



THIS IS A STORY ABOUT FOUR PEOPLE NAMED **EVERYBODY**, **SOMEBODY**, **ANYBODY** AND **NOBODY**. THERE WAS AN IMPORTANT JOB TO BE DONE AND **EVERYBODY** WAS SURE THAT **SOMEBODY** WOULD DO IT. **ANYBODY** COULD HAVE DONE IT, BUT **NOBODY** DID IT. **SOMEBODY** GOT ANGRY ABOUT THAT BECAUSE IT WAS **EVERYBODY'S** JOB. **EVERYBODY** THOUGHT **ANYBODY** COULD DO IT, BUT **NOBODY** REALIZED THAT **EVERYBODY** WOULDN'T DO IT. IT ENDED UP THAT **EVERYBODY** BLAMES **SOMEBODY** WHEN **NOBODY** DID WHAT **ANYBODY** COULD HAVE DONE.



Coaches Meeting

February 15, 2011



Agenda

- Role of NNLL
- A+ Coaching
- Safety
- Rosters
- Practice Schedules
- Equipment



Role of NNLL

A Positive Youth Sports Culture involves not only the coaches and athletes, but also parents and fans. That's where you come in. Our role is to spread the word about being positive and effective!



Role of NNLL

- Get to know other parents on the team at the beginning of the season. Talk with them about your role early on and ask for their support on the sidelines during games. Parents pick up on each other's behavior. If you harp at officials, others will be more likely to do the same. If you are calm and focused, it will be easier for them to act like you.
- As the season progresses, continue to keep the idea of Respecting the Game alive with all the parents.
- Welcome new families to the program and let them know up front "How we do things here."



Role of NNLL

- Give occasional pre-game talks to the fans on the sidelines. Remind everyone to “Respect the Game”, support all the athletes and have FUN!
- Be visible on the sidelines.
 - Acknowledge those participants “doing it right.” People tend to do what’s right when they get rewarded – so thank those who Respect the Game.



Role of NNLL

If parents get upset about calls made by officials or act in any way that doesn't Respect the Game, you can help reinforce our NNLL culture by how you interact with them. Here are some guidelines for intervening with other parents on your team who dishonor the game:

- YOU are responsible for YOUR team.
- Parents should not address umpires or players when they are on the field.
- Coaches will be ejected if behavior is deemed unacceptable by the umpire or a league official.
- NNLL Practices a zero tolerance policy: unruly fans will be asked to leave the field immediately along with the manager and the game will NOT continue until all parties asked to leave have left the premises. If they do not to leave the game in a reasonable amount of time police will be called and/or the game can be forfeited.



Role of NNLL

How to start the process:

- Have a team meeting
- Set YOUR expectations to your parents and players BEFORE the season starts
 - Attendance
 - Punctuality
 - Knowledge of rules, etc
- Be the example
- Praise and reprimand your players and parents when needed.



A+ Coaching



A+ Coaching Philosophy

Why A+ coaching?

Respecting the game

We love the game of baseball, and we hope you do too. We want to talk to you about Respecting the Game.

I am sure many of you have had parents or coaches talk to you about sportsmanship, or what it means to be a “good sport.”

What does it mean to you to be a good sport?



A+ Coaching Philosophy

We say the Respecting the Game means to be **PROUD** — P-R-O-U-D. Each letter in **PROUD** stands for an important part of baseball that we must respect.

Players

Rules

Opponents

Umpires

Discipline



A+ Coaching Philosophy

Players-

A big part of baseball is the team. Playing with your teammates should be fun. Later in life you will often be part of a team, and it is important to learn to work together. We hope you feel a commitment to each other as teammates and that you will agree to always play as hard as you can in practice and games. Please encourage and support each other on and off the playing field.



A+ Coaching Philosophy

Rules-

The rules of baseball are what allow us to keep the game fair. Respect for the rules is important, even when it's possible to break them without getting caught. You want to play by the rules, even if you think you won't get caught if you break them. Breaking the rules dishonors the game, even if it means that you win.



A+ Coaching Philosophy

Opponents-

Without opponents, we could have no game. A good opponent makes us do our best. Sometimes your opponents are friends of yours. I want you to respect your opponents, and remember they are out there to have fun just like us.



A+ Coaching Philosophy

Umpires-

It is very important to respect umpires. Often, this can be the most difficult part of Respecting the Game, so we need to remember to keep it as a focus when we play. Umpires have been selected and trained to enforce rules and they have a very hard job. Without the umpires the game would be unsafe and unfair. Umpires are not perfect (just like coaches, athletes and parents!).

Remember that our umpires are VOLUNTEERS!



A+ Coaching Philosophy

Discipline-

Some people only Respect the Game when their opponents do, but we want you to Respect the Game no matter what the other team or its fans do. We want us to be the kind of team that Respects the Game even when others aren't because we set our own internal standards. And we live up to them no matter what. We have so much respect for ourselves that we would never do anything to disrespect the game.



A+ Coaching Philosophy

Honor the Game so we can be proud of ourselves win or lose. The acronym PROUD will help us remember what we need to do.

- **P** – A worthy player helps us get better – we want to play fierce and friendly and never think of them as enemies.
- **R** – We obey the Rules even if we can get away with bending them, and even if our opponents don't.
- **O** – We don't do anything to embarrass our opponents, on or off the field.
- **U** – We respect Umpires even when bad calls go against us. I don't want you to speak to officials during a game even if you are being treated unfairly, okay?
- **D** – Don't Respect the Game because I tell you to. Do it because you want to. We live up to our own standards even if our opponent doesn't.



A+ Coaching Job Description

You are the most important person in our organization. You determine the kind of experience our athletes have with sports. We are committed to the principles of NNLL. We expect our coaches to be “A+ Coaches” who want to win and help players learn “life lessons” and positive character traits from sports.



A+ Coaching Job Description

The following is what we expect from you during the coming season:

1. Model and teach your players to Respect the Game. Teach the elements of being PROUD – Respect for: Players, Rules, Opponents, Umpires, and Discipline.
2. Appoint a parent to uphold the culture of NNL for the team.
3. Hold a parent meeting and get them on board with Respecting the Game.
4. Drill Respecting the Game in practice.
5. Seize teachable moments to talk with players about Respecting the Game.



A+ Coaching Job Description

6. Help players redefine what it means to be a “Winner” in terms of mastery, not just the scoreboard.
7. Reward effort, not just good outcomes. Look to recognize players for unsuccessful effort.
8. Encourage players to set “Effort Goals” that are tied to how hard they try.
9. Use encouragement and positive reinforcement as your primary method of motivating.
10. Schedule “fun activities” for practices, so players will enjoy their sport.