

Naperville Little League Baseball (NLLB)

Umpire/Coach/Player Respect Policy

NLLB is committed to providing every participant with a positive baseball experience. The fabric of a youth participation sports league is held together by good sportsmanship and a mutual respect of all involved. This policy addresses expectations, and when failures, penalties.

Umpires - NLLB utilizes youth umpires and sees this program as an additional benefit to the youth of our community. Most of the umpires are minors dealing with adults, trying to be equitable in applying the rules of the game, and unfortunately once a coach intimates or upstages a youngster/umpire, no good can come of it. NLLB can't function without these youngsters, and to that end our position usually is, that on the baseball field, the umpire right or wrong, is to be assumed right.

Umpire abuse at its simplest is defined as any deliberate action that makes an umpire feel physically threatened verbally intimidated or emotionally humiliated. Disrespectfully objecting to calls, yelling at, publicly calling, constantly disagreeing with an umpire either verbally or by action can be deemed umpire abuse. Coaches/Managers should show decorum, respect and observe all game rules whenever questioning an umpire about a call. In turn, an umpire should do the same when in discussion with a coach.

Coaches – NLLB also can not function without the hundreds of volunteers that manage and coach our kids. Coaches are expected to fill out an umpire evaluation form after each game, rating their game experience with that umpire. (If a coach continually submits such reviews, if he needs to submit a negative review, the fact that he/she has submitted previous reviews will weigh heavy in their favor.) If there is an incident, the matter should be discussed in a low-key manner, between the umpire and either one, or both, of the managers (not parents, players, or coaches). Once the umpire makes a ruling, move on.

Players – are expected to be able to participate in a non-threatening environment, free of any verbal or physical abuse, with teamwork, good sportsmanship, in a fun atmosphere, while learning some of the finer points of the game.

Penalties –

- Any confirmed case of a coach exhibiting inappropriate behavior to an umpire,
 - 1st incident – minimum 1 game suspension
 - 2nd incident – 3 game suspension
 - 3rd incident – a lifetime ban from the NLLB.
- An incident involving physical contact or harming another person will be an immediate indefinite suspension, and if appropriate, a notification to proper authorities. Possible reinstatement will be addressed by the NLLB Board of Directors.
- The manager's umpire evaluation input will be reviewed by the umpire coordinator and the Board for possible corrective action, including options from additional instruction to suspension.
- All adults that interact with the youngsters must be a Member in Good Standing (MIGS), which requires paperwork to be submitted for a background check. The team manager is responsible for this compliance, and if an adult is found not to be a MIGS and on the practice or game field, the manager will be suspended for the team's next two games. A second offense will be 3 games, etc.
- If a person is ejected, they are to leave the field and the area of play, immediately.

Managers are responsible for the behavior of their coaches/players/parents/spectators at team gatherings, and violations of proper decorum by such people, if not otherwise resolved, will fall to the manager.

Thank You! Board of Directors NLLB

