WCL Travel Baseball Parent Code of Conduct

I will ensure that my child behaves in a sportsmanlike manner and I will set a positive example at the field and at home.

I will demonstrate respect and support for all players prior to, during, and after all games and practices.

I will be mindful that there is a balance between skill development and winning during games. Coaches have discretion to determine what is best for the team at any given time.

I understand that equitable playing time at multiple positions is the goal.  However, playing time and batting order is not guaranteed and that there are times when there is a need for discipline and times when the good of the team outweighs the balance in playing time for all.

I will be mindful of what I say aloud at the field and will not criticize players, coaches, or umpires during games regardless of team affiliation.

I will not coach from the stands. I will support but not provide instruction and allow coaches to perform their duties uninterrupted.

I will stay away from the dugouts, the playing field and the on-deck circle.

I recognize that players must be responsible for their own equipment, water and bathroom breaks.

I agree that no food is allowed in the dugout or on the playing field.  I will ensure my child does not chew gum or sunflower seeds while on the field.

I understand that baseball is designed to be fun so I will not force my child to play, but support his desire to play.

I will abide by the rulings of the umpires, coaches, and league officials during and after the game.

I will encourage my child to play by the rules and abide by the rulings of coaches, umpires, WCLBA, and the league.

I will ensure that my child attends all team events and is on time for all events.

I will ensure that my child does not use performance enhancing drugs, illegal drugs, alcohol, and tobacco.

I will not embarrass my child by yelling at players, coaches, umpires or WCLBA representatives.

I will not use foul language and understand there is no tolerance for such manner at youth sporting events.

I will not verbally nor physically abuse my child after a game or practice.

I will celebrate my child’s effort and sportsmanship, above results such as winning and losing.

I agree to abide by the 24-Hour Rule.   The 24-Hour Rule “A parent or spectator is not to approach nor contact a coach to discuss a game, a game incident, or a situation that occurred during a game or practice that has provoked an adverse emotional response or a hostile situation until at least 24 hours after the fact.”   For parents it is important to separate yourselves from the emotion of the situation and collect your thoughts before addressing the situation. It is for this reason that WCLBA has adopted the 24-hour rule. It allows a civil conversation based on facts and opinions as opposed to emotions. The intent of the rule is to move an emotional and confrontational discussion away from the players and to allow the parties to “cool off”, compose themselves and put the provoking incident into perspective before addressing it.

“Your child’s success or lack of success in sports does not indicate what kind of parent you are. But having an athlete that is coachable, respectful, a great teammate, mentally tough, resilient and tries their best IS a direct reflection of your parenting.”

NJ Model Athletic Conduct Code
<http://nj.gov/lps/model_athletic_code.pdf>