



USA BASEBALL UMPIRE CERTIFICATION

“U” CODE OF CONDUCT

The Code of Conduct is intended to provide standards of ethical conduct that can be applied to any baseball team, organization, or competition. Whether or not an umpire has violated the Code does not by itself determine whether a contract or agreement is enforceable or whether other legal consequences occur.

Baseball is a game played at numerous levels including professional, collegiate, interscholastic, community, and recreational from the local to international levels of competition. The function of all players, coaches, umpires, officials, and workers is to abide by only the highest level of sportsmanship and conduct.

The umpire must constantly uphold the honor and dignity of the profession. In all personal contact with the athletes, coaches, officials, administrators, state and national organizations, the media, and the public, the umpire shall strive to set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct.

The umpire shall take an active role in the prevention of drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse and under no circumstances should authorize their use.

The umpire shall not use alcohol or tobacco products when in contact with players.

Umpires do not make statements that are false, deceptive, misleading, or fraudulent concerning work activities, personal and organization affiliations.

The umpire shall be thoroughly acquainted with baseball rules and is responsible for their interpretation to teams. The spirit and letter of rules should be regarded as mutual agreements. The umpire shall not try to seek an advantage by circumvention of the spirit or letter of the rules. Players should be taught to respect the dignity of the game, coaches, and opponents.

Umpires should confine their discussion to the rules and should engage in respectful discussions involving decisions.

Umpires shall actively use their influence to enhance sportsmanship by the athletes and spectators. Before and after contests, umpires should meet with coaches of both teams and exchange friendly greetings to set the correct tone for the game.

Coaches will be treated with respect and support by the umpire. The umpire shall not indulge in conduct which will incite players or spectators against the coaches. Public criticism of coaches or players is unethical.

Umpires do not engage in sexual harassment, abuse, or any other harassment.

I recognize the responsibility encumbered upon me to model ethical behavior. I pledge myself to observe, practice and maintain this code of ethics. As an “U” Certified Umpire, I understand the basic skills of the game of baseball. Further, I understand what a safe environment free from abuse for all players, coaches, umpires, and parents within the game of baseball entails.