

## **RYBL Code of Conduct/Zero Tolerance Program**

"The Babe Ruth League, Inc. programs above all, are of, by and for youth. Its mission is to make better citizens through proper supervision of regulation competitive baseball and softball in addition to promoting mental and physical development. In adopting rules, in establishing standards and in all planning, the primary consideration is what is best for the participants. Babe Ruth League, Inc. would make the baseball immortal for whom the program is named very proud. Youth always had a special place reserved in "The Babe's" heart."  
-Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken National Homepage

The Russiaville Youth Baseball League (RYBL) continues to strive for the highest standards of sportsmanship in baseball. Every participant; whether RYBL board member, player, coach, parent, or spectator, has a responsibility to comply with the Zero Tolerance Policy and to behave in a respectable manner.

The Zero Tolerance Policy mandates that anyone attending baseball games, functions or related activities shall act in a respectful and sportsmanship like manner so that baseball will be a desirable and rewarding experience for our children. Disrespectful and/or unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated.

### **LOSS OF SELF-CONTROL IS NEVER ACCEPTABLE.**

#### **I. Zero Tolerance Classifications (Including but not limited to the following examples)**

**Class A** - Inappropriate verbal or non-verbal abuse not covered in Class B or Class C during RYBL or Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth/Town and Country sanctioned events, and any RYBL related function and/or team activity.

**Class B** – Confrontation, verbal or non-verbal reaction to specific events or triggers during RYBL or Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth/Town and Country sanctioned events, and any RYBL or Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth/Town and Country related function and/or team activity.

1. Open disputing or arguing with the decision of an umpire, coach, spectator or player whether on or off the field. Discussion of said decisions is encouraged to the extent that it is constructive and non-threatening and helps to resolve current and potential issues.
2. Obscene or vulgar language or the use of a physical act that is vulgar or obscene, racial or swearing.
3. Visual or verbal sign(s) of dissatisfaction with any umpire, coach or administrator's decision.
4. Encouraging abusive or unsportsmanlike behavior in any player, coach, umpire, or spectator.
5. Taunting or ridiculing of umpires, coaches, players, or spectators.
6. Throwing of any object directed at a spectator or at a person in the playing area (including dugout area) on the field that create the potential for a safety hazard or issue.
7. Intentional physical contact using the body or any other instrument.
8. Not stopping Zero Tolerance conduct once advised to do so.
9. Not voluntarily leaving a facility once advised to do so by any umpire or league official.

**Class C** - Complete loss of self-control during RYBL or Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth sanctioned events or any RYBL or Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth related function and/or team activity.

1. Intentional physical contact (intended to intimidate) using the body or any other instrument.
2. Off-field physical violence or fighting, or abusive physical contact while the person is upset or angry.
3. Threats of any nature.

4. Returning to facility after being ejected.
5. Any actions that require the use of third parties to control the conduct or situation, such as an umpire, league officials, or security personnel.

## **II. VIOLATIONS**

### **General**

1. Penalties listed are the minimum and may be more severe, as in the case of aggravating circumstances or multiple offenses.
2. Suspensions and any appeals must comply with RYBL By-laws, Rules and Regulations.

### **Classifications**

#### **1. Class A Violation-**

- a. First offense: 1 game suspension for any board member, player, parent or spectator; 2 game minimum suspension for any coach with right of appeal.
- b. Second Offense: 2 game suspension for board member, player, parent or spectator; 4 game minimum suspension for any coach with right of appeal.
- c. Third Offense: Suspension for the remainder of the season.

#### **2. Class B Violation-**

- a. First Offense: 3 game minimum suspension for any board member, player, parent or spectator; 5 game minimum for any coach with right of appeal.
- b. Second Offense: Suspension for the remainder of the season.

#### **3. Class C Violation-** Minimum 1 year suspension without right of appeal.

Appeals of any RYBL decision may be made to the Board of Directors. The appeal must be submitted to the President of the RYBL, in writing (either a hand written appeal or appeal via email is acceptable), within two (2) calendar days of the RYBL Board of Directors decision. The appeal should be sent to [president@rybl.org](mailto:president@rybl.org).

## **III. INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **A. General**

1. All individuals must comply with the Zero Tolerance Policies, By-laws, rules, regulations and policies of all governing bodies.
2. In addition, the following are some specific areas of responsibilities.

### **B. Board Members**

1. Mutual respect of umpires, coaches and opposition.
2. Strict control of players both on and off the field.
3. Professional with all league related vendors.

### **C. Coaches**

1. Mutual respect of umpires, coaches and opposition.
2. Strict control of players both on and off the field.

### **D. Player**

1. Strict and complete self-control both on and off the fields at all RYBL events.
2. Mutual respect of umpires, coaches and opposition.

### **E. Parent**

1. Mutual respect of umpires, coaches, players, opposition, parents and spectators.
2. Absolute self-control.
3. Work with umpires, coaches, and league and organization personnel to assure a positive experience for all.

**IV. ALCOHOL, DRUG AND TOBACCO POLICY**

Board Member, Coach, Player and Club understand and agree that the best interests of the Coach, Player and Club as well as the League are vitally dependent upon the elimination of any and all use of alcohol, drugs or tobacco by a Player; abuse of alcohol and any and all use of drugs by a Coach; abuse of alcohol and any and all use of drugs by a Board Member. Board Members, Coaches or Players therefore warrant that at no time during the term of the season will he or she abuse alcohol, drugs and tobacco. Board Member, Coach or Player further agree to abide by the Board of Director’s policy regarding alcohol, drugs and tobacco, their sale, purchase, use, possession and physical detection, which may be promulgated and modified from time to time and shall be published to the Club and all Coaches and Players. Coach or Player agrees that the RYBL Board of Directors shall have the power and absolute discretion to suspend or terminate any Coach or Player for a violation of this policy. The Board of Director’s finding and decision shall be binding and conclusive on all parties. Board Member, Coach or Player hereby releases RYBL and waives every claim he/she may have against RYBL, coaches, officers and directors, the Commissioner and/or League for damages and for all claims and demands arising out of, or in connection with, the decision of this matter by the Board of Directors.

**PENALTIES**

**DRUGS:**

- 1st Offense: One year suspension plus mandatory drug counseling.
- 2nd Offense: Permanent suspension from RYBL and forfeiture of all fees paid.

**ALCOHOL:**

- 1st Offense: Three game suspension.
- 2nd Offense: One year suspension.
- 3rd Offense: Permanent suspension from RYBL and forfeiture of all fees paid.

**TOBACCO/VAPING:**

- 1st Offense: One game suspension.
- 2nd Offense: Three game suspension.
- 3rd Offense: One year suspension.

By signing this you agree to support and adhere to the Russiaville Youth Baseball League 2019-2020 Code of Conduct and if you are found to have acted improperly and in violation of this code of conduct you will be subject to an RYBL Board review and if found liable disciplinary actions and possible suspension from baseball could be imposed for any, and all parties involved.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Check all positions that apply: Parent: \_\_\_ Player: \_\_\_ Coach: \_\_\_ Volunteer: \_\_\_ Board Member: \_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Check all positions that apply: Parent: \_\_\_ Player: \_\_\_ Coach: \_\_\_ Volunteer: \_\_\_ Board Member: \_\_\_