

## **NBL Coaching Guidelines and Regulations**

### **I. Coach Conduct**

All head coaches must be certified (except at the t-ball level) and conduct their program in a sportsman-like and educational manner, as well as assure the safety of each player.

### **II. Coaching Staff**

It is recommended that each head coach select a maximum of three assistants. These names must be submitted to the player rep. At the AAA and Majors levels, assistants should be certified.

### **III. Suspensions**

The general manager, in conjunction with the vice president, may suspend any manager, coach, or player for up to two games for violation of baseball rules or unsportsmanlike conduct. Further disciplinary action can be addressed by the full Board of Directors.

### **IV. Practice Schedule**

Each head coach is expected to hold frequent practices throughout the season.

### **V. Team Parent**

It is recommended that all head coaches select a team parent(s). The team parent is an integral part of your team and the league. Team parents are expected to help organize concessions, field duties and other volunteer opportunities and responsibilities.

### **VI. Roster**

Upon conclusion of the league draft, the head coach must provide an accurate roster to the league vice president. Upon approval from the vice president, the manager must reach out to the parents of the children on his/her roster within three days. Each parent should be encouraged to attend the first practice for a brief parent orientation. Parents should also be encouraged to read the Player and Parent Responsibilities posted at [www.niskybaseball.com](http://www.niskybaseball.com).

### **VII. Season Schedule**

The season schedule will be provided by NBL to each head coach and to the umpire coordinator. Games will be played on specific dates with umpires scheduled in advance of game day.

### **VIII. Rainouts/Rescheduling**

The decision to cancel our games due to inclement weather will be made no later than one hour before game time. If the field is not playable, as determined by the

appropriate league commissioners or league president (unless that officer is involved in the game), the game will be rescheduled based on a predetermined rainout schedule. The league official must notify the umpires that the game has been cancelled. The league will post the game cancellation at [www.niskybaseball.com](http://www.niskybaseball.com).

#### **IX. Dugout Behavior**

Head coaches and assistant coaches are responsible for their team's dugout behavior. Game excitement and cheering for their teammates is fine. General rowdy behavior and/or yelling at other coaches, players or umpires is not permitted.

- Only four adults are allowed in the dugout during a game – league officials, head coaches and assistant coaches.
- All spectators must stay in the bleacher area.
- Only the on-deck batter is allowed in the on-deck circle during play.
- On-deck player must wear a helmet when in the on-deck area.
- No chanting or purposeful noise when the pitcher begins his/her wind up.
- Food in the dugout is to be minimized.
- All coaches are responsible for cleaning the dugout following the game.

#### **X. Benching a Player**

Any coach, during the game, can sit a player for the remainder of the game for disciplinary reasons. The manager shall notify the opposing manager and the umpire of the disciplinary action. Any further penalty will go to the player representative. The player representative will involve the general manager and/or the board of directors at his/her discretion, depending on the circumstances.

Immediately after the game, the coach must explain to the player and the players' parent why the player was benched.

Any coach who abuses this disciplinary authority is subject to an ethics committee review and possible disciplinary action which can include termination.

#### **XI. Notification of Player Suspension**

If a player is reprimanded and/or if he/she does not play (the required innings in a game), or is under suspension for one or more games, the coach must notify the opposing team's coach, the umpire and the scorekeeper immediately at the time of the action, and the player rep after the game.

#### **XII. Penalty for Pitching an Ineligible Pitcher**

The game is subject to forfeit, and the head coach is subject to an ethics committee review and may be suspended for one game if he/she pitches an ineligible pitcher.

### **XIII. Playing Time**

The penalty for failure to give a player the required playing time in a regulation game (six innings) will result in forfeiture of the game, and the player will be required to play all innings in the next game. In addition, the coach is subject to an ethics committee review and possible one-game suspension. Each player is expected to play half of any in-house game.

### **XIV. Scorebooks**

- Official scorebooks can be kept in pencil.
- Upon completion of a game, the scorebook will be verified with the opposing head coach, noting any discrepancy from either party. Scorebooks will be available for examination upon any request from any NBL head coach within that age division, the player representative of that age division, or the NBL Board. Scorebooks are available by request from the player representatives.
- The home team will be responsible for keeping the official league scorebook.
- A record of innings pitched by each pitcher and player participation verification must be logged in the official scorebook and reported to the player representative. In some divisions, pitch count must also be logged.

### **XV. Protective Gear**

All catchers must wear a protective cup while playing or practicing regardless of level. Head coaches must emphasize this to players. It is also wise to encourage all players to wear such protective devices.

### **XVI. Equipment**

Secure equipment and uniforms from the equipment manager at a scheduled day and time to be determined by the equipment manager. If player provides his/her own equipment, they must have approval to use it in practice and games.

At the end of each season, all equipment must be checked back in. Head coaches are responsible for returning all items to NBL. If a head coach fails to return equipment in a timely manner, they may not be considered for a coaching position the following year and will be responsible for replacement costs.

### **XVII. Coach Listing on Rosters**

- A head coach can only officially be listed on one team roster per division. A head coach may be an assistant coach in another division, and must file by the draft.
- Each team can officially have only one head coach and two assistant coaches listed on their team roster.

- All coaches must be registered with the league before opening day.
- Head coaches are required to have completed background checks.
- All Head Coaches (excluding T-ball) are required to complete the Babe Ruth Coaches Certification.

**XVIII. Meeting Requirements**

Every head coach is required to attend a pre-season coaches meeting. Some levels may also require coaches to attend coaching clinics provided by NBL at the request of the NBL Board of Directors.

**XIX. Tobacco and Alcohol**

Tobacco products are prohibited in all Niskayuna Town Parks. Possession of alcohol or illegal drugs on NBL premises, school property or fields reserved by NBL is prohibited. Individuals under the influence of drugs or alcohol on the premises, school property or fields reserved by NBL will be asked to leave. If a person refuses to leave, the police will be called.