



# Coach Participation Agreement

We, the Parkwood Sports Association, have implemented the following Coaches Participation Agreement for the important message it holds about the proper role of managers/coaches in supporting the children that play in our league. Managers/Coaches should read and understand this form prior to the first practice of the season. We will have a sheet for you to sign acknowledging that you have read and understand this form.

## ***Preamble***

The essential elements of character-building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles:

- Trustworthiness
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Fairness
- Caring
- Good Citizenship

The highest potential in sports is achieved when competition reflect these "six pillars of character."

## ***I therefore agree:***

### ***Sportsmanship***

1. I will promote good sportsmanship, teach good baseball skills, and have fun in the process.
2. I will not (in word or deed) overemphasize the value and importance of winning.
3. I will respect the coaches, players and spectators of the opposing team before, during and after the game, win or lose.
4. I will maintain control of my emotions and avoid actions, language and gestures that may be interpreted as hostile or humiliating.
5. I realize, accept and will practice the principle that a team's reputation is built not only on its playing ability, but also on its sportsmanship, courtesy and manner.

### ***Rules and Policies***

6. I will know and understand the rules and abide by them (whether local or national). I will instruct my team members in the rules and coach my team in such a way as to motivate each player to compete according to the rules at all times.
7. I will always make safety (for all involved) my number one priority. This includes providing a first aid kit at all games and practices.
8. I will provide a sports environment for the players, that is free from drugs & alcohol and I will refrain from their use at all sports events.
9. I will adhere to a tobacco-free environment at games and practices, including all tobacco for managers, coaches, parents and fans. School property falls under state law and a hefty fine is attached if individuals are found in violation of this law, including parking lots and anywhere within 300 feet of school property.

10. I will understand the local league participation rules for my division. All coaches must ensure that each player get minimum opportunities to bat and play the field in each game. I also understand that specific rules are also in place to limit the number and frequency of innings pitched by a particular player.
11. I will fully comply with the Parents Code of Conduct (see Parents Participation Agreement).
12. I will review the Parkwood Sports Association website ([www.psa.baberuthonline.com](http://www.psa.baberuthonline.com)) on a regular basis to make sure that I am informed of any PSA Rules or policy changes.

#### ***The Umpires and Other Resources***

13. I recognize the umpire-in-chief is the sole judge on the field of play. The questioning of his/her decisions by managers, coaches, players or spectators in a disrespectful or abusive manner will not be tolerated.
14. I will be responsible in caring for equipment, for keys delegated for my use, for care of fields prior to games and for cleaning up fields, dugouts and stands after games. I will make sure that all league-provided equipment is clean and accounted for when returned.

#### ***The Parents and the League***

15. I will maintain an open line of communication with players and their parents. I will be approachable. When approached by a parent to discuss any issue, I will interact and respond in a courteous manner.
16. I will understand and explain the philosophies, goals and objectives, and Codes of Conduct of PSA, i.e. PSA is organized as a recreational league, meant for the enjoyment of all the players. I will approach coaching at practices and games accordingly.
17. I will ensure that fans of the team conduct themselves with sportsmanship and maturity at all times while in attendance at game sites and will assist the officials in maintaining control of spectators during games. Players, managers and coaches of participating teams may not address or mingle with spectators, nor sit in the stands during a game in which they are engaged. I will make sure that coaches, players and the team parent (if any) are the only persons allowed in the dugout during a game.
18. In the event a dispute or issue arises, I will report the event to the PSA Board of Directors within 24 hours of the occurrence of said event.
19. I will support (through participation and organization of parents) PSA in all fundraising efforts, field improvement efforts and special events along with other duties that may be assigned to teams from time to time.
20. I fully understand that as a manager/coach I represent PSA at all times on and off the field. Any comments or actions that I make that can prove detrimental or create negative exposure for PSA or its sponsors will not be tolerated. (Example: Making negative comments to players, coaches, spectators, etc about the league or one of its officials).

#### ***The Team***

21. I will conduct practices in an organized manner, with a planned agenda that focuses on specific skill development appropriate for the skill level of the players.
22. I will focus on providing instruction commensurate with players abilities so all players have the opportunity to advance their skills towards their full potential, gain confidence and develop self-esteem, as well as establish a solid foundation for further baseball/softball competition.
23. I will teach each player, especially through personal example, to be humble and generous in victory and proud and courteous in defeat.

24. I understand that as a manager/coach, the league expects me to be responsible for the team's actions on the field and to represent the team in communications with the umpires, opposing teams and league. If a manager/coach leaves the field, he shall designate a coach as a substitute who will then be responsible and held accountable for the manager's duties.

### ***Non-Game Duties of Manager/Coach***

*Each manager/coach has considerable duties outside of coordinating practices and managing the games. Accordingly, if I am a Manager/Coach, I will adhere to the following as well:*

25. I will maintain open communication with players and parents to inform them of practices, games and other responsibilities in a timely and efficient manner.
26. I will effectively communicate with the other managers/coaches in my division as well as the league, which I understand will require me to check my email/voice messages on a routine basis during the season.
27. I will coordinate with parents to make sure that my team provides volunteer support for PSA events, which may include events such as field improvement days, picture days, and opening day. Part of that coordination will require timely and effective communication regarding the importance of such events. I understand that it is not acceptable for me to inform the League that no one was willing to attend as a result of my inaction to share information in a timely manner.
28. I will attend all required coach and safety clinics unless I am out of town or have a significant previously made commitment. If I cannot attend, I will ensure that one of my assistant coaches attends on my behalf.
29. I will complete, obtain and submit to the League all required paperwork, which will include Volunteer Applications and Parent Participation Agreement Rosters.
30. I understand that I am the point of contact between my team and other teams and PSA officials. I understand that I am the person that is responsible for my team. I will take my obligations seriously and communicate effectively and in a courteous manner.

I, the undersigned, agree to follow this Coaches Participation Agreement (Code of Conduct) and comply with all League rules, policies and procedures. I understand that any violation of this agreement will not be tolerated and that violations will subject me to disciplinary action that could include a warning, game suspension or season suspension, as well as impact my opportunity to coach in future seasons. I further acknowledge the authority of the Board of Directors of PSA and understand that if permitted to coach or manage I serve solely at the boards discretion, and understand, that, permission may be revoked at any time. My failure to honor the authority of the Board and its members or to show them proper respect will be deemed to be a violation of this Participation Agreement. Accordingly, I understand that I may be called to speak to some or all of the Board at any time and that if called my failure to so attend could result in an immediate suspension. I understand that if I am suspended I will not be permitted to attend any league functions (practices, games, etc.).

---

Signature & Date

