



Code of Conduct for:
Baseball
Softball
Basketball
Volleyball
Football
Cheer

Rules

BURLESON YOUTH ASSOCIATION

www.bya.org

CODE OF CONDUCT

The B.Y.A. was formed expressly for the purpose of promoting recreation, good health and fun for the youth of Burleson. In order for the Association to fulfill its goals and accomplish its purpose, there are certain rules of conduct parents and players must follow.

PLAYERS

1. The BYA is your association. Please remember that many people have spent many hours so that you may have the opportunity to participate in your favorite sports.
2. Your coach is one of the persons who is spending many hours of his or her time for you so try to attend each scheduled practice session and arrive on time. If you cannot attend, call your coach and let them know. Missed practices may cause you to lose game playing time.
3. When at the ballpark or the gym, whether playing or watching, do your best to keep trash off the grounds. Please use the trashcans.
4. Take care of your uniform and any other equipment issued to you.
5. During the game you are there to play, not coach or officiate. Stay in the team area unless you are supposed to be out. Yelling for your teammates is encouragement. Jeering your opponents is bad sportsmanship.
6. Accept the results of each game, being gracious in victory and turning defeat into a positive experience by working toward improvement.
7. The use of profane language will not be tolerated. First offense can result in the dismissal from the park or gym. The second offense may result in suspension from any BYA activities.
8. Using, possessing, or being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs is absolutely Forbidden.
9. Smoking or the use of tobacco products on the playing field or in the gym is prohibited. This includes dugouts, during practices or games.

YELL FOR YOUR TEAM---NOT AGAINST YOUR OPPONENT

PARENTS

It is paramount that the parents and family of each player bear in mind that the player is involved in BYA sports for his or her enjoyment, **NOT JUST FOR THE PARENTS OR FAMILY'S ENJOYMENT.** Consequently, parents and families of players are expected to demonstrate good Sportsmanship including, courteous relations with coaches, referees and other spectators, and graceful acceptance of the results of play.

1. Parents shall at all times respect the decisions of officials. Their job is a hard one, but can be made easier with the cooperation and support of all parents and friends. Judgment decisions by officials are always final. Rule questions shall be answered following procedures outlined by the Association.
2. In order to settle a question arising from an official's decision, a parent, if unsatisfied, should contact the Commissioner of their respective league. **The official should never be approached directly by the parent at any time concerning disputed calls.** Violation could result in a review by the BYA Board of Directors.

3. Parents shall encourage their child always to play by the rules and shall strive to promote good sportsmanship among players.
4. Using, possessing, or being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs is absolutely forbidden.
5. Parents shall treat coaches with respect, recognizing that each coach is a volunteer, giving of personal time and money to provide a recreational activity for your child.
6. Only so many players can play at any one time. Please respect the manager's decision on which players that will be.
7. The use of profane language will not be tolerated, and dismissal from the park or gym may be requested for violators. A second offense may result in suspension from any BYA activity.
8. Maintenance of park grounds, gyms and playing fields is very costly and important in the operation of the Association. BYA also supplies much of the labor required for this maintenance, please notify a BYA board member if you can lend us a hand. At the very least, Parent's should always set a good example for our children by using the available trashcans and encourage your children to do likewise.
9. Winning is basic in the scheme of American living, but learning how to be a gracious participant winning or losing is just as important. Only one team can win in a league, but with proper guidance all of our children can be winners. Accept the results of each game, being gracious in victory and by turning defeat into a positive experience for your players through working toward improvement in the future.
10. Let each of us through our good sportsmanship and conduct make the BYA experience be a winning one!

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS

It is the policy of the Burluson Youth Association to run Criminal Background Checks (CBC) on all Coaches, Board Members, and Volunteers. Persons wishing to coach within the B.Y.A. must submit their Driver's License and Social Security Numbers. Any repeat offender, Felony, Assault, Drugs or Sexual Convictions will be brought to the Board of Directors to decide the Volunteers eligibility to coach. Names will be kept strictly confidential while being discussed by the Board of Director's. Background checks will be done by the V.P. of each sport and shall be kept confidential. All background checks will be done in the spring of each year. Anyone not coaching during the spring season will be checked during the fall season.

MANAGERS AND COACHES

Coaching is a *PRIVILEGE* not a given *RIGHT*

By its stated purpose, The BURLESON YOUTH ASSOCIATION attempt to instill positive attributes in young people that will help them develop into better adults. Regardless of all other factors, the challenge ultimately rests upon the shoulders of the team managers and coaches. The league will only be as effective in achieving its stated purpose as the managers achieve and coaches are conscientious in their dealings with the players. Leadership, good example and understanding are as important criteria of a good manager as is knowledge of the skills and techniques of the game.

It is the goal of the BYA to have managers and coaches of all teams reside within the boundaries of the BYA recruiting area. These people will be given first priority to manage or coach teams in this organization.

To be considered for a coaching assignment, coaches must attend a mandatory coach's clinic sponsored by the B.Y.A. and the B.I.S.D. if available. In the event a shortage of coaching candidates exists, the VP of Baseball, Softball, Basketball, Volleyball, Football and Cheer their directors or designates reserve the right to waive this rule and appoint coaches as necessary to fulfill the required coaching assignments for each league.

