

## ROANOKE USSSA BASEBALL CODE OF CONDUCT GUIDELINES AND POLICY



- Over the past several years youth sports have become a breeding ground for great competition. It has also become a breeding ground for unsportsmanlike behavior and conduct. The time has come to put a stop to that type of behavior at our Roanoke USSSA events. We want to be your first choice for travel sports for many reasons, including our venues, officials, organization, competition, and event formats. We pledge to you not only to be the leader in travel sports for those reasons stated but because we care about the future of our children. We will strive to be positive role models on and off the field, putting your children first for safety, and displaying integrity that is second to none. Unsportsmanlike behavior by a player, fan, coach, team, umpire, etc. WILL NOT BE TOLERATED from this point moving forward.
- All players, coaches, managers, sponsors and spectators are expected to conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times.
- Any player, coach, manager, sponsor or spectator whose conduct is unbecoming or abusive shall at a minimum be reprimanded with a warning. If warranted, the offending party shall be ejected from the game at the discretion of the Umpires and / or the Tournament Director.
- Any player, coach, manager, sponsor or spectator leaving their position or base, in the field, on the bench, in the dugout area or grandstands to participate or entice a fight, brawl or altercation shall be immediately ejected from the game and may be disbarred / suspended pursuant to USSSA National Bylaw Rule 13.00.
- Any coach, manager, sponsor or spectator ejected from a game shall immediately remove himself from the vicinity of the playing field and / or grandstands for the remainder of the game. Additional penalties may be assessed at the discretion of the Tournament Director.
- Any player ejected from a game shall either immediately remove himself from the vicinity of the playing field for the remainder of the game or be confined to the dugout area for the remainder of the game at the discretion of the Tournament Director and or the UIC.
- All persons ejected may be asked to leave the park and / or venue at the discretion of the Tournament Director and or the UIC.
- Abusive language or cursing shall not be tolerated under any circumstances and shall result in an automatic ejection.
- Throwing of equipment shall result in an automatic ejection.
- If necessary, a team may be forced to forfeit a game and / or be removed from the tournament if warranted by the UIC, and or the Tournament Director. Further implications could be disbarment from participating in Roanoke USSSA sanctioned events for continued non compliance of rules and procedures.
- As these rules indicate, the matter of disorderly conduct shall be taken seriously. The leagues / tournaments your team will be participating in will include some of the finest baseball teams in the world. The level of competition will be high and at times fierce. Because of this, please remind all players, coaches, managers, sponsors and spectators to be extra aware of good sportsmanship.

Roanoke USSSA Baseball has adopted and recommends the following as support guidelines to our policy. We have implemented Parent, Manager, Player, and Official Codes of Conduct

Our codes of conduct hold an important message about the proper role of parents, managers, players, and officials in our program.

## **PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT**

We, Roanoke USSSA Directors, have implemented the following Parent Code of Conduct for the important message that it holds about the proper role of parents in supporting the youth of our community and their child in sports.

The essential elements of character building and ethics in sports are the foundations of sportsmanship and are demonstrated by the core principles of respect, responsibility, fairness, and good citizenship.

As a Parent participating in Roanoke USSSA sanction events, I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care, and encouragement for each child participating in Roanoke USSSA sanctioned events by adhering to the following code of conduct:

- I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support at all times.
- I will remember that children participate to have fun, and that the game is for youth, not adults.
- I will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player or parent such as booing and taunting, refusing to shake hands, or using profane language.
- I will respect the officials and their authority during games.
- I will not confront coaches or managers at any time during games.
- Alcoholic beverages are prohibited.

I also agree that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I will be subject to disciplinary action levied by the Directors of Roanoke USSSA Sports that could include, but is not limited to the following:

- Verbal Warning
- Written Warning
- Parental suspension for games
- Parental season suspension
- Parental removal from all Roanoke USSSA activities

The Directors of Roanoke USSSA retains the sole authority to determine what, if any, disciplinary action is appropriate for any conduct infraction. Discussions with the localities where the infraction took place can also have consequences as well.

## **MANAGER CODE OF CONDUCT**

Youth sports programs play an important role in promoting the physical, social, and emotional development of children. As managers and coaches participating in Roanoke USSSA sanctioned events, you should be models of good sportsmanship and behavior for your child and all children in the community including participants and spectators alike.

