



# CODE OF CONDUCT

## Braves Baseball Club

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Braves Baseball Club is committed to fair play, teamwork, leadership development and community involvement. It will continue to emphasise skills development, responsibility, strong work ethic and a positive attitude to help our members succeed on and off the field. All individuals involved, directly or indirectly, in Braves Baseball Club must maintain and foster the values and goals of the Club, as well as those associated with Baseball WA's Mission and Vision Statements.

Being a member of Braves Baseball Club brings with it clear expectations regarding the conduct, behaviours, and professionalism of club members. Any behaviour that is unlawful or disrespectful to others brings the individual, team and Club into disrepute. A high level of commitment, effort, respect, and adherence to the policies is expected of all players, coaches, officials, parents and spectators.

Any breach of this Code or any behaviour detrimental to the Club or game of baseball must be reported in the first instance to the Club's Member Protection Information Office (MPIO) or the relevant Vice President (Junior or Senior). If the alleged breach warrants investigation, this will be conducted by the Committee Executive or appointed Committee representatives. If the breach(es) is(are) found proved, then a penalty of proportionate strength will be imposed upon the member.

### 1. PURPOSE

This document aims to educate each player, parent, coach, manager, umpire, and scorer (referred to in this document as 'members') about the behaviour (or 'conduct') expected by Braves Baseball Club.

This policy will help the club to:

- offer assurance that members will be held accountable and help them understand that it is a privilege to play for Braves Baseball Club,
- meet its duty of care in relation to the health and safety of our members, volunteers, and visitors who attend any club games and other club-related activities,
- increase the quality of competition and experience of playing baseball for all its members,
- provide equitable opportunities for all players and officials,
- uphold the reputation of Baseball WA, our club, sponsors and partners, and
- ensure that decisions made by people in Club leadership positions are respected.

This policy exists alongside, and is to be read and applied in conjunction with, the Club's Social Media, Smoking Management, Alcohol Management, and Safe Transport policies.



## **2. STRUCTURE**

The Code of Conduct is made up of four parts:

3. Player's Code of Conduct
4. Coaches' Code of Conduct
5. Officials' Code of Conduct
6. Parents' and Supporters' Code of Conduct

## **3. PLAYERS**

The Braves Baseball Club Player Code of Conduct has been developed for all players participating in training, games, or events.

- 3.1 Know the rules of Baseball and ensure that you play within them.
- 3.2 Do not argue with coaches, umpires or officials.
- 3.3 Do not ridicule players, officials or spectators. Verbal abuse, foul language, or offensive gestures or physical interference will not be tolerated.
- 3.4 Strive to play to the best of your ability at all times, both at practice and at games.
- 3.5 At no time are players to participate in training, games or events under the influence of illicit drugs and/or alcohol.
- 3.6 Respect the time and effort put into baseball by coaches and officials. Attend training and games, and co-operate with your coach, teammates, and other members of Braves and opposition clubs.
- 3.7 Listen to coaches' feedback.
- 3.8 Encourage your teammates even when they make mistakes.
- 3.9 When on the bench, encourage your team and be prepared to play at all times.
- 3.10 Respect your opponents and appreciate their good play.
- 3.11 Play to enjoy the game and improve your skills.
- 3.12 Respect the equipment provided for your use. Abuse of the Club's, your, or other players' equipment or possessions will not be tolerated.
- 3.13 Always think safety to avoid injury to yourself and others.
- 3.14 Be punctual for practice, games and umpiring duties (if required).
- 3.15 Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- 3.16 Wear the correct uniform.
- 3.17 Report all injuries to your coach.
- 3.18 No cameras will be allowed in the dugouts during games. Cameras are not permitted in changeroom or wet areas as per State Law.

## **4. COACHES**

- 4.1 Be reasonable in your demands of players.
- 4.2 Always think safety first.
- 4.3 Know the rules of baseball and ensure that your players always play within those rules.
- 4.4 Develop team respect for your team, for opponents and officials.



