

# FREETOWN YOUTH ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION

## Code of Conduct - Zero Tolerance Policy – Baseball/Softball

In order to create the best environment to learn and play the game of baseball, it is expected that the coaches, players, and their parents conduct themselves in a manner benefitting sportsmanlike behavior as described in the **Official MLB Playing Rules** of Babe Ruth League, Inc., specifically Rules 3.14, 4.06, 4.07, 4.08, 4.15 and Softball under the **Official ASA Playing Rules**. Conduct of any one associated with a team must also be in accordance with the following principles:

- All participants must be respectful to their oppositions, teammates, coaches, umpires and spectators.
- Mutual respect and positive attitudes are essential. These behaviors must be reinforced in every way.
- All spectators, regardless of their team affiliation should applaud all good plays during a game.
- The game is for the benefit of the children, not the adults. By learning the game in the proper atmosphere of respect and sportsmanship, each child will learn to demonstrate sportsmanlike conduct.
- There will be no behaviors tolerated that would bring embarrassment to any child and their team.
- The home plate umpire has full authority at a game to enforce the rules.
- Any discussion with an umpire with regards to a specific occurrence in a game shall be done only by the team manager and only in an appropriate manner that is respectful and in accordance with the rules.
- An umpire or league official can warn any individual about their behavior, ask the individual to leave the game or the premises, and follow-up that infraction with a written warning citing the consequences of their behavior.
- Any ejection from a game by an umpire or league official will automatically result in immediate suspension from future games or practices until said offender(s) meet with BOD in accordance to the zero tolerance policy outlined below.

I understand that the FYAA has a zero tolerance policy as it relates to the inappropriate actions and behaviors and or violations of the FYAA Code of Conduct by players, parents, coaches and individuals. A single infraction of the Code of Conduct as set forth above shall result in an immediate suspension from all future games and practices of the involved individual whether player, coach or parent until a disciplinary hearing is scheduled with members from the Board of Directors. A disciplinary hearing shall take place within 48 hrs. after 1<sup>st</sup> notification to any BOD member has been made. It is the responsibility of the team manager to enforce the suspension and notify the BOD of the infraction. After the hearing, the Board of Directors (BOD) will take the matter under advisement and meet in special session to discuss and decide any further disciplinary actions to be taken.

The registered player themselves or of the parent, coach or individual involved in any disciplinary action shall not be allowed to participate in the team's practices or games until said individual (player, parent, coach or other individual) has met with the BOD as indicated above.

Disciplinary actions taken by the BOD may include parents/coaches registered players or other individuals being suspended from play for a single game, the remainder of the season, the remainder of the calendar year, a full year from the date of the infraction or a penalty term deemed appropriate by the BOD for said actions. Parents, coaches, players or other individuals may also be precluded from participating in future FYAA events. The extent of the disciplinary action will be based upon the severity and frequency of the infraction(s) as decided upon by the FYAA Board of Directors.

All adults involved in the league as league officials, managers, coaches, and parents must maintain control of themselves and show by example how they want children to behave on and off the field.

**Parent (s) Signature(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Player's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_