



## **SOMERSET HILLS BALL CLUB**

### **2023 (as of 4/11/2023)**

#### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

Youth sports programs play an important role in promoting the physical, social and emotional development of children. It is therefore essential for parents, coaches, volunteers, officials and players to embrace the values of good sportsmanship. Moreover, adults involved in youth sports events should be models of good sportsmanship and should lead by example by demonstrating fairness, respect and self-control.

All parents, coaches, volunteers, officials and players (“Participants”) will be responsible for their words and actions while attending, coaching, officiating or participating in a Somerset Hills Ball Club event and shall conform their behavior to the following code of conduct:

1. All Participants will not engage in unsportsmanlike conduct with any coach, parent, player, volunteer, official or any other attendee.
2. Participants will not engage in any behavior that would endanger the health, safety or well-being of any coach, parent, player, volunteer, official or any other attendee.
3. Participants will not engage in the use of profanity.
4. Participants will treat any coach, parent, player, volunteer, umpire, official or any other attendee with respect regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation or ability.
5. Participants will not engage in verbal or physical threats or abuse aimed at any coach, parent, player, volunteer, official or any other attendee.
6. Participants will not initiate a physical altercation with any coach, parent, player, volunteer, official or any other attendee.
7. Should a parent, coach, volunteer or player be thrown out of (ejected from) a game by an official, that individual must leave the field complex right away.
8. Speed Limit 5 mph in roadways and parking lots while attending any Somerset Hills Ball Club League function. Watch for small children around parked cars.

9. Swinging bats is only permitted in the batter's box and on-deck circle of fields, in batting cages or other designated areas under the supervision of a coach. No throwing rocks. No horseplay in walkways at any time. No climbing fences.
10. During game, players must remain in the dugout area in an orderly fashion at all times. After each game, each team must clean up trash in dugout and around stands.

Any Participant who fails to conform his or her conduct to the foregoing while attending, coaching, officiating, volunteering or participating in a League event will be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to the following in any order or combination:

1. Verbal warning issued by SHBC Board.
2. Written warning issued by SHBC Board.
3. Suspension or immediate ejection from a League event issued by SHBC Board.
4. Suspension from multiple youth sports events issued by SHBC Board.
5. Season suspension or multiple season suspension issued by SHBC Board.

In the event that a Participant falls below the standards of the Code of Conduct, such behavior will be reviewed by the Discipline Committee. The Discipline Committee shall be comprised of the Vice-President, Baseball, the Vice-President, Softball, Safety Officer, Secretary and Treasurer. The Participant may issue a written statement to the Discipline Committee or can request a meeting with the Discipline Committee as long as it's requested in a timely manner. The Discipline Committee will make a recommendation to the SHBC Board, who will then determine the appropriate discipline by a majority vote. All SHBC Board decisions are binding and final.

At any time, an SHBC coach may choose to impose immediate discipline on a Participant if the coach determines that such discipline is necessary to ensure the safety of other Participants. Such discipline and any other discipline will be reviewed by the Discipline Committee and/or the SHBC Board.

This Code of Conduct has been approved by a majority vote of the SHBC Board and is subject to amendment at any time by the SHBC Board. The current Code of Conduct will be posted on the SHBC website at all times. If a Participant has any questions regarding the Code of Conduct, please direct same to any member of the SHBC Board.