

Acton Boxborough Youth Softball (ABYSB)

Code of Conduct

Coaches

Acton Boxborough Youth Softball (ABYSB) will not tolerate any unsportsmanlike conduct within any of our divisions. Board members, coaches and parents are expected to conduct themselves as positive role models within the community.

Coaches are responsible for the conduct of their players, as well as the parents and other spectators who attend the game. A coach, assistant coach, player, or spectator can be removed from the playing field or spectator area by order of an umpire, division coordinator or any other board member for violating any of the following codes of conduct.

These codes express the core values and goals for ABYSB from the perspective of coach conduct. It is essential they be honored and followed.

- I will be mindful of the safety of all players and will inspect equipment and field conditions for safety reasons.
- I will endeavor to be a good instructor and a positive role model for my players.
- I will teach all players the skills of the game, the values of teamwork and the meaning of good sportsmanship (My actions will reflect these values).
- I will see that all players get approximately equal playing time regardless of their current skill set (ABYSB is a recreational/development league).
- I will maintain order on the bench (and with parents and other spectators) at all times and will not tolerate cheers/chants which are offensive or antagonistic to the opposing players, coaches or umpires.
- I will not complain to or confront another coach during a game. If there is an issue or concern I will take it up with the Division Coordinator.
- I will respect the umpires and their authority, and will not complain to or confront an umpire during a game. If I do not understand a call, I may respectfully request clarification from an umpire. If there is an issue or concern with an umpire I will notify the ABYSB Board after the game.
- I will never use profanity, abusive language or threatening behavior towards any player, parent, coach, or umpire.
- I will know and will follow all ABYSB League Philosophy, ASA rules and ABYSB Local Rule Modifications (as detailed in our Coaches documentation) and conduct myself in accordance of these rules.
- I will be responsible for all league equipment and will return it by the date established by the league.

Disciplinary Process

It is the responsibility of the ABYSB Board of Directors to review all reported violations of the Code of Conduct.

If a coach, assistant coach, player or spectator is removed from a game or otherwise notified by a Board member that they have potentially violated the Code of Conduct, that person shall provide a written statement describing his/her version of the events and/or other explanation to the ABYSB President within twenty four (24) hours of the incident or notification. He/she may not participate in any game or practice until doing so.

It is the responsibility of everyone involved in ABYSB to report violations to this code of conduct to their Division Coordinator or another Board member. In the event that that Board is notified of a violation of the above guidelines, the Board will conduct an investigation of the facts consisting of interviews with those involved. The Board shall review the statements and gather any other information from other parties that they deem necessary to determine if a violation occurred.

Following an investigation of the facts, a determination on actions to be taken will be made by the Board. The person accused of the violation, will be notified of the decision from the Board in writing within one week of the Board's determination on action to be taken.

It is not the intent of the ABYSB Board to limit the growth or development of any player, coach, or official within the program. It is with this in mind that we feel firm guidelines, on which our coaches, officials, players and parents can rely, will encourage an attitude of good sportsmanship and mutual respect. **With your help, these actions will never need to be imposed.**

Please note that these "Actions to Be Taken" are at the full discretion of the ABYSB Board. This list is provided to ensure an understanding of the potential consequences.

Range of "Actions to Be Taken":

1. First offense - Warning from the ABYSB Board to possible game or season suspension(s)
2. Second offense – Game or season suspension(s) to possible permanent league suspension

My signature indicates that I have read, understood and will abide by the ABYSB Code of Conduct.

Name (print): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Division: _____