

# NORTHVILLE BASEBALL-SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

## COACH/UMPIRE CODE OF CONDUCT

- PURPOSE:** The purpose of this code is to establish an agreement regarding expected on-field demeanor between coaches and umpires involved with Northville Baseball/Softball.
- RANGE:** This code will be in effect for both House and Travel games being umpired by a representative of Northville Umpires Association. Coaches are responsible for notifying both their assistants and parents of its existence. Coaches should control parents during contests.
- CODE:** Baseball/Softball are competitive sports. The umpires working each game realize this, and understand your desire to win each game. However, a strong desire to win is, under no circumstances, acceptable reason to behave in an inappropriate manner. The following offenses are unacceptable and will not be tolerated:
- Verbal abuse. This includes directly and indirectly. Indirectly refers to talking to other coaches/parents at a voice level audible to the umpire;
  - Physical contact of any kind;
  - “Carrying on”—i.e. talking about a call made some number of innings past;
  - Arguing of judgment calls (balls/strikes/out/safe);
  - Throwing/kicking equipment;
  - Trying to get parents to behave in an inappropriate manner;
  - Acting in any manner deemed inappropriate by the umpire(s).
- PENALTY:** The penalty for violating any of these offenses shall be immediate ejection from the playing field (Northville Umpires Association’s definition of ejection is out of sight and sound i.e. leaving the premises).
- POINTS:** Please take the following into consideration:
- Most of your umpires will be 14-17 year olds. How would you treat your son/daughter at that age?
  - Umpires make 100+ decisions each game. These decisions must be made on a split-second basis. Could you have seen it that clearly?
  - Regardless of what you think, no umpire is out “to get” your team.
  - Coaches and umpires are both human. Coaches make coaching errors and umpires make umpiring errors.
  - Each head coach is expected to share this code with parents of his/her team members.
  - Each head coach is expected to make his/her assistants aware of this code. It applies to any coach, not just the one whose signature appears below.

**Each umpire has seen this code and is; therefore, instructed to remove any coach violating it.**

Printed name of coach: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Acknowledged by: Bob Boshoven, Umpire Director