



The Bridge Code

"The objective of the Winston-Salem National Little League shall be to implant firmly in the children of the community the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage and respect for authority, so that they may be well adjusted, stronger and happier children and will grow to be good, decent, healthy and trustworthy citizens."

The words above are the Mission Statement of our League. Nowhere in these words are winning or losing specifically addressed. The goal of our league cannot be to create Major League Baseball players; instead we focus on developing the leaders of tomorrow. Only a few of our alumni have ever played professional baseball, but we have countless community leaders who are making our world a better place. Keep these concepts in mind as we begin our new season.

Attached, you will find "Codes of Conduct" for players, parents, and coaches. Please read all of this and go over it with your children in language appropriate for their age if they do not understand what it says or means. These need to be signed (and returned to your coach) by both the player and at least one parent/guardian prior to the first game. Your coach does not have to sign your form, but League officials felt it was important for parents to see what we expect of the coaches as well so we included a copy of what they will be signing for your review.

Parents are asked to be supportive of their players and coaches. Part of being supportive is trusting that your coaches are making decisions that are best for the team and leaving coaching decisions up to them. That being said, we encourage communication. If you have any concerns, please talk to your coach but do this at a time when there are not any other children or parents around. If you have an issue which cannot be resolved, or something you don't feel comfortable speaking to the coach about, please contact a League official. Email addresses can be found on the League website, www.wsnll.org.

Little League Pledge

**"I trust in God,
I love my country
and will respect its laws,
I will play fair and strive to win,
but WIN or LOSE
I will always do my best."**

Player Code of Conduct:

1. I will treat all umpires, officials, coaches and players with respect.
2. I will maintain a positive attitude at all times. I will not let mistakes of my own or my teammates affect my ability to compete and have fun during practices and games.
3. I will not use bad language.
4. I will never misuse or throw equipment due to anger or frustration.
5. I will not participate in name-calling, insulting or heckling other players. Chants and chatter among players are only for encouraging my teammates and not to disrupt other teams.
6. I will compete to the best of my ability at all times.
7. I will limit communication with family or friends outside of the field unless my coach gives me permission or there is an emergency.
8. I will make certain that the field and dugout are in excellent condition before I leave after every practice and game.

Player Name (Print) _____ Player Signature

Little League Parent Pledge

- I will teach all children to play fair and do their best.
- I will positively support all managers, coaches and players.
- I will respect the decisions of the umpires.
- I will praise a good effort despite the outcome of the game.

1. I will do my best to get players to practices and games on time.
2. I (and my guests) will be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy by providing only positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every event.
3. I (and my guests) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player or spectator such as booing and taunting, complaining, or using profane language or gestures.
4. I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
5. I will demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect.
6. I will teach my child that doing one's best and playing with confidence and integrity is more important than winning.
7. I (and my guest) will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a game.
8. I will never make negative comments about the team, coaches or other players in my player's presence. I will also not utilize a public forum like social media (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) to make negative comments.
9. I will accept and be supportive of the coaches' decision regarding playing positions and the amount of playing time my player receives.
10. I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices unless I am one of the official coaches of the team.
11. I will not enter the dugout at any time before, during or after the game unless my presence is expressly requested by a coach. I will limit talking to my player during games or practices to times of necessity or emergency unless given permission by the coach as this acts as an interruption.

Parent Name(s) (Print) _____ Parent(s) Signature

Coaches Code of Conduct

1. I will obey and enforce all rules of WSNLL and Little League International.
2. I will demonstrate good sportsmanship, self-control and proper behavior. My actions will be “above reproach” as directed by the Little League rulebook.
3. I will only use positive reinforcement to motivate the players.
4. I will promote honesty, teamwork, fair play and responsibility.
5. I will treat the players with dignity and respect. The same dignity and respect will be given to parents, umpires, and League officials.
6. I will help the players to improve their athletic skills, their knowledge of the game, their physical condition, their ability to control their emotions, and their self-esteem.
7. I will teach my players the core fundamental skills required to bring them to the next level of play. I recognize that winning is not everything and that the development of ALL players on the team is of the utmost importance to my success as a coach.
8. I will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as booing and taunting; refusing to shake hands; or using profane language or gestures.
9. I will not permit attacks of any kind by coaches, players, parents or fans on the umpire, the other coaches or any players.
10. I will challenge umpire calls, where allowed by the rules, in an appropriate and respectful manner.
11. I will accept full responsibility for my players' and spectators' conduct on both the practice and playing fields. I will maintain control and discipline at all times and will not tolerate any verbal or physical abuse by my players and spectators directed toward any coaches, players, parents, umpires and spectators.
12. I will never put a player in harm’s way.

MANAGER NAME _____ MANAGER SIGNATURE _____

COACH NAME _____ COACH SIGNATURE _____

COACH NAME _____ COACH SIGNATURE _____