

## **PIBA Discipline Guidelines – Players**

Discipline involves setting limits on behavior, making rules clear and consistent and being a role model. Discipline helps an athlete know what is expected, become responsible for their behavior and increases feelings of self-worth and self-confidence.

The following will be used as a basic guide by each team for handling discipline problems that may occur during the year. The team's head coach is responsible for team and player discipline and the team activity on and off the field while at practices, games and tournaments. The discipline guidelines are intended to be minimum guidelines that outline expectations, methods of acceptable discipline and escalation procedures if needed.

We expect, at a minimum, positive attitudes, good sportsmanship, respect for self and others, respect for the facilities and skill development for our youth.

- Coaches will explain how he/she will deal with discipline issues at the beginning of the season so that parents and players know beforehand.
- Minor offenses such as being late for practice, not listening to coach, badmouthing teammates or opponents, harmful teasing, foul language shall be handled primarily at the coaching level. A player should first be given a warning. If the problem persists, methods of discipline for the player may include: sit on the bench during practice, perform additional running/push-ups/raking/cleaning dugouts, be asked to leave the practice, sit out innings of the next game. If the behavior continues, a meeting between the coach, the player, and the parents will be held to discuss additional consequences and work out an agreement that may include up to a full game suspension. Minor incidents should be corrected promptly and informally, taking a constructive approach and with the goal of bringing about a change in negative attitudes and behavior.
- Unexcused absences may result in a suspension of 2 innings for the 1<sup>st</sup> absence, 5 innings for the 2<sup>nd</sup> absence, and a full game suspension for a 3<sup>rd</sup> unexcused absence. Excused absences will be accepted via phone call or email to coach before practice.
- During a game, a coach may bench a player for an inning or the remainder of the game depending upon the severity of the problem.
- Major offenses that result in injury or destruction of property may be handled at the coaching level for the first offense. Major offenses will require a meeting with the coach, the player, and the parents to discuss the offense, the consequence, and the follow up. Discipline may include a suspension for 2 innings up to a full game suspension depending upon the seriousness of the offense and the coach's discretion. If the problem persists, an incident report shall be given to the Executive Board for review and a meeting between coaches, parents, and player may be required. The goal should be to determine what may be causing the infractions and the steps needed to guide and correct the actions. Additional consequences may include a 2 – 3 game suspension. If the behavior is repeated after the 3 game suspensions, a full board review may be necessary with the extreme measure of a possible remaining season suspension depending upon severity of offense.

## **PIBA Discipline Guidelines -Parents/Coaches/Board Members**

The following may be discipline actions for parents/coaches/board members after review with the PIBA Board. Both parties involved in any grievance may meet face to face along with representation from the discipline committee and/or executive board to discuss the grievance being filed. Facts from both sides will be gathered. After this meeting has transpired, the discipline committee will conduct additional interviews if needed to make a ruling.

1. If my behavior results in substantiated unsportsmanlike behavior, as decided by the PIBA Board, I will accept a one-week suspension from all Pine Island Baseball youth events.

2. **24 Hour Rule:** No parent in a fit of frustration/anger over their player's time/position should contact the coach in any manner until 24 hours has passed. If such an occurrence takes place, the parent will automatically be removed from all Pine Island Baseball youth events for a minimum of two weeks.

3. Parents who create public displays of physical violence/anger towards their coaches, umpires, or other parents may be automatically suspended from all Pine Island Baseball youth events.

4. All inappropriate actions and resulting discipline will be logged with the PIBA Board and will be cumulative during the course of that family's participation in PIBA. The Board will have the right to remove the family from the association after the third disciplinary action in a given year.

5. Parents and players need to agree to abide by the rules and guidelines as stated in the PIBA Parents and Players Code of Conduct and agree that any violation of the rules is subject to disciplinary action.

6. The PIBA Board will serve as the Discipline Committee and enforce all violations. The individual/s involved will be notified in writing of action being taken.