

## Concord American Little League Sportsmanship and Conduct Policy for Managers and Coaches

### Introduction:

Concord American Little League (henceforth identified as CALL) is committed to providing a positive and enriching youth baseball experience for all athletes, emphasizing sportsmanship, character development, and skill development in a healthy and respectful environment. All managers and coaches are considered representatives of CALL and are expected to uphold the highest standards of conduct, both on and off the field.

### General Expectations:

- **Promote Positive Coaching:**
  - Prioritize the emotional and physical well-being of all players above winning.
  - Focus on teaching fundamental skills, teamwork, and fair play.
  - Offer constructive criticism and encouragement in a positive manner.
  - Avoid yelling, negativity, or abusive language towards players, umpires, or parents.
- **Maintain Field Decorum:**
  - Conduct yourselves with sportsmanship and professionalism at all times.
  - Respect umpires' decisions without arguing or questioning their judgement.
  - Resolve any disagreements with opposing managers calmly and professionally on the field.
  - Follow CALL's game protest procedures, if necessary.

### Farm (Minor Single A) Division

The Farm division is transitional from T-Ball/Coach pitch to baseball where outs and runs are now recorded in a traditional manner. As the division is transitional it is also an instructional division allowing players continued development in a less-competitive environment at a young age. As the Farm division includes special play modifiers to promote development while minimizing negative play experiences due to skill gaps, and allows defensive coaches on the field, managers and coaches are expected to respect these special rules and:

- Maintain the Farm division's focus on player development and skill building.
- Adhere to all local rule modifications implemented for the division.
- Accept the final decision of umpires in the Farm division
  - The umpire's call with regard to the "half way" rule is non-arguable.

**Consequences of Non-Compliance:**

- **First Offense:**
  - Any reported incident of rule defiance or on-field arguing will be investigated by the Board of Directors.
  - An official written warning will be issued to the offending individual(s).
- **Second Offense:**
  - Repeated disregard for playing rules or field decorum will result in a suspension for a number of games determined by the Board of Directors.
  - Repeat offenders may not be invited to manage in future seasons
    - Per league constitution the president of CALL appoints all managers and coaches and the board of directors approves this appointment

**Acknowledgement:**

All managers and coaches are required to read, understand, and sign this document to participate in Concord American Little League activities. By signing, you acknowledge your agreement to uphold its expectations and accept the consequences of any non-compliance.

**Please print, sign, and return a copy of this document to the Concord American Little League Board of Directors before taking possession of your team and commencing team activities.**

**Manager/Coach Name:**

**Printed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:**

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**Thank you for your commitment to creating a positive and enriching youth baseball experience for all players!**

**Concord American Little League Board of Directors**