- 4.5 Do not criticise or ridicule players or officials in front of the team, spectators, parents and other teams and do not allow your players to do so. This is to be distinguished from appropriate feedback, which should be delivered in a clear and constructive manner.
- 4.6 Accept decisions of the umpire as being fair and called to the best of their ability. Do not abuse or ridicule an umpire or allow your team members to do so either. Ensure any discussions with umpires are kept below the level of argument.
- 4.7 Discipline should be fair and consistent.
- 4.8 Do not tolerate players abusing equipment or acting contrary to reasonable behaviour. Act first before the umpire or official takes action.
- 4.9 Keep yourself informed of sound coaching principles and seek specialist advice when required.
- 4.10 Endeavour to make the learning process both pleasurable and informative.
- 4.11 Be generous with your praise when deserved and set a good example.
- 4.12 Profane or foul language or offensive gestures of any sort should not be used nor tolerated.
- 4.13 Treat all players fairly and show no bias.
- 4.14 Set a good example in personal appearance and behaviour.
- 4.15 Place the welfare and development of the individual above a winning or losing record.
- 4.16 Support the Players' Code of Conduct.
- 4.17 Be aware of any player with a medical problem.
- 4.18 At no time are coaches to participate in training, games or events under the influence of illicit drugs and/or alcohol.

## **5. OFFICIALS**

- 5.1 Place the safety and welfare of the participants above all else.
- 5.2 Accept responsibility for all your actions.
- 5.3 Be impartial and act with integrity.
- 5.4 Avoid any situation which may lead to a conflict of interest.
- 5.5 Be courteous, respectful and open to discussion and interaction.
- 5.6 Verbal abuse, foul language or offensive gestures towards players, managers, coaches, other officials or spectators will not be tolerated.
- 5.7 Seek continual self-improvement through the study, performance appraisal and regular updating of competencies.
- 5.8 Develop respect for teams, managers, coaches and other officials.
- 5.9 Be a positive role model in behaviour and personal appearance.
- 5.10 Keep yourself informed of sound umpiring principles and seek skilled advice when necessary.

## **6. PARENTS AND SUPPORTERS**

- 6.1 Support your team by volunteering to assist in any tasks that may need to be undertaken. This includes setup, pack up, canteen duties assigned to the team of the interested/related/relevant/associated player(s).



- 6.2 Display sportsmanship by acknowledging good play by both teams.
- 6.3 Encourage players to play within the rules at all times.
- 6.4 Never criticise, abuse or ridicule umpires, players, or other spectators. This includes criticism, abuse or ridicule that is verbal, non-verbal, or any published on social media.
- 6.5 Do not use foul language or offensive gestures at any time.
- 6.6 Recognise the value and importance of volunteer coaches, officials and helpers.
- 6.7 Raise any problems with an official or coach through the appropriate channels.
- 6.8 Accept and understand that not all players may execute a play in the same way or to the same standard.
- 6.9 Support your Club by attending games and functions.
- 6.10 Accept and respect the decisions of coaches and officials and encourage others to do the same.

In addition, parents of players U/16 must

- 6.11 be in attendance as guardians of a player or have appointed an adult – not a coach nor an official - who has duty of care for the player, during warmup and games and events. Duty of care remains the responsibility of the parent, not the Club.
- 6.12 for matters of correspondence, author, and be responsible for, all correspondence to the Committee. Players aged 15 years or under are not to engage in official correspondence with the Braves Committee.

## 7. NON-COMPLIANCE

All Club members will uphold this policy and any non-compliance will be handled according to the following process:

- Club members and/or guests should notify the Committee (or Exec?) of any breaches of this policy.
- The person in breach of the policy (and parent of the person where under 18) will be informed that a report has been made, what the alleged breach is, and that the alleged behaviour/s will be investigated. The identity of the person who has made the report will be kept confidential.
- The outcome of the investigation shall be determined by three Committee (exec?) representatives in accordance with the severity of the violation, the member's record of past conduct, and Braves Baseball Club policies.
- It will be reported to the relevant member by a Committee/Exec member, including any penalties issued.
- If, in the opinion of the Committee/Exec, there is a serious breach of Code of Conduct the player may be banned for a proportionate amount of time as determined by the Club Executive. If the penalty results in expulsion, Baseball WA will be notified. Any expense incurred will be the responsibility of the player or their family. That is, membership fees and uniform costs will not be refunded.
- Repeated or severe non-compliance with the policy should be handled by at least two committee or Exec members who will use their discretion as to the action taken, which may include asking the person/ people to leave the Club.



## **12. ADDENDUM**

Related policies: Social Media Policy, Safe Transport Policy, Alcohol Management Policy, and Smoking Management Policy.

## **13. POLICY REVIEW**

This policy will be reviewed biennially to ensure it remains relevant to club operations and reflects both community expectations and legal requirements.

Next policy review due: April 2026

### **ENQUIRIES REGARDING OUR POLICY:**

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