



## **WEST MAUI LITTLE LEAGUE**

### **Coaches Code of Conduct**

Coaching is a youth sport program such as Little League Baseball is a privilege that is not to be taken for granted. As a manager or coach, appointed by the West Maui Little League (WMLL) Board of Directors, you have an important role in the development of the young children in our community. We strive to teach each child the positive values of trust, good sportsmanship, good citizenship, responsibility, respect, fair play and teamwork – values they can use throughout their lives. Baseball embodies the discipline of teamwork. They challenge players toward perfection of physical skills and bring into play the excitement of tactics and strategy. The very nature of baseball teaches that while every player eventually strikes out, or is on a losing team, there is always another chance for success in the next at-bat or game. With this in mind, the West Maui Little League expects each manager and coach to adhere to the following Code of Conduct:

### **SPORTSMANSHIP**

- I will promote good sportsmanship, teach good baseball skills, and have fun in the process.
- 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.
- I understand verbal abuse of an official, coach, player or spectator, including obscene gestures, will not be tolerated and that the offender may be removed from the WMLL fields at the discretion of any umpire or WMLL board member.
- I understand that managers and coaches will refrain from complaining about perceived bad calls to players and fans.
- I understand that all discussions will be held in conversational tones. Under no circumstances will a coach, fan, or player yell at an umpire, coach, fan, or other player. The lone exception to this rule is when a coach or player shouts to another coach or teammate during the course of play as part of that play.

- I understand that profanity is expressly forbidden at all times at the WMLL complex.
- I understand that alcoholic beverages and the use of illicit drugs are prohibited at all WMLL games, including events outside of the WMLL complex.
- I understand that the use of tobacco products on the WMLL fields and in the dugout is prohibited.

## **RULES AND POLICIES**

- I will now and understand the rules and abide by them (whether local or national). I will instruct my team members in the rules and coach my team in such a way as to motivate each player to compete accordingly to the rules at all times.
- I will adhere to all Little League safety guidelines from the Little League handbook and the WMLL By-Laws & Ground Rules, and WMLL Safety Manual, including participating in CPR and First Aid training.
- I will understand the WMLL participation rules for my division. All coaches must ensure that each player get minimum opportunities to bat and play the field in each game. I also understand that specific rules are also in place to limit the number and frequency of innings pitched by a particular player.
- I will fully comply with the Player/Parents Code of Conduct.

## **THE UMPIRES AND OTHER RESOURCES**

- I recognize baseball is a game of interpretations, and as a result, disputes will occur from time to time. However, it is important that players learn respect. All disputes that are taken up with the umpire will be handled in a civil manner. I understand that only managers may initiate such discussions with an umpire. The manager/coaches will conduct themselves with decorum and once the umpire has made his/her final ruling, the managers will make no further field protests.
- I understand that some of the umpires are “in training” as well as the players. I recognize that all umpires will make mistakes occasionally, and as a manager/coach, I will give the umpires the respect their position within the game deserves.
- I will be responsible in caring for equipment, keys delegated for my use, care of fields prior to games and for cleaning up fields, dugouts and stands after games in accordance with policies that WMLL may establish. I will make sure that all league provided equipment is clean and accounted for when returned after the season.

## **THE PARENTS AND THE LEAGUE**

- I will maintain an open line of communication with players and their parents. I will make myself deem approachable. When approached by a parent to discuss an issue, I will interact and respond in a courteous manner.
- I will understand and explain the philosophies, goals and objectives and Code of Conduct of WMLL (ex: WMLL is organized as a recreational league, meant for the enjoyment of all the players).
- I will ensure that fans of the team conduct themselves with sportsmanship and maturity at all times while in attendance at game sites and will assist the officials in maintaining control of spectators during games. Players, managers and coaches of participating teams may not address or mingle with spectators, nor sit in the stands during a game in which they are engaged in. I will make sure that coaches and players are the only persons allowed in the dugout during a game.
- I will support (through participation and organization of parents) WMLL in all fundraising efforts and field improvements efforts along with other duties that may be assigned to teams from time to time.

## **THE TEAM**

- I will conduct practices in an organized manner, with a planned agenda that focuses on specific skill development appropriate for the skill level of the players.
- I will focus on providing instruction that commensurate with each player's abilities, so that all players have the opportunity to advance their skills towards their full potential, gain confidence and develop self-esteem, as well as establish a solid foundation for further baseball competition.
- I will teach each player, especially through personal example, to be humble and generous in victory and proud and courteous in defeat.
- I understand that managers and coaches appointed by the league to be responsible for the team's action on the field and to represent the team in communications with the umpires, opposing teams and league. If a manager leaves the field, he shall designate a coach as a substitute who will then be responsible and held accountable for the manager's duties.

## **NON-GAME DUTIES OF MANAGERS**

Each manager has considerable duties outside of coordinating practices and managing the games. As a manager, I will adhere to the following as well:

- I will maintain open communication with players and parents to inform them of practices, games, and other responsibilities in a timely and efficient manner.
- I understand that teams are required to provide qualified umpires for assigned games throughout the season. I understand that it is my responsibility to either umpire the game myself or find a qualified.

- I understand that the home team is required to provide a qualified umpire for assigned games throughout the season. I understand that it is my responsibility to either umpire the game myself or find a **qualified** umpire (such as an assistant coach or a volunteer parent).
- I will attend all required coaches meetings, safety and umpiring clinics. If I cannot attend (due to a viable previously made commitment), I will ensure that one of my assistant coaches attends on my behalf.
- I will complete, obtain and submit to the WMLL all required paperwork, which will include Volunteer Applications and Coaches Code of Conduct forms.
- I will make sure that I maintain a binder containing my roster with copies of each of my player's Registration Form, Player Medical Release Forms, the WMLL By-Laws & Ground Rules, and a copy of the National League rule book and make sure the binder is present at each team practice and game.
- I understand that I am the point of contact between my team, other teams and WMLL officials. I understand that I am the person that is responsible for my team. I will take my obligations seriously and communicate effectively and in a courteous manner.



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I, \_\_\_\_\_, agree to follow the Code of Conduct and comply with all WMLL rules, policies and procedures. I understand the violation of the Code will not be tolerated and that violations will subject me to disciplinary actions in accordance to the WMLL By-Laws & Ground Rules, and could include a warning, game(s) suspension or season suspension, as well as impact my opportunity to manage or coach in future seasons. I further acknowledge the authority of the Board of Directors of West Maui Little League and understand that if permitted to manager or coach, I serve solely at the pleasure of the Board, which permission may be revoked AT ANY TIME. My failure to honor the authority of the Board and its members or to show them proper respect will be deemed to be a violation of the Code of Conduct. Accordingly, I understand that I may be called to speak to some or all of the Board Members at any time and that if called my failure to attend could result in an immediate suspension. I understand that if I am suspended I will not be permitted to attend any league functions (practices, games, etc).

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(Printed Name of Coach)

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(Signature of Coach)

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Date

*\*\*This page is to be returned to the Player Agent or League Official\*\**