Teams will be offered to qualified coaching candidates on the waiting list based upon the following methods, assuming that individual is in good standing within the B.Y.A.:

1. Having a completed CBC form on file with the B.Y.A.
2. Attended the mandatory B.Y.A./B.I.S.D. coach's clinic.

3. Not having any outstanding debt to BYA.

Assuming that a coach is in good standing with the BYA, selections **for Baseball and Softball** will be made on a seniority basis as follows.

SPRING SEASON: HEAD COACH 3 POINTS

ASSISTANT COACH 2 POINTS

ALL-STARS AND FALL SEASON: HEAD COACH 2 POINTS

ASSISTANT COACH 1 POINTS

If in the opinion of the Sports Committee a Volunteer signs up, or is anticipated to sign up to coach, and the Sports Committee is concerned about his or her leadership, sportsmanship or other issues the Sports Committee will meet to discuss his or her eligibility to coach that season. **Baseball** Managers returning to the same age division as the previous spring will be awarded National League teams as long as they are in good standing with BYA. Available Manager Positions beyond those filled by returning Managers will be offered to qualified candidates on the waiting list on a seniority basis using the following methods: (Anyone not in good standing with BYA will not be considered "qualified" to fill any volunteer position within BYA.)

Baseball and Softball Managers returning to the same age division as the previous spring will be awarded a team before new coaches or coaches moving into the division. Baseball and Softball coaches from the previous spring will then be awarded teams (based on the points system) before those that were not coaching the respective sport the previous spring. Remaining positions will be filled with coaches from softball or baseball based on accumulated points.

*Any rules in fraction or Code of Conduct violation by any baseball manager or coach could result in loss of points at the sole discretion of **their respective sports committee.***

Managers and coaches must be at least 18 years of age and will be in direct charge of their teams, players, and their parents with regard to meeting schedules, enforcing the code of conduct as set forth by the Association and adherence to all rules set forth by the Association. Coaches may only manage one team **per sport; only considered for 2nd team after All Eligible candidates are placed.** Under no circumstances will a coach be allowed to coach during games for another team in the same league. Managers shall give a check, payable to the "BYA" as a deposit before receiving equipment for his/her team. Managers shall turn in all equipment at the completion of their season and the deposit check will be returned. Equipment must be returned to the

Equipment Manager only. Managers **may** appoint Team **representatives** to supervise and collect all money when a fund raising or picture day is scheduled.

Deposits Per Team By Sport for Equipment:

Baseball \$200.00

Softball \$200.00

Football \$300.00

If a Manager or Coach is ejected from any regular season game, he/she shall serve a one game suspension; to be served at the next scheduled game. The ejection may be appealed in Baseball. The ejected coach will need to file an email notice of appeal to the VP-Baseball within 24 hours of incident or prior to next scheduled game. If next games are on the same day, coach will be permitted to coach until 24 hour appeal time frame has been exhausted and will need to serve one (1) game suspension after that 24 hour window has been exhausted. If an appeal takes place, a non refundable fee of \$25.00 will be charged to you to have the appeal be scheduled. You will have one (1) week to pay this after notification of appeal to VP-Baseball before appeal is denied. A coach can continue to coach until a lost appeal or an appeal is denied. At this point, the next scheduled game is your suspended game. The Baseball Committee members will hear all Appeals. Only relevant testimony and both coaches and both umpires will be heard. The incident may be reviewed by the **respective sports** Committee for possible additional action. If a Manager or Coach is ejected from any tournament game, the incident will be reviewed by **their presiding** Committee for possible disciplinary action.

When an ejection has occurred, you must notify your league commissioner that you have been ejected, within 24 hours. Failure to do so will result in automatic denial of the appeal process, and may incur a review to incident and may have further resulting reprimand including not in good standing. Suspensions will cross seasons if it is an end season ruling.

Managers or Coaches are responsible to have at least one Adult representative from their team for the entire duration of the cleanup day. Failure to do so will result in loss of coaching points and or suspension.

Football Only – Each Head Coach and First assistant will be required to act as Field Directors at Home Games during the season. Responsibilities include checking in teams prior to the game and assisting in monitoring the game. Coaches will be responsible for any fines assessed by the Football League.

BYA-Elite Baseball Coaches must pay all fees, including district tournament fees, in advance.

Any complaints against coaches must be in writing and be delivered to any BYA Board Member. Without a complaint in writing, the Grievance Committee may not be able to take action. Be sure to state your name and the date in question along with the complaint. For more information see the GRIEVANCE section of these rules.

CONCESSION STAND

Teams will be given the option to “buy out” the concession stand. The cost of doing so will be set by the Board. The current rate for baseball/softball for spring is \$150. The rate for fall is \$150 for teams playing during the week and Saturdays and \$75 for teams playing on Saturdays only. If a team decides to work the concession stand, they will be assigned one full Saturday during fall, or 2 full nightly sessions for Spring (approximately from 5:30 pm-10:00 pm). The concession stand is to be manned with no fewer than 5 persons at all times (more people will make the job easier). A member representing each player must work the concession stand during their assigned time. All teams working the concession stand will be required to have all working participants attend a training session to be scheduled by the concession stand manager.

