

BLSPA Code of Conduct

March 27, 2025

INTENT

To help ensure civil, safe, sportsmanlike play, and promote a safe and fun environment for umpires, players, and spectators.

To support the role of umpires in ensuring safe game play. Umpires are human beings who may from time to time make bad calls. The perception of umpire's calls can also be subjective. We need them to enjoy our games – abusive or harassing behaviour could result in a shortage of umpires.

Play Slo-pitch Waiver and Code-of-Conduct

- 1. All BLSPA players and coaches (participants) must be registered on the [Play Slo-pitch website](#), sign the waiver, and be assigned to a team before stepping onto the field to play in a league game.**
 - Individual team coaches are responsible to ensure their participants are registered and added to their team roster before they are allowed to play.
 - Players who are found to be not in compliance will be immediately removed from the game, and may be subject to additional game suspensions, financial penalties, or removal from the League.
- 2. In signing the Play Slo-pitch waiver, participants are bound by the Play Slo-pitch Code of Conduct <https://playslopitch.com/pages/code-of-conduct>. These rules apply to umpires, players, coaches and spectators of games.**

BLSPA

In addition to the Play Slo-pitch Code of Conduct, the League emphasizes the following:

1. Disagreements with Umpires

- We are a recreational league – we play as a social activity for fun. There is very little at stake. Keep this in mind before choosing to dispute umpire's calls.
- While players and coaches are allowed to dispute a call, it should be done respectfully. Participants will abide by an umpire's call.
- It is recommended that the team coach dispute an umpire's call. Regardless of who is speaking, disputes should be raised calmly, there should be no physical contact with the umpire or other participants.
- Refusal to abide by an umpire's decision, including consistent "chirping" at the umpire by an individual player or team may result in removal from the game, as well as suspension from the following game.
- Larger issues, including concerns about safe game play, or ongoing concerns with umpires should be raised to the League President, VP, and/or Head Umpire, who will discuss the issue(s) with individual teams or the Executive as needed.

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2. Supportive Interactions with Other Players

- The BLSPA is a recreational league emphasizing recreation, safety, and fun. All level of players are welcome.
- **All players deserve support and encouragement.** Players, coaches, or spectators who make disparaging remarks towards other players or coaches may be removed from the game, with the possibility of additional game suspensions or removal from the League.
- Keep in mind that tempers can flare during competition. Provide space for one-off comments or comments made in the heat of the moment.

3. Violence

- Violence – like throwing bats, fighting, or using discriminating language may result in removal from the League for the current year with consideration for extended sanctions as determined by the President and League Executive.