



## Elk Grove Youth Baseball Coaches Code of Conduct



**Purpose** - Coaches are role models who help our children learn good sportsmanship and self-discipline. Elk Grove Youth Baseball (EGYB) coaches have a responsibility to inspire our children through the fundamental principles of teamwork and fair play, while focusing on the fun of baseball. Our coaches are, first and foremost, teachers who have a duty to assure their actions and words promote important life skills and the development of good character in our children. In line with this purpose statement, EGYB requires all coaches and assistant coaches to sign this Code of Conduct prior to coaching in our League.

As a coach in EGYB, I will adhere to the following principles:

**1. I understand the importance of providing a positive experience and environment for the players.**

- As a coach, I understand EGYB has given me the privilege and primary responsibility for developing players – not only with regard to their baseball skills but their life skills, as well. I will always put their well-being first. I will strive to ensure the players have a positive baseball experience. I will teach my players basic skills, techniques and strategies, and I will give all my players the opportunity to improve their skills, gain confidence, and develop self-esteem at practice and in games.
- I will arrive on time to practices and games wearing proper baseball attire at all times.
- I will never ridicule or shout at players when they make a mistake or when the team loses a game.
- I understand that I'm responsible for the conduct of my players and spectators, specifically as it relates to the umpires, other coaches, and opposing players.
  - I will not allow my spectators to yell at or complain to umpires during or after games.
  - I will insist that parents refrain from shouting instructions to players, but will encourage them to cheer on any and all players during the game.
- I am committed to improving my knowledge of the game through coaching education/training programs.

**2. I understand that baseball is more than the scoreboard.**

- I understand that the score of a game comes second to the safety and welfare of all my players.
- I agree to put winning in its proper perspective.
- I understand the children I coach today will remember the things I do and say when they are adults.
- I will show unwavering respect for all players, parents, officials, and the opposing team.

**3. I understand my role as a coach when it comes to opposing teams.**

- I understand I represent EGYB and the community at large, and will demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times.
- I will not coach, nor allow my players to play, with intent to cause injury to opposing players.
- I will strive to ensure that neither I nor my players and spectators display hostile behavior towards umpires, opposing coaches, opposing players, and opposing parents or family members.
- I will actively discuss with my players the importance of character, ethics, and sportsmanship.
- I will be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity.
- At the end of each game, my players and I will shake our opponents hands and I will instill respect in pre/post-game rituals.

**4. I understand the importance of allowing umpires to call the game and I will let the umpire do his or her job.**

- I will endeavor to instill in my players and my spectators a respect for umpires.
- I understand my attitude can influence my players and spectators.
- I will display a controlled, restrained, and sportsmanlike attitude toward umpires at all times.

**5. I will abide by the rules of the game.**

- I understand I am responsible for understanding and competing within the letter and the spirit of the EGYB and/or Cal Ripken rules of the game.
- I will teach my players to understand and play within the letter and spirit of the rules as well.
- I will never, knowingly or intentionally, violate the EGYB player participation rules or any other rules established by EGYB.
- I understand I have responsibilities to EGYB which include securing volunteers for games and League events, attending League work days, communicating with my Division Manager, and maintenance of fields before and after each game.

**6. I agree to refrain from all alcohol and tobacco use while in the dugout, on the field, or in the general vicinity of where players and parents may interact during an EGYB affiliated game or practice.**

**7. I agree to conduct myself with dignity and to maintain the highest standards of conduct as a coach with EGYB.**

I will always display good sportsmanship and fair play and I will encourage the same from my players, parents, and spectators.

**8. I have read the 2021 EGYB Rules.** If I fail to comply with this EGYB Coaches' Code of Conduct Agreement or any other rules or regulations enacted by EGYB, I agree and understand that I am subject to disciplinary actions or sanctions, including, but not limited to, suspension or expulsion from coaching in EGYB.

By signing this document, I acknowledge that I have read and understand this Coaches' Code of Conduct.

Coach Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach Name (Printed) \_\_\_\_\_