



COACH'S CODE OF CONDUCT

The following Coach's Code of Conduct is offered here to exemplify the behavior of an ideal coach, and each coach (Head Coach or Assistant Coach) for the Hamilton Fairfield Little League is required and expected to understand, agree with, and abide by this code of conduct before participating in any Hamilton Fairfield Little League sanctioned events.

Be Knowledgeable!

1. Learn the laws of the game and teach them to your players. Read the rulebook for your sport and attend available clinics to enhance your knowledge of the game.
2. Abide by the laws of the game.
3. Pre-plan all practice sessions in detail to be interesting and fast paced. Involve all team members as much as possible. Have a written plan in case of your absence.

Be Positive and Fair!

4. Help maintain a climate of enjoyment among spectators by discouraging negative remarks and/or harassment of players, officials, other coaches, and spectators.
5. Coach clean, skillful, honest, and sportsmanlike play by stressing playing hard to win over winning itself.
6. Stress good sportsmanship to the players and parents because the coach is responsible for their conduct when they are together as a team.
7. Work at team morale as hard as ball skills and tactics. Be a "fun leader". Stress individual skill development more than tactics especially at the younger ages. Minimize lectures, maximize demonstrations. Stress having fun and participation.
8. Maximize praise and minimize criticisms when dealing with players. Make corrections slowly and calmly in a manner tailored to the individual.
9. Coach talented and non-talented players with equal vigor. Allow players more than their minimum playing time whenever possible.

Be Respectful and a Role Model!

10. Treat the game official with respect, no matter what the call.
11. Exhibit exemplary conduct at both practices and games because the team's discipline reflects the coach's attitude 100%.
12. Refrain from profanity or vulgar language because you are helping to mold the character of your players.
13. Minimize coaching from the sidelines/dugout during games. Avoid screaming during the game because it does not accomplish much.
14. Welcome feedback from players and parents alike concerning potential problems and ways to improve.
15. Publicly support Hamilton Fairfield Little League as a whole and work to improve the areas that you disagree with if necessary. Be protective of Hamilton Fairfield Little League's equipment and return your team's equipment promptly and in good condition at the end of each season. Be protective of Hamilton Fairfield Little League's facilities and not deface the dugouts, fences, signs, etc. with graffiti.



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Violating the Coach's Code of Conduct:

A coach may be called in to attend a regular or special session of the Board to discuss a reported Coach's Code of Conduct violation. The coach's side of the story will be heard and the Board will assess any appropriate penalties. All penalties may be appealed by the coach to the Board. However, all decisions reached by the Board will be final.

The following are only examples of violations of the Coach's Code of Conduct, and additional penalties may be administered by a participating league outside of Hamilton Fairfield Little League.

	<u>1st Offense</u>	<u>2nd Offense</u>	<u>3rd Offense</u>
1. Entering the field of play without permission from the official	Warning & Probation	Ejection with one game suspension	Penalty to be determined by the Board
2. Threatening action or words toward officials, coaches, players, or spectators.	Ejection with a two game suspension & probation	Expulsion from the League	
3. Abusive language to an official.	Ejection with a one game suspension & probation	Ejection with a two game suspension	Expulsion from the League
4. Aggressive physical contact with any official, player, or spectator. (i.e. grabbing arm, turning individual around abruptly, poking, bumping, pushing, spitting, etc.)	Ejection with a two game suspension & probation	Expulsion from the League	
5. Striking an official, player, coach, or spectator	Expulsion from the League		
6. Refusal to leave the playing field after an ejection.	Forfeiture of game (regardless of length of game played)		
7. Verbal harassment of an official, player, or coach.	Warning & Probation	Ejection with one game suspension	Penalty to be determined by the Board
8. Instructing players to play in a dangerous or unsportsmanlike manner.	Ejection with a two game suspension & probation	Expulsion from the League	
9. Instructing players to play in a dangerous or unsportsmanlike manner with deliberate intent to harm.	Expulsion from the League		
10. Playing an illegal player.	Forfeiture of game & probation (regardless of length of game played)		
11. Playing an illegal player deliberately and with full knowledge.	Expulsion from the League		
12. Refusing a background check.	Warning & Suspension (until background check has been submitted)		
Probation - A coach will be placed on a one year probationary status starting on the day of the first offense. Any subsequent violations will be deemed a second offense if the violation occurs during the probationary period			
Game Suspension - A coach may not participate in any way nor attend any game his/her team plays during his/her suspension. There is no such thing as "attending as a parent" unless the coach surrenders his/her desire to be a coach of HFLL.			
Expulsion from HFLL - A coach is out of the program indefinitely. The Board may make a reinstatement only after a favorable review. An expelled coach may not act in a coaching, managerial, or supervisory capacity to any team, nor be elected for or remain as a HFLL Board member. Violating an expulsion will result in possible game forfeiture and/or elimination of the team from the league play and/or necessary legal action against the violator.			

I have read and understand the above Coach's Code of Conduct and agree to abide by both the letter and spirit of this document in my activities as a Hamilton Fairfield Little League Coach.

Printed Name

Signature

Date