



Mid Michigan PONY League Sportsmanship & Code of Conduct

1. The officers and directors of the Mason Baseball Softball Club (MBSC), as the operators of the Mid Michigan PONY League (MMPL), recognize baseball is a game of interpretations, and as a result, disputes may occur from time to time. However, it is important that all players participating in the MMPL learn respect for those charged with arbitrating and deciding those disputes. Accordingly, all disputes that are taken up with the umpire must be handled in a civil manner. The MMPL's Code of conduct requires that only a team's head coach initiate such discussions with an umpire. All coaches are expected to conduct themselves with decorum at all times and once an umpire has made his/her final ruling, no coach is allowed to make a further field protest. Off-field protests may be lodged with the MBSC Board of Directors.
2. All players, coaches, assistant coaches, scorekeepers, and spectators shall conduct themselves in a respectful and appropriate manner at all times, including after the game is concluded.
3. Physical or verbal abuse of an official, coach, player, or spectator, including obscene gestures, will not be tolerated and the offender may be removed from the field at the discretion of an umpire or an MBSC board member.
4. Only the designated head coach will be allowed to talk with the umpires once the game starts. All questions, comments and concerns, must be relayed through the head coach.
5. The head coach may question calls from time to time. Only the head coach is allowed to discuss a play call with the umpires.
6. A head coach may request an umpire to seek help from a second umpire, the request does not necessarily have to be recognized.
7. All umpire communications will be relayed back to the head coaches only. This includes all requests about assistant coach, player, and/or spectator conduct.
8. There will be **one** misconduct warning allowed per game at the discretion of the game umpires for coaches, players, and/or spectators of a team. After the first warning, all other behavior deemed to be misconduct, in the opinion of the umpires, will result in ejection of the offending party from the game. The game will not continue until the ejected party has left the premises. If the ejected party does not leave the area in a timely manner, the team with the ejected party, will forfeit the game.
9. Any ejected coach, player or spectator, will also be banned from the team's next game. A second ejection will result in that party being banned for the remainder of the season and possibly for life. The MBSC Board will review each case individually and make an appropriate ruling.
10. No one is allowed to sit behind home plate during MMPL games and spectators must move when directed by the umpire.
11. Profanity is expressly forbidden at all times. Alcoholic beverages and the use of illicit drugs are prohibited at all games and practices. The use of tobacco and vapor products on the fields and in the dugouts is prohibited.