

Bethpage Baseball Association Inc 2009 Safety Plan

Mission Statement

To enrich our children by providing them with the positive experience of teamwork, personal achievement and excellence through participation in our community minded baseball and softball programs.

Dear Managers and Coaches:

Welcome to another fun and exciting season of Bethpage Baseball and Softball.

This season the Board of Directors, as required by Little League Inc, will be enhancing safety policy/plan. This policy will include but not be limited to field safety, Manager/Coach training, maintaining safe equipment to wear/use, first aid training, and accident information. Some of the rules that will be enforced are:

- One manager and two coaches allowed in the dugout during a game
- On Deck batters are not permitted to take practice swings. Coaches must discuss this safety procedure with their team prior to each game.
- All Children must be wearing specified safety equipment, for example protective cups, batting helmets (with face shields as required) and etc.

In an effort to help the managers and coaches understand the new safety standards, the Board of Directors has put forth a mandate of safety rules to be followed as outlined in this manual.

The commitment to this Safety Manual is proof that we at BBAI are dedicated to this cause. Please read this manual carefully, as it will familiarize you with the safety fundamentals. Then use the manual throughout the season as a reference guide.

If you have received and are reading this manual then you have attended our mandatory Coaches Clinic. As you know, the Board of Directors has created the policy ruling that Managers and Coaches must attend this mandatory clinic.

In closing, remember that safety rests with all of us, the volunteers of BBAI. Always use common sense, never doubt what children tell you, and report all accidents or safety infractions when they occur. Now play ball and play it safe!

Enjoy your season and thank you for your dedication and volunteer service to our league.

Mike Vaglica
Little League President

Dan Midgette
Safety Officer

SAFETY MANUAL AND FIRST AID KITS

Each team will be issued a safety manual at the beginning of the season. The manager and coaches will acknowledge receipt of the manual by signing the attendance sheet provided during the coaches clinic. Each divisional leader is required to ensure managers and coaches have either attended the safety/coaches clinic or review the manual and the themes presented during the coaches clinic with them.

Each manager will be provided First-Aid kit. Additional first aid kits are available through your division leader. BBAI will provide ice packs. Please contact our equipment manager for additional ice packs during the season.

The Safety Manual will include emergency information, phone numbers of all Board Directors, BBAI's Code of Conduct, Do's and Don'ts of treating injured players.

The First-Aid kit will include the necessary items to treat an injured players until professional help arrives if need be (see First-Aid section).

Safety Related Rules:

Safety related rules, such as pitching, refer to the Little League Manual and BBAI Supplemental Rules.

Little League Compliance:

For the purpose of Little League compliance all reference to BBAI shall refer to the Little League Divisions and all non-Little League Divisions.

BBAI Phone Numbers

In case of injury, fire, or emergency call 911 immediately.
Also, contact the appropriate Board member.

In case of theft call the Nassau County Police Department at
(516) 573-6300

BBAI Code of Conduct

The BBAI Board of Directors has instituted the following Code of Conduct. All Code of Conduct violations will be reviewed by the appropriate level. BBAI has instituted an independent Conflict Resolution Committee for issues that cannot be resolved at the league level.

Code of Conduct:

No Board Member, Manager, Coach, Player or Spectator shall:

- At any time, lay a hand upon, push, shove strike or threaten to strike an official.
- Be guilty of heaping personal verbal or physical abuse upon any official for any real or imaginary belief of a wrong decision or judgment.
- Be guilty of an objectionable demonstration of dissent at an official's decision by throwing of gloves, helmets, hats, bats, balls, or any other forceful unsportsmanlike action.
- Be guilty of using unnecessarily rough tactics in the play of a game against the body of an opposing player.
- Be guilty of the use of profane, obscene, or vulgar language in any manner at any time.
- Appear on the field of play, stands, or anywhere on or near a BBAI complex while in an intoxicated state at any time. Intoxicated will be defined as an odor or behavior issue. BBAI has instituted this rule for smoking as well.
- Speak disrespectfully to any manager, coach, official, or representative of the league.
- Be guilty of tampering or manipulation of any league rosters, draft positions or selections, official score books, rankings, financial records.

- Shall challenge an umpire's authority. The umpires shall have the authority and discretion during a game to penalize the offender according to the

infraction up to an including removal from the game.

- Each manager will ensure that all coaches and parents that volunteer to assist the team in any way have filled out and submitted a Volunteer Application Form to the appropriate league official.

Safety is everyone's responsibility

BBAI Safety Code

The Board of Directors of BBAI has mandated the following *Safety Code*. All managers and coaches will read the *Safety Code* and then read it to the players on their team.

Safety Code

- Each player, manager, designated coach, umpire, team safety officer shall use proper reasoning and care to prevent injury to him/herself and to others.
 - Only league approved managers, coaches, and/or league officials are allowed to practice teams.
 - Only league approved managers, coaches, and/or league officials are allowed to supervise the batting cages.
 - First-aid kits are to be maintained, including ice packs.
 - No games or practices will be held when the weather or field conditions are poor, particularly when lighting is inadequate.
 - Play area will be inspected before every practice and game for holes, damage, stones, glass and other foreign objects.
 - Team equipment should be stored in the team dugout, and not within the area defined by the umpires as "in play".
 - Only players, managers, two (2) coaches, and umpires are permitted on the playing field or in the dugout during games or practice sessions.
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- Responsibility for keeping bats and loose equipment off the field of play should be that of a player assigned for this purpose or the team's manager and designated coaches.

