

Grimsby Amateur Baseball Association Player's Code of Conduct

Grimsby Amateur Baseball Association (GABA) has a **zero tolerance policy** for volatile behaviour and adopts the Ontario Amateur Softball Association Anti-Harassment Policy & Procedures.

The essential elements of character building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and good citizenship. The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these "six pillars of character".

Therefore as a player for Grimsby Amateur Baseball Association, I will...

1. **FOLLOW THE GOLDEN RULE** - and treat my teammates, coaches, opponents and officials in the same manner I would like to be treated. This means with respect, dignity, and total sportsmanship at all times.
2. **BE A GOOD SPORT** - and play fair, be a leader, set the example and rise above poor behaviour.
3. **NOT USE DRUGS, ALCOHOL OR TOBACCO** - anywhere on the fields, surrounding areas or in the parking lots. I will respect and abide by GABA's Tobacco-Free Policy.
4. **LEARN THE RULES** - of the game and the policies of the Association. I will abide by those rules and policies.
5. **PRACTICE THE FUNDAMENTALS** - and master the basics of baseball. I will practice my throwing, catching, base running and swinging a bat over and over again.
6. **NOT ARGUE WITH AN UMPIRE** - Umpires don't care who wins or loses and they don't have favourite players. All they want is for a fair and safe game to be played.
7. **LISTEN TO MY COACH** - My coach may be the best, the worst or somewhere in between but it makes no difference. I'm on a team and my job is to listen attentively to what my coach is saying. Without coaches I wouldn't have a team to play on.
8. **SIT ON THE BENCH** – between innings, cheer on my teammates and not visit with my parents or other spectators. I'm part of a team and my team is relying on all of its members.
9. **PLAY HARD** - and give it my all. I won't let me or my team down even if I don't feel like playing one day.
10. **BE PATIENT WITH MY TEAMMATES** - Every player on my team, including me, has strengths and weaknesses. Baseball is a team sport so I will be patient with my teammates as they improve their games.
11. **NOT USE PROFANITY** - or talk 'trash' before, during or after any game.
12. **RESPECT THE PROPERTY OF GABA** – including the grounds, buildings and equipment. I will help ensure property remains free of vandalism and debris.
13. **INCLUDE MY PARENTS** - My parents only want the best for me and want to see me succeed. I may need to remind them there will be ups and downs but my goal is to have fun.
14. **HAVE FUN** - It's a simple concept. Win or lose, I will try to enjoy every moment on the field. If playing isn't fun, then I will talk to my coach, parents or someone else about my feelings.

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15. **THANK MY COACHES, OFFICIALS AND ASSOCIATION MEMBERS** – for volunteering their time and helping run a program that benefits me. I will thank my parents for supporting my love of baseball and getting me to practices and games.
16. **ENCOURAGE AND INSIST ALL PLAYERS, COACHES, OFFICIALS AND SPECTATORS TO FOLLOW GABA'S CODES OF CONDUCT** - These expectations are what make GABA great!

I also agree if I fail to abide by the above **zero tolerance rules and guidelines** I will be subject to consequences, which pending decision by a Disciplinary Committee, could include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Verbal warning by league, official, manager or coach
- Written warning by the league
- Parent and Player game suspension with written documentation kept on file at GABA.
- Parent and Player season suspension with written documentation kept on file at GABA.

POLICY APPROVAL

This policy will be reviewed by the GABA Executive Committee annually.

Policy Approved: January 5, 2012

Policy Revised: not applicable