

EAST LONG BEACH PONY BASEBALL

Member of PONY Baseball, Inc.

Operating Policy / Procedure – Parent’s Code of Conduct

POLICY / PURPOSE STATEMENT

The Board of Directors of East Long Beach Pony Baseball (ELBPB) has adopted the following Code of Conduct for parents and family members of players.

The ELBPB Board of Directors is committed to ensure the best possible baseball experience for the members of our league. League Policies and Procedures have been established and agreed upon by a majority decision (vote), by the Board of Directors in accordance with the following:

- (1) The best interest of the majority of the league;
- (2) The best interest of an individual (when it does not conflict with #1);
- (3) The progressive direction and vision for the future of the league (when it does not conflict with #1 and #2).

The East Long Beach Pony Baseball program is designed to provide an experience that is positive, safe, developmental and fun for our children. The Board of Directors will take a stance of ZERO TOLERANCE in the event of a violation of the Parent’s Code of Conduct.

This policy / procedure may only be amended by a majority vote of the ELBPB Board of Directors prior to the start of the regular season.

I. JURISDICTION

- A. All parents and spectators will conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner while participating in any league activity, on or off the East Long Beach Fields. This includes but is not limited to practices at the batting cages or practice games as part of a team function. Unacceptable activity will not be tolerated!

II. CODE OF CONDUCT

- A. **League Cooperation** – Parents will cooperate with league officials, and follow all league rules, regulations and policies while on the East Long Beach fields.
- B. **League Support** – Parents will be supportive of, and participate in, all league activities, games, tournaments, and charity events. This includes patronizing our snack bar.
- C. **Team Cooperation** – Parents will cooperate with team managers and coaches, be supportive of their decisions and follow team rules as set by the managers. Parents should request the manager’s team rules, in writing, at the beginning of the season.
- D. **Attendance** – Parents will see that their son or daughter arrives at games and practices properly dressed and equipped, ready to play, at the time and place specified by the team manager. Parents will ensure that their son or daughter is picked up promptly at the time specified by the manager. Parents will call the manager or coach as soon as possible if their son or daughter will be unable to attend a game or practice or other team function due to an illness or other reason.
Absences (Unexcused/Excused)
Any player who has missed practices prior to a game may be ineligible from participating in that game. Depending upon the circumstances, decision will lie with the team manager. Habitual tardiness may also result in disciplinary actions by the team manager. Participants are required to contact their team manager and inform them if they intend to be absent to any practice, game, team or league event, etc. If more than five (5) unexcused absences occur the participant shall be subject to dismissal with the Executive Board of Directors approval.
- E. **Encouragement** – Parents will encourage their child to do his/her best at all times, and practice good sportsmanship. All parents, fans, and spectators are asked to support their team and are encouraged to cheer for players.
- F. **Housekeeping**– Parents will assist in keeping ELB fields clean by picking up and disposing of all litter around their team’s dugout and stands after each game. Brooms and dust pans are available in the equipment bin.

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- G. **Child Supervision** – Parents will be responsible for the activities and conduct of their children (players and non-players) while they are at the East Long Beach fields.
- H. **Rules Familiarization** – Parents will read, understand and become familiar with the East Long Beach Pony rules, regulations and policies for the current season. East Long Beach rules are available on our website www.elbpony.org.
- I. **Volunteer Snack Fee Refund** – Parents are responsible to volunteer for at least one 4- hour shift in the snack bar in order to receive your volunteer fee refund. Parents are responsible for notifying the Snack Bar in advance of any shift they will not be able to attend.
- J. **Assistance** – Parents will assist our league in making the baseball season a rewarding, positive and enjoyable experience for their child and all the boys and girls in the East Long Beach League.
- K. **Drug & Alcohol Use**
 - (1) The use of alcohol or illegal drugs is STRICTLY prohibited at the East Long Beach fields and surrounding areas.
 - (2) Violators will be subject to removal by the Park Ranger and possible arrest by the Long Beach Police Department.
- L. **Tobacco & Cigarettes**
 - (1) The use of tobacco or smoking of cigarettes by players or adult leaders in the dugout, on the benches or on the playing field shall not be permitted. Please use the outfield areas ONLY
- M. **Jeering**
 - (1) Jeering, chanting, or noise-making in an effort to distract the pitcher, batter, or other players from the other team which is deemed excessive by the umpire shall not be permitted.
 - (2) Argumentative or antagonistic behavior towards the umpires shall not be permitted.
 - (3) Violators will be warned and then subject to ejection from the fields.
 - (4) Parents/Guardians shall not verbally abuse, threaten or engage in physical contact with any player, coach, manager, spectator, official, parent, League officer or other individual under any circumstances.
- N. **Profanity** – Parent’s shall not use profanity at any time during a game, practice or within the presence of any player of any team in the League.

III. DISCIPLINARY ACTION

The following disciplinary action, sanctions and penalties may be applied to any person(s) found to be in violation of this policy

- A. **Ejections**
 - (1) Persons may be ejected from a game or the East Long Beach fields by either an Umpire who is officiating a game or by a current Board Member.
 - (2) Persons ejected from a game or the East Long Beach fields must leave immediately without further incident.
 - (3) Persons not doing so will be subject to additional disciplinary action by the Board of Directors, and will be considered as trespassing and subject to removal and possible arrest by the Long Beach Police Department.
 - (4) Any person ejected from a game or from the fields for the first time in any season will automatically be suspended from participating in their team’s next scheduled game.
- B. **Further Disciplinary Action**
 - (1) The Board of Directors will determine if any further disciplinary action should be taken (i.e. more than one scheduled game) and notify the person.
 - (2) Any person ejected from a game or from the fields for a second time within a season shall be required to meet with the *Executive Board of Directors* for a hearing to determine if any further disciplinary action should be taken.
 - (3) If the offending person fails to appear at the meeting on the scheduled time and date, that person shall be suspended from any further game participation until they appear before the Board of Directors. Anyone requested to appear at the meetings shall be notified by the President or Vice President of the League.

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C. Additional Penalties

- (1) The Board of Directors may impose one of the following additional penalties, depending on the severity of the offense:
 - a. **PROBATION** – The offending person will be advised, in writing, of the offense and imposed a period of time whereby a subsequent offense will result in immediate escalation of penalty.
 - b. **SUSPENSION** – The offending person will be advised, in writing, of the offense and imposed a specific number of games or period of time whereby the person is not allowed to participate in any ELBPB activities.
 - c. **DISMISSAL** – The offending person will be advised, in writing, that he or she has been dismissed from the League for the remainder of the current season.
 - d. **BARRED** - The offending person is to be advised in writing that he or she has been barred from present and future participation in the league, permanently, or for a specific number of years.

D. Disciplinary Review Committee

- (1) A committee shall be formed to review all issues of League imposed discipline.
- (2) The committee shall consist of no less than the League President, Vice President, Player Agent and Division Director.

Parental Agreement

I, the undersigned, acting as our family’s representative, have read and understand the above outlined "Parent’s Code of Conduct", and do hereby agree to adhere to the above terms. I also understand, that as our family’s representative, by signing this document, my spouse, ex, or any other parental figure in our child’s life will also adhere to the above terms.

Child’s Name (please print): _____ League Age: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent’s Name (please print): _____ League Rep: _____