- Foul balls batted out of the playing area during a game should be returned to the team manager or designated coaches in the dugout nearest where the ball went out of play and not thrown back onto the playing field.
- During practice and games all players should be alert and watching the batter on each pitch.
- During warm up exercises/drills, all players should be spaced so that no one is endangered by wild throws or missed catches.
- All pre-game warm-ups should be performed within the confines of the playing field and not within areas that are frequented by and thus endangering spectators (i.e., playing catch, swinging bats, etc.)
- Equipment should be inspected when you receive your equipment bag, and regularly during the season for its condition as well as its fit. Any equipment that needs replacing please contact our Equipment Manager.
- Batters must wear Little League approved protective helmets that bear the NOCSAE seal during batting practice and games.
- NO head first sliding into a base, unless returning to the base.
- At no time is ‘horseplay’ permitted on the playing field.
- Parents of players who wear glasses should be encouraged to provide “safety glasses” for their children.
- On-Deck Batters are NOT permitted to swing a bat.
- Managers will only use the official balls supplied by BBAI.
- All male players must wear an athletic supporter or cup during a game. Catchers must wear a cup. Cups must be worn at practices as well as games.
- Male catchers must wear the metal, fiber or plastic type cup and a long-model chest protector.
- Female catchers must wear long or short model chest protectors.
- All catchers must wear a chest protector with a neck collar, throat guard, shin guards, and a catcher’s helmet, all of which must meet Little League specifications and standards.

- All catchers must wear a mask, “dangling” type throat protector and a catcher’s helmet during practice, pitcher warm-ups and games. **Note:** Skullcaps are **not** permitted.
- Shoes with metal spikes or cleats are **not** permitted. Shoes with molded cleats are permissible.
- Players will not wear watches, rings, pins, jewelry or other metallic objects during practices or games (Exception: Jewelry that alerts medical personnel to a specific condition is permissible and this must be taped in place.)
- Catchers must wear a catcher’s mitt (not a first baseman’s mitt or a fielder’s glove) of any shape, size or weight consistent with protecting the hand.
- Catchers may not warm up a pitcher without a mask and athletic cup.
- Managers will never leave a child unattended at or after a game or practice.
- Never hesitate to report any present or potential safety hazard to BBAI.
- No alcohol or drugs are permitted on the complex at any time.
- **No medication** will be taken at the complex unless administered directly by the child’s parent. This includes aspirin and Tylenol.
- No playing in the parking lots at any time.
- No playing on the lawn equipment, machinery at any time.
- No swinging bats or throwing baseballs at any time within the walkways and common areas of the complex.
- No throwing rocks at any time.
- No climbing fences, or backstops at any time.
- No swinging or climbing on dugout roofs at any time.
- Observe all posted signs.

- Players and spectators should be alert at all times for foul balls and errant throws.
- Use crosswalks when crossing roadways. Always be alert for traffic.

RESPONSIBILITY

The President:

The president of each division in BBAI is responsible for ensuring that the policies and regulations of the BBAI Safety Officer are carried out by the entire membership to the best of his or her abilities.

Safety Officer:

The main responsibility of the BBAI Safety Officer is to develop, implement, maintain and update the Leagues safety program.

The Safety Officer is the link Between the Board of Directors of BBAI and its managers, coaches, umpires, players, spectators, and any other third parties on the complex in regards to safety matters, rules and regulations.

The Safety Officer's responsibilities include:

- Schedule annual safety/coaches clinic prior to 4/10 of each year.
- Review Accident Log with Board of Directors on a monthly basis. This document will be maintained by the Insurance Officer.
- Analyzing the data in the Accident log to determine cause and determine proper accident prevention in the future.
- Insuring that each team receives its Safety Manual and obtains its First-Aid kit prior to the beginning of the first practice.
- Make Little League's "no Tolerance with child abuse" clear to all.

- Checking the fields with Field Managers and listing areas that need attention. Complete Little League Field Checklist prior to season start and submit to LL.
- Schedule Medical professional to present at annual safety/coaches meeting. Discussion must include basis first response to first aid situations and preventative measure (i.e. sunscreen before game/water bottles).

- Act immediately in resolving unsafe or hazardous conditions once a situation has been brought to his/her attention.
- Making spot checks at practices/games to make sure all managers have their First-Aid kits and Safety Manuals.
- Visiting other leagues to allow a fresh perspective on safety.
- Making sure that safety is a monthly Board meeting topic, and allowing experienced people to share ideas on improving safety.

Insurance Officer

The responsibility of the BBAI Insurance Director is to develop, implement, and maintain the Leagues Insurance program.

The Insurance Officer is the link Between the Board of Directors of BBAI and it managers, coaches, umpires, players, spectators, and any other third parties on the complex in regards to safety matters, rules and regulations.

- Explaining the insurance benefits to claimants and assisting them with filing the correct paperwork.
- File all insurance claims with BBAI's Insurance carrier, obtain claim numbers, and act as a liaison between the injured parties and the insurance carrier ensuring that claims are followed through completion.

The BBAI Memberships:

The BBAI Membership will adhere to carry out the policies set forth in this safety manual and

Utilize the principles highlighted in the document on page 11.

SAFETY FIRST!

BE ALERT!

CHECK PLAYING FIELD FOR HAZARDS

**PLAYERS MUST WEAR PROPER
EQUIPMENT**

ENSURE EQUIPMENT IS IN GOOD SHAPE

MAINTAIN CONTROL OF THE SITUATION

MAINTAIN DISCIPLINE

BE ORGANIZED

**KNOW PLAYERS' LIMITS AND DON'T
EXCEED THEM**

MAKE IT FUN!!!!!!!