COACHES/VOLUNTEER CODE OF ETHICS

For a coach, assistant coach, or BYA volunteer to remain in that capacity, they must, at all times, adhere to the BYA Code of Ethics. Any deviation from that code may result in a grievance against the individual. Volunteers will portray a positive role model for youth by maintaining an attitude of respect, loyalty, patience, integrity, courtesy, tact and maturity. Volunteers are expected to teach fair play and good sportsmanship as well as the rules and techniques of the sport.

The Code of Ethics is as follows:

1. Abuse of anyone by BYA volunteers is absolutely forbidden. Abuse includes:

Physical Abuse- strikes, spanks, slap or shake

Verbal Abuse- humiliates, degrades, or threatens

Sexual Abuse - including inappropriate touching and exposure

Mental Abuse

2. Using, possessing, or being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs is absolutely forbidden.

3. Smoking or the use of tobacco products on the playing field or in the gym is prohibited. This includes dugouts, during practices or games.

4. Volunteers may not use threats, humiliation, harsh language, or frightening discipline techniques as reinforcement. **Volunteers SHALL NOT use profanity in the presence of children, parents, or game officials.** Volunteers should use positive reinforcement and encouragement as coaching techniques.

5. Volunteers shall treat children of all races, religions and cultures with equal respect. Discrimination of any kind regarding children will not be tolerated.

6. Each player has paid his or her fee and is entitled to participate. **Each player will play at least the required minimum time for each game** and should be given every opportunity to play more. Volunteers will not accept monetary or expensive gifts in return for allowing more playing time. They will report any such attempt to curry favor to the BYA board as soon as possible.

7. All coaches will wear appropriate dress during games and practice. This dress must be modest and in good taste. Shirts with inappropriate wording, advertising for alcohol or tobacco, or otherwise inappropriate shall not be worn. For softball, and baseball during game play, coaches must conform to the rules found in the PONY rule book.

If a Coach, assistant Coach or BYA volunteer is alleged to have violated any point of the Ethics Code, a grievance may be made against them. Anyone may submit a grievance. A form is included in each rules packet. The grievance must be submitted in complete, written form to a member of the BYA Board. The Board member will immediately notify the head of the Grievance Committee. If the Committee deems it necessary to meet regarding the issue, a meeting will be scheduled.

The Committee Chairman shall have authority to administer disciplinary actions prior or subsequent to the Committee's meeting. The disciplined individual may appeal the ruling by the Committee. The Executive Board of the BYA shall review the case and the findings

of the Committee and decide on the final discipline, if any. This decision will be final and not subject to further appeal.

If a submitted grievance is found to be frivolous or not pertaining to the Code of Ethics, the Committee can dismiss it and no record will be made.

If a submitted grievance is found to be a violation of the Code (other than point #1) the individual may receive a verbal warning and a documented record of the grievance shall be placed in the individual's file. If this is the second upheld grievance against this individual, they will be suspended from participation in BYA activities for a time to be decided by the Committee. If this is the third upheld grievance against this individual, they will be immediately suspended from participation in BYA activities for the remainder of the season. They may also be barred from further participation in future BYA activities if so decided by the Committee. If an upheld grievance is found to be in violation of Ethical Code #1, the individual will be immediately suspended from participation in BYA activities for the remainder of the season. The Committee will decide on the eligibility of the individual to participate in future BYA activities. These guidelines are for the benefit of our members. The BYA cannot list every ethical or moral item that would not be considered portraying a positive role model for youth by maintaining an attitude of respect, loyalty, patience, integrity, courtesy, tact and maturity. In the event that a Committee or the BYA Board feels that an individual(s) is acting in a way that is detrimental to the Association or its members the individual(s) may be reprimanded, suspended or barred from further participation in future BYA activities.

I have read and understand this Code of Ethics. I understand that it is my responsibility as a BYA volunteer to adhere to this code, and I further understand that I may be subjected to a grievance should I deviate from this Code.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Texas State Law requires that citizens report any suspected abuse or neglect of a child to the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services and the local law enforcement agency. Allegations or suspicions of child abuse will be taken very seriously by the B.Y.A. and will be reported to the state for investigation and the B.Y.A. will fully cooperate with any related investigations and will pursue prosecution of child abusers to its full extent under the laws of Texas.

BURLESON YOUTH ASSOCIATION SPORTS RULES

SPORTS COMMITTEES

Beginning with the 1999 Spring season the Burleson Youth Association will install Sports committees to oversee the day-to-day playing activities, policies and rules of their respective sports. Committees will be comprised of a number of individuals the sport VP feels is necessary to carry out the duties to run the sport effectively. This number will be submitted to the board.

Grievance Committee

The Grievance committee will consist of the Vice President of the sport in season and their Committee members. The respective sport's Vice- President shall have authority to administer disciplinary actions prior or subsequent to the Committee's meeting. The respective sport's Vice-President shall have authority to appoint a delegate to chair and hold a committee meeting if necessary.