The Directors of Roanoke USSSA Sports ask that you pledge to be responsible for your words and actions while coaching, officiating, and participating in Roanoke USSSA sanctioned events and that you conform your behavior to the following Code of Conduct:

- Place the emotional and physical well being of players ahead of personal desire to win.
- Treat each player as an individual, remembering the large range of emotional and physical development for the same age group.
- Do your best to provide a safe playing environment for all players.
- Do your best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all players.
- Lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all players.
  
- Teach the rules of the game to all players.
- Remember that you are a youth sports coach and that the game is for children and not adults.

- Do not abuse other coaches, umpires, parents, or players.
- Promote fun, fairness, and sportsmanship.
- Do not engage in the use of profanity or other offensive language.
- Encourage all team members to treat all players, teammates, coaches, officials, and parents with respect.
- Be responsible for league policies.

I also agree that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I will be subjected to disciplinary action levied by the Directors of Roanoke USSSA Sports that could include, but is not limited to the following:

- Verbal warning
- Written warning
- Manager/coaches suspension for games
- Manager/coaches season suspension
- Manager/coach removal from all Roanoke USSSA Sports activities

The Directors of Roanoke USSSA Sports retains the sole authority to determine what, if any, disciplinary action is appropriate for any conduct infraction. Discussions with the localities where the infraction took place can also have consequences as well.

### **PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT**

Player's responsibilities are simple; be respectful of others, be responsible, play fair, and always do your best, and always exhibit good sportsmanship.

As a Roanoke USSSA Sports participant I hereby pledge that I will:

- Encourage good sportsmanship from fellow players, coaches, officials, and parents.
- Be a team player and support my teammates.
- Work hard to improve my skills.
- Do my best to listen and learn from my coaches.
- Encourage my parents to be involved with my team in some capacity.
- Congratulate the other team after each game as a demonstration of sportsmanship.
- Refrain from using violence, unfriendly language, or insults to others.
- Be generous when I win and gracious when I lose.
- Obey the rules of the game and always work for the good of the team.
- Accept the decisions of the officials with grace and never challenge or question calls. Refrain from challenging or questioning on-field calls by officials and/or managers and coaches.
- Conduct myself with honor and dignity.
- Applaud the efforts of my teammates and opponents.

I also agree that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I will be subject to disciplinary action levied by the Directors of Roanoke USSSA Sports that could include but is not limited to the following:

- Verbal warning
- Written warning
- Player suspension for games
- Player suspension for season
- Player being expelled from Roanoke USSSA Sports sanctioned events

The Directors of Roanoke USSSA Sports retains the sole authority to determine what, if any, disciplinary action is appropriate for any conduct infraction. Discussions with the localities where the infraction took place can also have consequences as well.

### **OFFICIAL CODE OF CONDUCT**

Official's responsibilities are simple; be respectful of all, be responsible, be fair, and always do your best, and always exhibit good sportsmanship.

As a Roanoke USSSA Sports official I hereby pledge that I will:

- Improve at all times by observing other umpires.
- Conduct myself as to not draw attention to myself, but to the players.
- My conduct should be that of good example.
- Be fair and unbiased regardless of the score.
- Be firm but not overbearing.
- Be positive and respectful.
- Do not be rude.
- Be confident without being arrogant.
- A fair game is more important than the wishes of players, coaches, or the umpire
- Discuss issues and rulings only with the head coach of a team. The head coach will be designated at the home plate meeting of each game.

I also agree that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I will be subject to disciplinary action levied by the Directors of Roanoke USSSA Sports and the UIC of Roanoke USSSA Sports that could include but is not limited to the following:

- Verbal warning
- Written warning
- Official suspension for games
- Official suspension for season
- Official being expelled from Roanoke USSSA Sports sanctioned events

The Directors of Roanoke USSSA Sports and the UIC of Roanoke USSSA Sports retains the sole authority to determine what, if any, disciplinary action is appropriate for any conduct infraction. Discussions with the localities where the infraction took place can also have consequences as well.



**UNSPORTSMANLIKE BEHAVIOR WILL NO LONGER BE TOLERATED BY ROANOKE USSSA BASEBALL.**  
**THOSE THAT CANNOT ABIDE BY THE ABOVE MENTIONED RULES SHOULD NOT ENTER INTO OUR**  
**EVENTS. IT IS OUR DESIRE TO RUN GREAT EVENTS WITH GREAT PEOPLE FOR GREAT PEOPLE!**