directors on 2-4-21.

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Disciplinary Measures

First Offense

When a report of a first offense of the CSLL Code of Conduct is received by the CSLL Board of Directors, a written warning will be provided to the offender which will indicate the consequences of future violations. Depending on the severity of the first offense, nothing precludes the Board of Directors from suspension of an offender from all CSLL activities for a period of time deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors.

Second Offense

The Board of Directors may institute a wide range of penalties for repeat offenders, beginning with the second offense, as deemed appropriate by the Board. Such penalties include, but are not limited to: • suspension from all CSLL activities for a period of time deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors. • severe violations can result in suspension from all CSLL activities for the remainder of the current season or a permanent expulsion from all CSLL activities. See Third Offense.

Third Offense

The Board of Directors may choose to apply any of the penalties prescribed for a second offense. If the Board of Directors believes a permanent expulsion from CSLL is appropriate, the Board should provide notice to the player's parent or guardian or the individual against whom the action is being taken and allow that person to address a meeting of the Board on their own behalf. A certified letter should be sent to the offender to provide notice if there is sufficient current information available to the Board about the address of the individual. If the offender or their parent or guardian chooses not to respond, the Board should take appropriate action to safeguard the well being of the players and persons who attend CSLL activities. Any parent, coach, player, or spectator who has been suspended or expelled from league activities may petition in writing to the Board of Directors for a review of the penalty. The petition should be delivered to the League President. The Board of Directors' Executive Committee will meet as soon as reasonably possible to consider the petition. The aggrieved parties will have the opportunity to present their appeal at a meeting of the Board of Directors' Executive Committee. These disciplinary measures for Code of Conduct violations were approved by the CSLL Board of Directors.

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