

SPLL Umpire Interaction Policy

Sherman Park Little League has a zero tolerance policy for behavior that is disrespectful, discourteous, or may in any way be construed as intimidating towards its umpires.

With this policy, we hope to maintain an environment in Sherman Park LL that is both umpire friendly and that teaches our players to have respect for those in positions of authority.

Violations of this policy will result in disciplinary actions including **suspensions** and potentially expulsion from SPLL.

Players, coaches, and fans should understand that any critical behavior towards umpires (the kind that is all too common at professional sporting events and some other youth sports programs) will not be tolerated in SPLL.

We want every coach and parent to treat the umpire the way they would want to be treated if it was their son or daughter that was the umpire. It is far more productive for a player, coach, or team to react to disadvantageous umpire calls by focusing on how to overcome those "bad breaks," rather than focusing on the umpire who is just doing the best that he/she can.

Our umpire crew includes paid adults and some youths between the ages of 12 years old and up. Our youth umpire program is an important part of our mission to provide the kids with a positive environment to grow and learn through sports.

Interaction with Umpires:

Parents & coaches should enter every game with the understanding that umpires are human and so can make mistakes, just like the rest of us.

Coaches

- Address any issues calmly and tactfully with umpires.
- As managers and coaches, remind yourself before each game that all the adults are there to provide the players a fun, positive experience.
- <https://www.littleleague.org/university/articles/how-to-handle-an-umpires-questionable-call-as-a-manager-or-coach/>
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Parents -

- No loud questioning or comments from spectator areas regarding umpire calls.
- No direct questioning by parents of umpires during or after games – questions should be directed to your coach at a later time.

Even in the professional umpire ranks, including the World Series, critical calls are missed, so they will more than likely be missed at the Little League level.