



Blue Mountains Baseball and Softball Club Code of Conduct

Blue Mountains Baseball and Softball Club is a registered sporting club affiliated with Baseball NSW and Softball NSW.

We expect all players, coaches, officials, spectators and supporters to act in accordance with the standards, policies, procedures, rules and regulations of Blue Mountains Baseball and Softball Club, Baseball NSW, Softball NSW and affiliated associations and organisations under which our games are played.

Our primary objective is to foster the games of baseball and softball among people of all ages living within the Blue Mountains area, and to encourage participation as players, coaches, officials, spectators and supporters of the games.

We value our club's positive contribution to the public images of both of the sports of baseball and softball, and to our community, and to the reputations of those associated with the sports.

We expect that our players, coaches, officials, spectators and supporters will, when representing the club or being recognised as a member of the club at any games, functions, events or in public:

1. be positive role models for the games of baseball and softball at all times;
2. respect the rights, dignity and contributions of all people connected with our sports, and refrain from any practices which may be discriminatory, real or perceived, against any person on the basis of age, gender, ethnic origin, religion or ability;
3. be professional in their appearance and manner and accept responsibility for their actions at all times:
 - displaying high standards of language, manner, punctuality, preparation and presentation;
 - displaying control, respect, dignity and professionalism to all involved with baseball and softball, including players, coaches, officials, spectators and supporters;
 - maintaining high standards of personal appearance and behavior;
 - encourage others to demonstrate the same qualities;
4. be fair, considerate, impartial and honest in all dealings with others;
5. make a commitment to providing quality service if participating as a coach or official;

6. understand their responsibilities and accept any outcomes of breaches of this Code or the standards, policies, procedures, rules and regulations of Blue Mountains Baseball and Softball Club, Baseball NSW, Softball NSW and affiliated associations and organisations under which the sports are played;
7. not use their involvement with the club or an affiliated association, organisation or club to promote their own beliefs, behaviours or practices where these are inconsistent with those of the club or an affiliated association or organization, or would not reasonably be expected to be promoted through their role with the club; and
8. act in accordance with the relevant legislation relating to the protection of children and young people and provide a safe environment for the conduct of the sports.

Acceptable Behaviours

9. The following are considered by our club to be some examples of acceptable behaviour for players, coaches, officials, spectators and supporters of the games of baseball and softball:
 - accepting the decisions of umpires to be fair and called to the best of their ability;
 - demonstrating sportsmanship and encouraging sportsmanship in others;
 - considering the health and welfare of others above the desire to win a game;
 - cheering and positively supporting the club's players and teams;
 - using appropriate language to support and encourage the club's players and teams;
 - treating all players, coaches, officials, spectators and supporters with dignity and respect; and
 - treating equipment, grounds and facilities in an appropriate and safe manner.

Unacceptable Behaviours

10. The following are considered by our club to be some examples of unacceptable behaviour for players, coaches, officials, spectators and supporters of the games of baseball and softball:
 - demonstrating dissent towards the decisions of umpires;
 - demonstrating poor sportsmanship and encouraging poor sportsmanship among others;
 - acting in a manner which is detrimental to the health or welfare of others;

- consuming alcohol on or immediately adjacent to the playing diamond or in any areas which are not endorsed for such consumption;
- smoking tobacco or using e-cigarettes on or immediately adjacent to the playing diamond or in any areas which are not endorsed for such use;
- using illicit drugs or drugs which are on the *List of Prohibited Substances and Methods* of the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority;
- criticising other players or teams;
- swearing or using inappropriate language and derogatory terms towards players, coaches, officials, spectators and supporters of our club or competing clubs;
- demonstrating conduct which may be perceived as harassment towards players, coaches, officials, spectators and supporters; and
- abusing equipment, grounds and facilities or causing malicious damage to them.

Social Media

11. The Club supports the use of social media as a means of Club communication and promotion.

Our social media presence represents the values of the Club and its members, and is open to viewing from all members of the community.

In using the Club's social media channels members must ensure that their behavior is consistent with the Code of Conduct and must not cause injury, humiliation or distress to any individual, whether that individual be a member of the Club of any other person.

Members who use the Club's social media channels inappropriately will be excluded from the use of those channels.

Breaches of the Code of Conduct

12. Breaches of this Code of Conduct will be considered by the Club Disciplinary and Grievances Committee established for that purpose and may be subjected to penalties determined by the committee, including but not limited to suspension or deregistration, as laid out in Section 23 of the Club's Constitution.

Distribution of the Code of Conduct

13. This Code of Conduct will be distributed to all members of the club and displayed on the Club's websites for the information of all players, coaches, officials, spectators and supporters of the club.