

## RELATIONSHIP WITH OFFICIALS

It would help us all out, if coaches, parents and players would understand the following:

1. Officials are absolutely essential to the contest – a game cannot be played without them.
2. As part of our approach to sportsmanship, everyone, including officials must be treated with courtesy and respect – there is no place for profanity and harassment.
3. Officials are assigned to games and do not walk onto the field with a hidden agenda – they don't care who wins the game. The sole purpose of the officials is to ensure that the game is played within the rules of the sport.
4. It is important to remember that since the number of umpires in our sport is limited (due to the way some have been treated) you could very well see the same umpire again during the season.
5. As human beings, it would be extremely difficult for officials not to remember a pattern of poor sportsmanship and/or verbal abuse. Although officials try to remain impartial, they will remember teams (coaches, players & parents) with a history of poor sportsmanship.
6. Whether or not you wish to believe it, calls usually even out over the course of a game. While this may not be any consolation for a bad call against your team, it is the truth.
7. **Games, as in life, do not always go smoothly.** Learning to deal with this fact is an important lesson for athletes. Without poor examples by adults (coaches & parents) most athletes do a pretty good job of accepting this principle.

Coaches: While it is easy to get caught up in the emotion of the game, coaches need to realize that their actions do have a great influence upon the parents, fans and athletes.

Parents: As adults, and role models to your children, you need to conduct yourselves in a proper manner at all times.

*Please remember - everyone involved in the game, whether it is on the field or in the stands, plays a major role in the sportsmanship and the image that our association wishes to project. Have you ever gone up after a game and thanked an official?*

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**BASEBALL NOVA SCOTIA WILL NOT TOLERATE ANY ABUSE OF AN OFFICIAL BY A COACH, PARENT OR PLAYER & THOSE WHO DO SO WILL BE DEALT WITH SEVERELY**

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