

LondonSports strives to maintain a sportsmanlike and educational atmosphere before, during and after all baseball and softball practices and games. Every participant, whether player, coach, volunteer, umpire, parent, sibling, relative or spectator, has a responsibility to comply with and respect our Code of Conduct and to behave in a respectful and sportsmanship like manner so that youth baseball and softball will be a strongly desirable and rewarding experience and that disrespectful and/or unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. Loss of self-control is never acceptable.

Your role as an adult member of the LondonSports community is to familiarise yourself with the safeguarding policies and procedures we have adopted from the BritishBaseballFederation, BritishSoftballFederation, BSUK and LittleLeague and posted on the website under “about us/safeguarding” and to review with every family member who attends the Scrubs the Code of Conduct you have signed off upon registration, which states as follows:

Everyone involved in the sports of baseball and softball, on and off the field, is expected to demonstrate exemplary behaviour in order to promote the sport and ensure that all participants (children and adults) can play in a safe and secure environment and is therefore committed to:

- *Adhere to the Official Rules found on the LondonSports website*
- *Promote fair play and behave within the spirit of the Official Rules*
- *Always respect the decisions of match officials*
- *Never engage in public criticism of match officials*
- *Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour*
- *Avoid bullying, intimidation and poor behaviour*
- *Show respect to others involved in the game including match officials, opposition players, coaches, managers, volunteers, staff and spectators*

Coaches/umpires/parents are role models. As such they shall always conduct themselves so as to maintain the highest principles, integrity and dignity of the game.

At times, coaches and parents/guardians may have an issue about coaching styles, playing time, discipline, etc. It is imperative that discussions between coaches and parents/guardians be conducted civilly and at a location that is away from the rest of the team. If the tone of any discussion escalates into something other than civil or is conducted publicly, the discussion between the coach and parents/guardians should end immediately and be taken up again at a less emotionally charged time, or can be taken to any of the Trustees, who collectively form the Disciplinary Committee and will resolve all issues and has ultimate authority in all cases.

Coaches/Players/Parents/Umpires who fail to uphold the Code of Conduct are subject to disciplinary action.

Levels of Violation during LondonSports related functions and activities:

Level 1: Inappropriate verbal or non-verbal abuse

Level 2: Confrontation or reaction to specific events or triggers

1. Open disputing or arguing with the decision of an umpire, coach, trainer, spectator or

player whether on or off the field.

2. Obscene or vulgar language or the use of a physical act that is vulgar or obscene, racial or swearing.
3. Encouraging abusive or unsportsmanlike behavior in any player, coach, trainer, umpire, administrator or spectator.
4. Visual or verbal sign(s) of dissatisfaction with any umpire, coach or trainers decision.
5. Taunting or ridiculing of umpires, coaches, trainers, players, administrators or spectators.
6. Throwing of any object directed in the spectator's viewing area, at a person in the playing area (including bench area) on the field or as to create the potential of a safety hazard or issue.
7. Not stopping the conduct once advised to do so.
8. Not voluntarily leaving a field or training facility once advised to do so by any Umpire or coach

Level 3 - Complete loss of self control

1. On or Off field physical violence or fighting, or abusive physical contact
2. Threats of any nature.
3. Returning to field or training facility after being ejected.
4. Any actions that require the use of third parties to control the conduct or situation

Suspension / Ejections:

Level 1 Violation: immediate benching of player and 1 inning suspension

Level 2 Violation: suspension for the remainder of the game (and if in last inning, for next game) and up to 3 games

Level 3 Violation: suspension for the season and up to a lifetime ban.

Whether the violation is committed by the player or parent/guardian, the suspension or ejection applies to both.

Reports of violations at level 2 and 3 of the Code of Conduct are to be submitted in writing to Trustees@LondonSports.com within 24 hours, complaints of any nature within 7 days. A written appeal of the suspension can be submitted to the Disciplinary Committee within 24 hours of notice of such suspension. No appeal is allowed for a suspension that resulted from misconduct reported to the Disciplinary Committee if the Disciplinary Committee finds that the misconduct did occur.

Please note: For concerns about Youth Protection please contact our safeguarding officers.