



## Willamette Valley Babe Ruth Competition/Sportsmanship Guidelines



**Umpires:** In order for the Competition/Sportsmanship Committee to uphold suspensions for ejections or other unsportsmanlike actions, it is necessary that the expectations of our umpire's ability to handle the situation are met.

It is assumed that for normal situations of minor unsportsmanlike actions, that umpires will follow a standard set of guidelines:

1. 1<sup>st</sup> time: Ignore the action.
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> time: Warn the offender appropriately of the consequences of their actions.
3. 3<sup>rd</sup> time: Eject the individual.

When a major offense of unsportsmanlike behavior occurs (i.e. charging an umpire over a judgment call, throwing a bat, malicious contact, etc...) it is understood that all umpires have the authority to immediately eject the appropriate individual(s). It is important that any coach, player or spectator, not be allowed to continue with unsportsmanlike behavior.

Umpires must remember to not take the game into their own hands and strong hand a coach, player or spectator. Coaches have been instructed that they may ask for clarification of a call so long as it pertains to rule interpretations. If a coach politely asks an umpire "how they saw a specific call", that is also appropriate. However, should a coach come to argue a judgment call, the umpire will not acknowledge the argument and ask the Head Coach to return to the dugout.

**Note: The Head Coach is the only coach allowed to speak with the umpires. Should an Assistant Coach come out to dispute any call during a game, the umpire shall take the following actions:**

1. 1<sup>st</sup> time: **The umpire will ask the Head Coach to restrain his Assistant Coach immediately and advise the Head Coach of the consequence should the Assistant Coach refuse to do so immediately.**
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> time: **The umpire will restrict the Head Coach and the affected Assistant Coach to the dugout for the duration of the game.**

Should a Head Coach decide to call for a protest based on an interpretation of a rule, this shall not be considered unsportsmanlike provided that the coach handles him/herself appropriately.

If an umpire decides to eject an individual, it needs to be a solid ejection. No one is asking for the officials to take any abuse. Just be professional, and if the coach/player/spectator is not, handle it appropriately. Do not give the Competition/Sportsmanship Committee any reason not to support the umpires call.

If an ejection occurs, the umpire responsible for the ejection will contact the Umpire Commissioner upon the conclusion of the game. The umpire will provide the Commissioner with a detailed report of what led to the ejection. Should the ejected member decide to appeal any potential league suspension, the Umpire Commissioner will provide the

Competition/Sportsmanship Committee Chairman with the written ejection report and any amplifying information immediately.

**The following is the Competition/Sportsmanship Committee guidelines for ejections:**

### **Player Ejections**

If any player is ejected from a game, and the ejection is upheld by the Umpire Commissioner, the said player will serve (at minimum) an additional one (1) game suspension to be served at the next scheduled (regular or makeup) game. **In the case of any ejection of a player that is upheld by the Umpire Commissioner, the minimum one (1) game suspension will take effect automatically without review by the Competition/Sportsmanship Committee.**

### **Coach/Parent/Adult Ejection**

If any coach/parent or other adult not participating as a player is ejected from a game, and the ejection is upheld by the Umpire Commissioner, the said adult will serve (at minimum) an additional two (2) game suspension to be served at the next scheduled (regular or makeup) game. **In the case of any ejection of a coach/parent or other non participating adult that is upheld by the Umpire Commissioner, the minimum two (2) game suspensions will take effect automatically without review by the Competition/Sportsmanship Committee. Note: This means that the affected person cannot be present at the game site at anytime during pregame or during the game.**

### **Additional Suspensions for Ejections**

If any player/adult is ejected, and the ejection is upheld by the Umpire Commissioner, and there are excessive circumstances, the individual may receive an additional suspension. The additional suspension, as determined by the Competition/Sportsmanship Committee and upheld by the Babe Ruth Board of Directors, should be determined in a timely manner and preferably during the time of the minimum suspension.

### **Other Suspensions for Unsportsmanlike Actions**

Other actions by Babe Ruth associated individuals that fall outside the accepted guidelines for Babe Ruth activity will be reviewed and investigated by the Competition/Sportsmanship Committee and recommendations will be made to the Babe Ruth Board of Directors for corrective action, if any. Corrective action could include probation, limited participation, suspensions, and up to a life time ban from Babe Ruth.

### **Competition/Sportsmanship Committee Quorum**

It is understood that if the Competition/Sportsmanship Committee must need to determine anything other than a minimum suspension for an ejection, that a minimum of five (5) committee members must take place in the decision process. An individual being looked at for additional suspensions, other than minimum suspensions for ejection, should be given the opportunity to speak before the Competition/Sportsmanship Committee prior to any decision of corrective action. All decision handed out by the Competition/Sportsmanship Committee and upheld by the Babe Ruth Board of Directors shall be final.