



# **Bendigo Baseball Association**

## **Governing Document #3 Code of Conduct**

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## **BBA CODE OF CONDUCT**

### **Preamble**

This Code shall be read in conjunction with the BBA Rules of Association and Governing Documents, including any By-Laws and Playing Conditions and Rules (both Senior and Junior), and shall be binding on all Members of the Bendigo Baseball Association (the BBA).

### **1.0 Reporting Violations**

1.1 The reporting of any violation of the Code of Conduct by any player, official, umpire, scorer or spectator will occur by the completion of the BBA Report Form (BBA Form #7) by the reporting person(s) and to the BBA by the prescribed method in BBA Governing Document #5 - Reporting Procedures.

#### **1.2 Umpire Report breach of Code of Conduct**

1.2.1 All Code of Conduct contraventions, if reported by an Umpire, will be dealt with as per BBA Governing Document #5 - Reporting Procedures.

#### **1.3 Report of breach of Code of Conduct by other than Umpire**

1.3.1 All Code of Conduct contraventions, if reported by any person, other than an umpire (BBA player, BBA official, Club official, spectator, or member of the public) must complete a BBA Report Form within 21 days of the alleged incident(s) and forward same to the BBA Secretary.

1.3.2 The BBA Secretary will seek clarification from the Tribunal Chair on the best process forward.

1.3.3 The likely appointment of a "BBA Investigations Officer" can be undertaken by the BBA Secretary prior to referral to the Tribunal Chair.

1.3.4 Failure of the reporting person to submit the BBA Report Form within the 21-day timeline will invalidate the process. In exceptional circumstances, the BBA Tribunal Chair, can waive the 21-day limit if the report is deemed to be of the utmost importance to the good governance of baseball within Bendigo.

1.3.5 In the case of a breach by a spectator of the BBA Code of Conduct that spectator must be readily identifiable as associated with a club, the BBA, or an allied Association. A passing member of the public or an unknown person should not be approached or contacted.

1.3.6 All endeavours should be made by the reporting Umpire or Reporting person to ascertain who the spectator is associated with (as in club, BBA, or associated Association). These enquiries should be included on the BBA Report Form (BBA Form #7).

## **2. Players and Officials**

2.1 Players and Officials are required to:

2.1.1 Abide by the “Code of Conduct” and all other rules of the BBA, and to accept all disciplinary measures, including suspension, imposed for any breach of the Code, Rules, and By-Laws.

2.1.2 Refrain from assaulting or attempting to assault an umpire, other players, any officials of the games or spectators.

2.1.3 Refrain from verbal abuse against umpires, scorers, opposing players or spectators.

2.1.4 Refrain from using crude or abusive language, or using crude or abusive hand signals, or engage in conduct detrimental to the game.

2.1.5 Refrain from reacting with unnecessary obvious dissension, displeasure, or disapproval either toward an umpire, their decision, or generally, following an umpiring decision.

2.1.6 Neither take nor use drugs or stimulants nor participate in other doping practices prohibited by the Australian Sports Commission and the Australian Baseball Federation.

2.1.7 Co-operate with all team members. Show respect for opponents and their skills, be friendly to all participants.

2.1.9 Refrain from any activity likely to result in loss or wilful damage to private property or to cause a disturbance.

2.1.10 Accept victory and defeat with dignity and grace.

2.1.11 Refrain from equipment abuse such as throwing helmets and bats.

2.1.12 Abide by the rules and spirit of baseball.

## **3. Scorers**

The Council of Australian Baseball Scorers (CABS) Code of Conduct has been developed for all scorers to abide by whilst participating in an official capacity at any baseball game. It is recognised that scorers play an integral role in our sport and their performance and professionalism is observed by all in the baseball community in their capacity as a scorer.

3.1 All BBA Scorers acknowledge responsibility and agree to:

3.1.1 Accept responsibility for all their actions/decisions.

3.1.2 Sit with the opposition scorer in a neutral scoring location.

3.1.3 Remain in the designated scoring location until all post-game duties have been completed.

3.1.4 Be impartial on scoring deliberations.

3.1.5 Ensure scoring deliberations are made solely by the appointed scoring panel.

3.1.6 Declare a conflict of interest as necessary.

3.1.7 Keep abreast of rules and changing techniques of scoring.

3.1.8 Be respectful and open to discussion Bendigo Baseball Association Inc. Governing Document #3 Code of Conduct April 2023

3.1.9 Share scoring expertise and knowledge with other scorers and be a good role model for other officials in the role as a scorer.

3.2 Scorers shall not:

3.2.1 Be guilty of barracking whilst scoring.

3.2.2 Be guilty of making criticism of other scorers, umpires, coaches or team players by word or gesture.

3.2.3 Draw players or coaches' attention to rule infringements, during the progress of the game

3.2.4 Prompt the umpire about a ruling or status of pitch count unless invited.

3.2.5 Change a recorded scoring decision without regard for the recognised official procedure for the instance.

3.2.6 Smoke or drink alcohol whilst scoring

3.2.7 Make comment to the media unless authorised by the appropriate personnel. Discretion should be used prior to releasing information during a game to a nonteam or tournament Official.

3.8.8 Unofficial visitors are not to be encouraged to remain in the score box / game scoring area.

#### **4. Spectator(s)**

4.1 As a spectator in any activity held by or under the auspices of the BBA, a member association or an affiliated club, you must meet the following requirements in regard to your conduct during any such activity or event:

4.1.1 Respect the decisions of officials and teach young people to do the same.

4.1.2 Never ridicule or scold a young player for making a mistake. Positive comments are motivational.

4.1.3 Condemn the use of violence in any form, whether it is by other spectators, coaches, officials, or players.

4.1.4 Show respect for your team's opponents. Without them there would be no game.

4.1.5 Do not use violence, harassment, or abuse in any form (that is, do not use foul language, sledge, or harass players, coaches, officials, or other spectators).

4.1.6 Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background, or religion.