



National Capital Baseball League

SOCIAL MEDIA CODE OF CONDUCT

The National Capital Baseball League (NCBL) believes that electronic communication is essential for sharing league/team news and information. It is also a good way for teams and players to communicate in a fun but sportsmanlike way. The NCBL in no way wants to restrict the use or pleasure of its social media accounts. However, the NCBL also must ensure that communication that involves the league, teams, players, umpires and other members of the NCBL, follow a code of conduct.

1. Code of Conduct

1.1 Teams players, managers, umpires and any other individual involved with the NCBL will, when using social media governed by the NCBL or involving NCBL teams, players, umpires accounts, adhere to the following regulations:

- a) Do not tweet, re-tweet or post messages which insult, threaten, intimidate or otherwise disparage another team, player, umpire or any other individual associated with the NCBL.
- b) Do not tweet, re-tweet or post messages that are offensive or discriminatory statements. This will not be tolerated. Offending posts will not be approved for posting and those responsible accounts may be blocked from the site(s).
- c) Tweets, re-tweets and posted messages (including photos or videos) should be family-friendly in nature.
- d) Do not tweet, re-tweet or post messages that may be private, sensitive or confidential in nature.

Note: The NCBL treats all social media postings to its site as public 'comment'.

2. Discipline

2.1 Teams players, managers, umpires and any other individual involved with the NCBL may face disciplinary action for violating this code of conduct. Article 5.2 of the NCBL Constitution allows the league to,

"...discipline any team, player, coach manager, umpire, or other team official for any on-field or off-field activities which, in the opinion of the League, are contrary to the League interests."

2.2 A team, player, manager or any other individual involved with the NCBL, who violates the code of conduct, will have their case brought to the attention of the NCBL's Social Media Committee. [NCBLSMC]



2.3 The NCBL's Social Media Committee will determine the merit of the complaint and apply the penalty grid as provided for in 5.1. If necessary, the NCBLSMC will forward the matter to the NCBL OPS Committee as described in 1.1(f) of the NCBL By-Laws, for possible supplementary discipline as provided for in 5.1 a)iii), b)iii) and c)iii).

2.4 An umpire, who violates the code of conduct, will have their case follow the same process as 2.3 See Appendix A for the process map.

2.5 The NCBLSMC will consist of 5 individuals, 1 from each tier and an umpire. This committee will be chosen annually prior to the start of each baseball season.

3. Reporting

3.1 Any team, player, manager, umpire or any other individual involved with the NCBL, who has been harmed by a tweet, re-tweet or posted message must report the offensive message to their team representative.

3.2 The team representative must report the event using the "[Incident Report Form](#)".

3.3 All information regarding the offensive message is to be collected, detailed and presented to NCBLSMC for review by the team representative.

3.4 The NCBL will not tolerate any frivolous or vindictive complaints regarding perceived violations of the social media code of conduct.

4. Notification

4.1 At the beginning of each baseball season, all teams, players, umpires and other individuals involved with the NCBL will be reminded of the Social Media Code of Conduct by way of email.

4.2 All teams, players, umpires and other individuals involved with the NCBL will be deemed to have read, understood and agreed to follow the code of conduct when posting message to any NCBL accounts.

5. Penalties

5.1 Anyone who is judged to have violated this code of conduct will be subject to the following disciplinary grid:

a) First offense by team, umpire or player will result in:



- i) The team, umpire or player's account being removed from Twitter feed (reinstatement after 10 days provided no further issues);
- ii) The team, umpire or player warned about future abuses; and
- iii) Possible suspension of individual(s) responsible for message.

b) Second offense by team, umpire or player will result in:

- i) The team, umpire or player's account being removed from Twitter feed (reinstatement after 30 days provided no further issues);
- ii) Fine of \$50; and
- iii) Possible suspension of individual(s) responsible for message.

c) Third offense by team, umpire or player will result in:

- i) Team, umpire or player's account being removed from Twitter feed for rest of season. Will review access before start of next baseball season;
- ii) Fine of \$100; and
- iii) Possible suspension of individual(s) responsible for message.



Appendix A – Process Map

