

# HOMEWOOD BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL – COACHES CODE OF CONDUCT

- Winning is important, but not more important than teaching player sportsmanship and fundamentals. Enjoying the game and having fun are the most important goals.
- Emphasize Teamwork. Every player has a contribution to make. It is the coach’s responsibility to form a cohesive unit that plays well together. If there are any personality conflicts, the coach must help players overcome those differences for the sake of the team.
- Impress on your players that they must abide by the rules of the game at all times. **Know the rules.**
- Develop your player’s sense of fair play and sportsmanship. Encourage players to applaud good plays by members of the opposing team by doing so yourself.
- Encourage your team to cheer for their players, not against the other team.
- Refrain from posting any negative commentary, defamatory or harassing remarks or images on any social media.
- Coaches should refrain from profane language or gestures when in the presence of any player.
- Coaches should refrain from smoking or drinking alcohol or using illegal substances before and during practices and games.
- Be aware of your player’s abilities. Do not place players into potentially harmful situations.
- Do not criticize the opposition’s coaches or players in front of your team. If you have a problem with a player on an opposing team, address that problem with the manager not the player.
- Know the rules. If a situation arises where you wish to contest the umpire’s decision, do so in a **calm and respectful manner** by requesting timeout and approaching the umpire at home plate. Umpire and/or commissioner decisions are final. No protests are allowed. Coaches should refrain from any foul or abusive language towards officials.
- Coaches are prohibited from striking or using any bodily assault against officials, other coaches, players or spectators.
- Assist officials in keeping your team parents and fans under control. Only one member of each team should be addressing the umpire.
- Umpires, commissioners and league officials reserve the right to remove managers, coaches or spectators from the field for inappropriate actions of any kind.

## SANCTIONS

INFRACTION	DIRECTED TOWARDS	CONSEQUENCE
Foul or abusive language	A player, coach, spectator, umpire or official	Ejection from the game and a one game suspension
Threatening gesture and/or language	A player, coach, spectator, umpire or official	Ejection from the game and a two game suspension
Allowing or encouraging foul abusive or threatening language or behavior by players	A player, coach, spectator, umpire or official	Ejection from the game and a two game suspension
Striking or bodily assault	A player, coach, spectator, umpire or official	Ejection from the game and up to a lifetime suspension from all HBS activities
Posting negative, defamatory or harassing remarks on social media	The players, coaches, volunteers or the league	Board discretion but up to one year family suspension

