



2012 Canton South Youth Baseball of Stark County Coaches /Managers Role

Thank you, and welcome to the 2012 Canton South Baseball Association of Stark County (CSBASC) managers and coaches selection process. The youth baseball manager/coach plays an important part in our system and must realize that they will hold a position of Responsibility, as well as, Trust within the community. The experience of coaching can be hectic at times, but also very rewarding. Managers and coaches must realize that they are part of the formative period of a child's life and will be asked to deal with the shaping of the physical, mental, and emotional development of each child associated within the program. While an adult with training and background in the sport of baseball is desired, all managers and coaches who are new to this program are required to pass a background check prior to their election as a coach. This process is required by the Ohio Hot Stove Baseball Association and is in place for the protection of our players and families.

The heart of any successful youth baseball program centers on and around the interaction of its managers/coaches, players, and their families; remember, you are their connection to our association. Managers/coaches will be asked to provide an excellent learning atmosphere while controlling all aspects within practices and games. Improving the level of leadership in this area is vital to a strong based community baseball system. Common areas of instruction shall include, but are not limited to, developing good interpersonal skills within our players, good practice/ playing ethics, and nurturing the players at the level of their abilities. Children participating in sports often pursue the sports for different reasons other than wanting to play. The coaches should get to know their players interests and goals while establishing a desire to succeed. The coaching staff should establish good practice habits that will not only teach the child, but will be an enjoyment for all.



While experience is an advantage, a coach may contact other coaches for assistance or attend a “Coaches Clinic” to aid in the success of his team. Establishing a good staff is also important to the success of your team. You may find a “Diamond” in one of your player’s parents who will make your journey as a coach very rewarding. One of the most challenging parts of coaching will be coaching your own child. The process of differentiating “Coach” from “Dad” can be a difficult process. The trick is to find a “Middle of the Road” attitude so that mistakes can be made and successes can be enjoyed.

The manager is responsible for the behavior of all of his subordinate staff and players. This would include all practices and games. Parents should be responsible for their own actions, but at times, can become a concern for the coaches. Please use all efforts to mediate the situation and attempt to work with the parent to resolve any issues. Some parents may not want to understand the process you are taking to instruct the team. Information and a good outline of goals within your staff will help to defer these situations. If all players and parents are informed of the common goal, then everyone can work to achieve success. Parent /coaches introduction meetings prior to the onset of the season will be a good start to pave the road to the team’s goal. Please feel free to contact the CSBASC Board for assistance in any situation that is beyond the scope of reasoning.

The CSBASC Board shall conduct interviews for manager/coaches positions and approval of the Board and President will be required prior to appointment. The CSBA Board also has the authority to discipline, suspend, or remove any manager due to violation of the CSBASC BY-Laws and Constitution. If a parent or anyone else has an issue with the manager or a member of the coaching staff, they must submit, in writing, the nature of the complaint to the CSBASC Board for further review.



THE CSBASC TEN COMMANDMENTS OF BASEBALL

- 1) The manager or at least one member of his staff (in lieu of his absence), must attend the “Monthly Board Meeting” on the second Wednesday of each month. A copy of the By-Laws and Constitution are available and Hot Stove Rule Books will be given out once they are received by the Board. Learn the rules!!
- 2) Please take every chance to improve your teaching skills, either by attending clinics or working with another experienced coach during the start of your season.
- 3) Select your staff with care and set an outline for practice schedules, (at least 2 /week) depending on the needs of your age group. Have a practice plan!!
- 4) Maintain all CSBASC equipment and report any damaged equipment promptly. Follow distribution and turn in procedures.
- 5) Be an example of good sportsmanship and encourage a “Team” environment.
- 6) Teach the players responsibility for the equipment and maintaining the assigned field.
- 7) “Communication is Key” with your players and parents. Develop a calendar or print out sheet that will have the practice/game schedule included. Make sure all parents are informed of any fund raising events that will be taking place.
- 8) Teaching the fundamentals will only result in better players. With a solid base of instruction, winning is bound to happen.
- 9) Work with your staff in developing game situation plans of action. Once established, let your coaches, coach.
- 10) Be the leader of your team, the team will follow when they trust you are in charge.



Maintenance of Your Assigned Playing Field

Every manager, coach, and player should take Pride in their home field. Outside organizations will view not only your team, but the CSBASC organization by the appearance of the field. Basic tools will be needed to maintain the playing surface and fenced section of the field. Shovels, rakes, “Weed Eaters”, wheelbarrows and brooms are a necessity in maintaining the field. Not everyone has an ATV, but wooden drags can be constructed to assist in the movement of field mix to insure a flatter playing surface. On some fields, an ATV is not permitted (i.e: Johnny Miller), but drags are available at this site. Players and their parents can also be encouraged to assist in “Prepping” the field

The team is to “Take Ownership” of their assigned field. The CSBASC Board will do their best to insure that materials are available to assist the managers/coaches with maintaining the field. The most important aspect is SAFETY. If there are any issues on any field, please contact the CSBASC Board as soon as possible prior to the start of your season. “Baseball Mix”, fencing issues, benches, and the mowing of the fields in under the direction of the board. Trimming around benches, fences, or dugouts is the responsibility of the manager and his staff. All managers, coaches, and the players will be responsible for the neatness of the dugout and surrounding areas.

Any manager who is assigned a field should meet with the previous coaching staff to learn the “Ins and Outs” of that respective field. This will prove invaluable when preparing your field after rainstorms. Any manager or coach who may need assistance in learning to “Prep” a field, please feel free to contact the Board for assistance. A good rule of thumb is to “Leave the Field Better than How You Found It.”

