



Kenilworth Winnetka Baseball Association

House League Coaches' Creed

Welcome to the KWBA! Since 1971, it has been our goal to provide our community with a first rate youth baseball experience. For most of our players, our House League will serve as their introduction to baseball and as a coach, you will have the opportunity to create a positive experience for each of our players. Our **Coaches Creed** provides guidelines and tips that will help you throughout the season. On behalf of our league, thanks for your contributions!

- KWBA is a community based baseball league. **Our mission is to teach baseball, encourage good sportsmanship, and to have fun.** Make sure your players and especially your parents understand this. Talk to your Commissioner if you have any questions or concerns particularly if you have issues with a parent(s), another team's coach, or umpire.
- **Communicate** often with the parents of your players. Weekly emails that provide an overview of scheduled events are encouraged. Also, make sure that the other parents are able to contact you in case of conflicts.
- Whenever possible, **attend all coaches training clinics** (especially coaches who are new to KWBA). Everyone's experience is enhanced by having competent coaches who can effectively run practices and are prepared to manage games.
- **Proper sportsmanship must be displayed at all times.** Your conduct will set the tone for your team. Always make sure the example you set is the right one.
- **KWBA has a zero-tolerance policy regarding the treatment of umpires.** Any combative or abusive behavior toward the umpires will result in disciplinary action.
- **Pace of play is CRITICAL.** Make sure your team hustles between innings and that games move along at a brisk pace. Also, encourage those kids on the bench to remain engaged through cheering, scorekeeping, and pointing out to them the nuances of the game.
- **Plan in advance!** Make sure to invest the time necessary to ensure your practices are constructive and the games are spirited. ALWAYS prepare your lineup prior to game time and when you can, make sure you and/or your assistant coaches arrive 30 minutes prior to games.
- **Pay equal attention to all of your players.** KWBA requires that you rotate positions at least every other inning and help develop your players in a variety of situations and positions. Remember, the ones who will benefit the most from your instruction are those who have the most to learn.
- **Take care of your equipment** and it will take care of you and your players.
- **Never punish a player** on the field or put him/her in a position of vulnerability. It is your responsibility to make sure that no undue stress is placed on any player. If a child has an injury, make sure you follow up to see how he/she is doing after they have received proper attention.