

Tri-City PONY Coaches Code of Conduct

It is the goal of Tri-City Pony Baseball to provide a positive and instructive environment for all participants. Coaches are an essential part of assuring that the players and their families enjoy their experience with our league. As a coach, the responsibility rests with you to not only teach sound baseball technique but sportsmanship as well as serve as a role model for all involved. The players and their parents alike will be watching you and the way that you respond to all situations. It is essential that your conduct represents the league and yourself in the best possible way.

Coaches shall, by their actions and conduct, set an example for the players. The Board of Directors of Tri-City Pony Baseball will take a ZERO TOLERANCE stance in the event of a violation of the Coaches Code of Conduct.

As a COACH of Tri-City Pony Baseball, I agree to the following Code of Conduct:

1. I will remember that I represent myself, Tri-City Pony Baseball, PONY International, and will treat all players with respect, being positive and constructive at all times to all players, coaches and umpires.
2. I will never use abusive language or actions and will control myself at all times. As such, I will never belittle any participant, opposing team, official, or observer. Any issues should be handled in a respectful, quiet, and in an individual manner. I will insist that parents and members of my team follow my example.
3. I will treat all umpires with respect, recognizing that they are part of the game, like me. I recognize that baseball rules involve judgment and that on occasion there may be disagreement. If I have a disagreement or complaint, I will use the appropriate methods of appeal during and/or after the game. I will avoid confrontational behavior on the field.
4. I will continuously improve my baseball coaching skill by attending League-sponsored coaching clinics to the best of my ability.
5. I will have registration/medical release forms and a first aid kit on hand whenever my team is together.
6. I will monitor the behavior of my team's parents in the stands and will take action as necessary to ensure proper conduct.

7. I will promote sportsmanlike conduct, shaking hands with the opposing coaches and players after each game, encouraging my team members to cheer positively and shake hands with the other team in a sportsmanlike manner after the game as well.
8. I will not tolerate negative cheering, trash-talking or displays of anger or disrespect by my team.
9. I will assure all members of my team abide by the Good Neighbor Policy, parking only in approved areas at all fields.
10. I will conduct regular practices that will be used to teach sound baseball fundamentals while being fun for all involved. I recognize that I am coaching players of varying abilities and ensure all players are treated equally in terms of instruction and playing time.
11. Unless parents approve of their child leaving practice on their own, I will be sure that an adult is present until every player has been picked up after practice.
12. I will never seek to manipulate player evaluation scores, drafts, tryouts, or league rules to achieve an unfair advantage for my team.

Violation of this Parents/Spectators Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action against the violator, which may include any of the following:

1. Ejection: The violator may be ejected from the game by either an umpire that is officiating the game or by a Tri-City Pony Baseball Board Member. A violator may be ejected from a Tri-City Pony Baseball practice, game, activity, or event by a Tri-City Pony Baseball Board Member. A person that has been ejected from a practice, game, event, or activity must leave the site immediately without further incident, or be subject to further disciplinary action by the Tri-City Pony Board or removed by the police. Any person ejected will be automatically suspended from participating in their team's next scheduled game, regardless of where the next scheduled game is played. The Tri-City Pony Baseball Board will determine if further disciplinary action is warranted.
2. Probation: The violator will be advised in writing of the offense and the period of probation during which it is expected that no further violations will occur.
3. Suspension: The violator will be advised in writing of the offense and the period of suspension during which the violator is prohibited from participating in any Tri-City Pony Baseball games, activities, or events.
4. Dismissal: The violator will be advised in writing of the offense and informed that he/she is being dismissed from Tri-City Pony Baseball for the remainder of the season or other designated period of time.

5. Barred: The violator will be advised in writing of the offense and informed that he/she has been barred from present and future participation in the Tri-City Pony Baseball League permanently, or for a specified number of years.

****The Tri-City Pony Baseball Board of Directors will appoint a Disciplinary Review Panel and they shall review all issues concerning violations of the Parents/Spectators Code of Conduct. Their decision shall be final, unless appealed by the violator to the full Tri-City Pony Baseball Board. The full Tri-City Pony Baseball Board shall have discretion to determine whether to hear a violator's appeal. If the Board decides not to hear the appeal, then the 3-person review panel's decision shall be deemed the final decision of the Board. If the Board decides to hear the appeal, then the majority vote of the Board regarding the appeal shall be the final decision of the Board****