

# CODE OF CONDUCT

## Foreword

In order to advance the principals of sportsmanship and fair play and to promote mutual respect among players, coaches, umpires and spectators, the Zelenople-Harmony Athletic Association has established a "Code of Conduct".

The Code of Conduct shall govern the actions of players, coaches and spectators. The Code is intended to provide behavioral guidance and establish clear expectations for all involved. The Code was not conceived to address every possible behavioral circumstance; however, it shall serve as the Organization's standard for behavioral evaluation.

It shall be the obligation of all program participants, spectators and volunteers, to comply with the terms and provisions of the Code of Conduct. Any person violating the Code shall be subject to administrative action, up to and including termination of his/her privilege to participate in, or attend, any or all ZHAA sponsored activities.

## Code of Conduct

### Coaches

Coaches shall remain unconditionally supportive of the Organization's commitment to the ideals of good sportsmanship, team play, honesty, loyalty, courage and respect for authority. Likewise, coaches shall remain sensitive to the physical and emotional well being of the players on his/her team. In order to adhere to these doctrines, the coaches agree as follows:

- Coaches will be positive role models.
- Coaches will display and instill in their players the principles of good sportsmanship and team play.
- Coaches will conduct themselves in a manner that best serves the interests of the players.
- Coaches will do their best to provide the players a positive experience.
- Coaches will ensure that winning and/or losing teams do so in a manner, which exhibits respect and good sportsmanship.
- Coaches will treat all players, parents, spectators, opposing coaches, umpires and league officials with respect.
- Coaches will provide instruction in a manner that is constructive and supportive.
- Coaches will not ridicule, display anger, intimidate or demean players, other coaches, or umpires.
- Coaches will not tolerate behavior that endangers the health or well-being of a child.
- Coaches will not use abusive language, indecent gestures, swear or participate in negative cheering.
- Coaches will comply with the decisions of league officials and observe all rules, policies and procedures as established or endorsed by the ZHAA.
- Coaches will teach the game of baseball to the best of their ability.
- Coaches will be drug and alcohol free while at any ZHAA athletic event.
- Coaches will not use any tobacco products in the dugout or on the playing field.

- Coaches will acknowledge the need to demonstrate fundamental proficiencies with respect to the game of baseball and first aid. Consequently, all coaches agree to attend any skill sessions that may be required by the Board of Directors and moreover, any first aid courses that may be mandated by the Board.

### **Parents and Spectators**

The Parents and Spectators shall support the players, coaches, umpires and league officials. Parents and Spectators shall not "coach" or "officiate". Parents and Spectators agree as follows:

- Parents and Spectators will be positive role models.
- Parents and Spectators will display and instill in all players, the principles of good sportsmanship and team play.
- Parents and Spectators will conduct themselves in a manner that best serves the interests of the players.
- Parents and Spectators will do their best to provide the players a positive experience.
- Parents will make certain that their children show respect for all other players, coaches, officials and spectators.
- Parents and Spectators will not ridicule, taunt, humiliate or demean players, coaches, or umpires.
- Parents will inform the coach of any disability or ailment that may affect the safety of their child.
- Parents and Spectators will treat all players, coaches and umpires fairly and with respect.
- Parents and Spectators will comply with the decisions of league officials and observe all rules, policies, and procedures as established or endorsed by the ZHAA.
- Parents and Spectators will not question an umpire's call.
- Parents and Spectators will respect the opponent and avoid any confrontation with opposing players, spectators, or coaches.
- Parents and Spectators will be drug and alcohol free while at any ZHAA athletic event.

### **Players**

Players shall...

- Display good sportsmanship and team play at all times.
- Follow the direction of the Coaching Staff.
- Respect all coaches, players, league officials, umpires and spectators.
- Make every attempt to be on time and ready to play for all games and practices.
- Wear the proper uniform and equipment in the proper manner.

Players shall not...

- Use abusive or profane language.
- Taunt or humiliate any other player.
- Question an umpire's call.
- Abuse, mistreat or mishandle any ZHAA or personal equipment or property (e.g., throwing batting helmets, bats, balls, etc.)

The BOD will have the authority to discipline any player, coach, umpire, parent/guardian or board member who has violated any of the above guidelines or whose conduct is considered detrimental to the best interests of the ZHAA. The BOD can discipline violations in one of the following actions depending on the severity of the matter:

- Warning: The offending person (parent/guardian for someone under 18) is advised of the nature of the offense and informed that further violations will result in a more severe penalty, or
- Probation: The offending person (parent/guardian for someone under 18) is given a written warning and enters a period of probation to be determined by the board of commissioners. Further violations will result in suspension or barring from further participation in the ZHAA, or
- Suspension: The offending person (parent/guardian for someone under 18) is suspended from participating in ZHAA activities for a length of time to be determined by the BOD, or
- Bar: The offending person (parent/guardian for someone under 18) is barred from future participation in ZHAA activities to the end of the baseball season at a minimum. A violator can only be reinstated by approval of the BOD

In addition to the above disciplinary options, any person ejected from a game is ineligible to return to the field for the next scheduled game of their team and any person ejected from a game twice in one season is automatically suspended from participating in any ZHAA sponsored activities until such time as they are reinstated by the BOD.

Any person subjected to disciplinary action will be informed in writing of the BOD's review of their conduct and have the right to appear before the board of commissioners to explain their conduct before disciplinary action is imposed. The BOD's decision regarding disciplinary action will be communicated within seven (7) days of the review.

No person subject to disciplinary action will be entitled to a refund of the registration fee, fund raising fee or any fee associated with a special event.

Player or Volunteer name (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian or Volunteer (signature) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_