



The Pawcatuck Little League Code of Conduct

The Pawcatuck Little League (PLL) Bylaws state:

“Baseball is a physical and competitive sport; at times tempers may flare and poor judgment can occur. As parents and coaches, it is our responsibility to encourage our children and players to play according to the Principles stated in the Bylaws as well as by the rules of baseball. We must remember that children learn best by example: parents and coaches are expected to applaud the good plays from both teams and avoid yelling at players, coaches, officials, or spectators. Positive attitudes displayed by all will benefit everyone involved.”

Scope

The Code of Conduct pertains to behavior of all individuals affiliated with PLL in any way, and complements but does not replace The Pawcatuck Little League Bylaws, The Little League Baseball Official Regulations and Playing Rules, PLL Volunteer Agreement, and PLL Facilities Use Guidelines.

Expectations for Sportsmanlike Conduct

As a player, coach, or spectator:

1. I will promote good sportsmanship, teach good baseball skills, and have fun in the process.
2. I will not (in word or deed) overemphasize the value and importance of winning.
3. I will respect the coaches, players and spectators of the opposing team before, during and after the game, win or lose.
4. I will maintain control of my emotions and avoid actions, language and gestures that may be interpreted as hostile or humiliating.
5. I realize, accept and will practice the principle that a team's reputation is built not only on its playing ability, but also on its sportsmanship, courtesy and manner.

Conduct Guidelines

To address instances of questionable judgment the PLL has adopted the following guidelines for conduct. Action will be taken if, during any sanctioned Pawcatuck Little League event, **any manager, coach, parent, player, or official** displays unsportsmanlike conduct unbecoming to himself or the PLL:

1. Abuse or harassment of an official, coach, player, or spectator, whether it be verbal or physical, including but not limited to, swearing and/or obscene gestures which are reported to PLL will not be tolerated.



2. There are to be no conduct-related issues raised with an official, including coaches performing umpire duties as in Minors baseball, during the course of an inning in play.
3. Only the Team Manager may initiate a conduct-related discussion with an official. Any discussion with officials must occur between innings or following the game. This discussion will be in the presence of the opposing manager and official.
4. If there is a question on a specific call, the Manager may, from the dugout or Third Base Coaching position call time and approach the umpire for an explanation of the call. Even if an appeal is made, once explanation from the official is received, further discussion must wait until in between innings.
5. All questions and discussions held with umpires, managers, coaches, or parents will be held in conversational tones only.
6. If a parent, spectator, or coach is disruptive or demonstrates unsportsmanlike conduct, the umpire or league officials may ask the parent, spectator, or coach, to leave the ballpark. Please review Article IV of the PLL Bylaws for further clarification.

Violations

In the event the League is notified of a violation of the above guidelines, an investigation will occur by the Executive Committee as set forth in Article IV of the PLL bylaws. Please review Article IV of the PLL Bylaws for further clarification.

Conduct Expectations

It is not the intention of the PLL to limit the growth or development of any player, coach, or official within our program. It is with this in mind that we feel firm guidelines, on which our managers, coaches, officials, players and parents can rely, will encourage an attitude of good sportsmanship and mutual respect true to the Principles of sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage, and respect espoused in the Bylaws.

As parents and coaches responsible for the development of our sons and daughters and preparing them for successful futures, let's encourage the positive in youth sport. Applaud good efforts in both victory and defeat. Let's work toward removing the physical and verbal abuse present in youth sport. Communicate positively and provide support – keeping the game fun. Let us work together to make sure that this firm set of guidelines is just that. With all of your help these disciplinary actions will never need to be imposed.