

St. Croix Valley Baseball Association (SCVBA) Code of Conduct and Disciplinary Policies - Adopted 4/13/08

This policy shall apply to all coaches, players, parents, guardians or other persons associated with SCVBA players regarding incidents of poor sportsmanship including, but not limited to, swearing, throwing equipment and physical or verbal abuse directed against umpires, coaches, other players or spectators. This policy shall apply to all covered parties on and off the field of play during any SCVBA-approved activity or event. The goal of the SCVBA is to assure that its members – coaches, players, parents/guardians and fans -- maintain the highest standard of sportsmanship and ethical behavior at all times. Adherence to this policy shall be a condition for continued participation in the SCVBA program. A parent/guardian is required to acknowledge this policy in writing or electronically at registration and inform the participating player of the policy. This policy will be included in the SCVBA Coaches' Manual and must be acknowledged in writing or electronically by all head coaches and assistant coaches and collected by the President or Age Group Coordinator before the team's first practice. This policy will be documented on the SCVBA website.

Player Discipline

First offense:

Upon notice, the Head Coach will warn the player and keep a record of the offense, the player's name and the date. The Head Coach has the prerogative to bench the player for an inning, the rest of the game or send the player home, depending upon the severity of the offense.

Second offense:

- Upon notice, the Head Coach will bench the player for the rest of the game, or send him home and suspend the player for the next game.
- The player's parent(s)/guardian(s) will be informed by the Head Coach of the offense and the reasons for any penalty levied.
- The Head Coach will notify the President or Age Group Coordinator.
- The President or Age Group Coordinator will keep a record of the offense, the player's name and the date.
- The President or Age Group Coordinator will contact the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the involved player and explain that another offense could result in removal from the team.

- The President or Age Group Coordinator will notify the SCVBA Board of the offense and the suspension.

Third offense:

- Upon notice, the Head Coach will suspend the involved player, and notify the President or Age Group Coordinator of the third offense.
- The President or Age Group Coordinator will notify the SCVBA Board and request a hearing to consider removing the player from the team.
- The President or Age Group Coordinator will contact the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the player.
- The SCVBA Board President will call a special meeting of the SCVBA board, and invite the player and his parent(s)/guardian(s), and the coach. During the meeting, all participants will have an opportunity to share information. A ballot vote will be conducted to consider a motion to remove the player from the team.
- If the involved player is removed from the team, the SCVBA Board President will: a) file a report that details the process and explains the reasons for removal; and b) notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) via registered mail of the removal and provide the supporting reasoning for the Board's decision.
- Any player that is removed from a team pursuant to this policy may apply for reinstatement in any subsequent season.

Coach Discipline

First offense:

Upon notice, the President or Age Group Coordinator will investigate the complaint and if determined to be valid, will inform the coach verbally and via email of the complaint and warn the coach that a further incident will lead to a hearing before the SCVBA Board. A record of the offense, the coach's name and the date is to be recorded.

Second offense:

- Upon notice, the President or Age Group Coordinator will immediately investigate the complaint and if determined to be valid, will notify the SCVBA Board of the second offense and ask for a hearing to consider a motion to remove the coach from the team.
- The President will call a special meeting of the SCVBA Board and invite the involved coach and any complainants. All participants will have an opportunity to share information. A ballot vote will be conducted to consider removing the coach from the team.

- If a Head Coach is removed from the team, the President will appoint an assistant to act as Head Coach for the balance of the season.
- In addition to being banned from coaching, the offending individual is banned from attending any games for the remainder of the season.
- The SCVBA Board President will file a report that details the process and explains the reasons for removal. This report will be included in the coach's file and will be shared with future board members and travel coach selection committees. The offending individual will be banned from coaching in subsequent years unless he/she brings a successful appeal before the Board.
- The offending individual may provide transportation for a player to and from games and practices, but is not to be within visual proximity of any games or practices. If the offending individual attends a game or practice in violation of the ban, the police are to be called for the purpose of removing the individual from the area.

Parent/Guardian Discipline

First offense:

Upon notice, the President or Age Group Coordinator will investigate the complaint and if determined to be valid, will warn the offending party, verbally and by email or mail, of the violation of this policy and of the ramifications thereof.

Second offense:

- Upon notice, the President or Age Group Coordinator will immediately investigate and if the complaint is determined to be valid, upon written notice by registered mail shall suspend the offending party from attending any further SCVBA events until a hearing can be conducted.
- The President or Age Group Coordinator will notify the SCVBA Board of the second offense and ask for a hearing to consider a motion to suspend the offending party from attending further SCVBA events.
- The President will call a special meeting of the SCVBA board and invite the offending party and any complainants. All participants will have an opportunity to share information. A ballot vote will be conducted to consider banning the offending party from attending any further SCVBA events for the remainder of the season.

- If banned from attending any further SCVBA events, the President will: a) file a report that details the process and explains the reasons for removal; and b) notify the offending party of the ban and its terms via registered mail.
- During the period of the ban, the offending party may provide transportation for a player to and from games and practices, but is not to be within visual proximity of any games or practices. If the offending party attends a game or practice in violation of the ban, the police are to be called for the purpose of removing the individual from the area.

Further offense:

- Upon notice, the President or Age Group Coordinator will notify the SCVBA board of the further offense and ask for a hearing to consider a motion to remove the offending party's player from the team.
- The President will call a special meeting of the SCVBA board and invite the offending party, all parents/guardians of the involved player and any complainants. All participants will have an opportunity to share information. A ballot vote will be conducted to consider removing the player from the team.
- If the vote favors removal of the player, the SCVBA Board President will: a) file a report that details the process and explains the rationale for removal. This report will be included in the boards file and will be shared with future board members; and b) notify via certified mail the offending party (and also the removed player if the player does not reside with the offending party) of the removal, the basis of the SCVBA Board's decision, and the terms of the removal.
- Any player that is removed from a team pursuant to this policy may apply for reinstatement in any subsequent season.

