

Discipline Procedure

The Amherst Little League Board of Directors retains the sole authority to determine what, if any, disciplinary action is appropriate for any conduct infraction. The goal of all disciplinary actions is to permanently correct the misconduct and to maintain the integrity and good standing of Amherst Little League baseball. It is to ensure that players, parents, spectators and coaches behave in a manner that is consistent with safe fun playing practices of Little League Baseball.

Reporting

Reports of violations of the Code of Conduct should be submitted in writing/email within 24hrs (if possible) to the Discipline Committee. The Discipline Committee may also find it necessary to intercede without invitation in any situation that it feels is not being addressed or handled properly. It is suggested that all ejections be reviewed by the Discipline Committee. It is suggested that details be current and related to the incident at hand and not referencing previous situations. If possible, please include bystanders that can be contacted to assist with the collection of information.

Discipline Committee

In order to review cases of misconduct, a Discipline Committee will be formed with preferably 3 or more individuals from the Board of Directors (a minimum of two required) and one non executive member.

Preferred members of discipline committee will be the following board roles:

- VP of Amherst Little League
- Umpire in Chief
- Coach Coordinator
- Safety Officer (optional)
- External Community Member

If a conflict of interest or other situation that makes one of these people unavailable arises, another board member may take their place, with emphasis on experience and understanding of Little League rules as the most important factor.

The Discipline Committee will be responsible for the following:

- Investigate and document the concern/complaint alleged infraction with both parties.
- Gather statements from all relevant parties involved (coaches, umpires, players, parents, etc.)
- Provide clear feedback to the subject of discipline on what part of the code of conduct was not followed.

- Clearly communicate the potential consequences of these actions to the president or designate.
- Provide the Board of Directors all gathered information and provide feedback on actions.
- Take vote from board if punishment includes suspension or removal beyond the mandatory rules described by Little League.
- The president or designate will communicate the actions and consequences to the accused party, an email will also be sent as a paper copy to the accused party.

Discipline Process – Umpire Ejections

This process shall be used in any case that involves a coach, athlete, or spectator being ejected from a game by an umpire.

- This process shall be initiated by the reception of an umpire's ejection report. In considering individual cases, the discipline committee may consider and seek witness and victim testimony as deemed necessary by the committee.
- The committee may invite the umpire(s) to speak to the discipline committee if an online hearing is conducted. Upon receiving an ejection report from an umpire, the discipline chairperson shall determine which of the three discipline pathways (5.1-5.3) will be initiated. Note: The standard procedure for removing spectators from a game is for the umpire to advise the coach that the spectator needs to leave. This section shall apply to these scenarios, regardless of whether they are classified as an incident or an ejection.

Career Infractions

In review of any case of misconduct, a review of previous misconduct and discipline will be taken into consideration. It is strongly suggested that if a history of misconduct is apparent that discipline be taken with a long term consequence.

Potential Disciplines

Disciplinary action for parents/guardians, guests, managers/coaches, or players levied by the Amherst Little League Board of Directors or Discipline Committee could include, but is not limited to the following:

- Verbal Warning
- Written Warning
- Suspension for games
- Season suspension including postseason (All Stars & Play Offs)
- Removal from all league activities and Little League Facility
- Expelled from the league
- Possible police or legal action

Appeals

A written appeal of the punishment can be submitted to the Disciplinary committee within 48 hours of notice of suspension. The written appeal must be submitted by the accused or legal guardian if it is a player. The Disciplinary Committee has 48 hours of receipt of the appeal to respond with their decision on the appeal. The president of the league will appraise the appeal and assist with final decision (appeal only)

Suspension

For all suspended individuals (Managers, Coaches, Parents, Players and Spectators, of all ages) you are not allowed at the game site, which includes all Little League game sites and regional game sites, in any capacity or to any other Little League activities during your suspension. If suspended individual(s) does not adhere to disciplinary recommendations actions the removal of a player from Amherst Little League may be considered.