

# Keystone Little League

## Sportsmanlike Behavior Policy Summary

The Board of Directors of Keystone Little League has decided to put in writing what good sportsmanship is, and what it isn't. They have put together a formal policy statement that will be made available to you to read. This is a summary of that policy, and should give all involved at Keystone a good idea what is sportsmanlike behavior. But you should still read the formal policy because if this summary differs at all, the League will follow the formal policy.

The purpose of this policy is to help make sure that Keystone accomplishes its goal, which is to provide our children with healthy experiences in competition, development of good sportsmanship, honesty, and respect for authority that will encourage their development into upstanding citizens. Mostly, we just want everybody to treat each other like they would like to be treated.

Anyone involved with Keystone who behaves in an unsportsmanlike manner toward anyone else will be held responsible for his or her actions. Generally, players, managers, coaches and umpires will have to sit out their next game, and those who watch (moms, dads, and other relatives and friends) will have to stay away from the Keystone fields for one week. Anyone who has a second occurrence in the same season will have to sit out or stay away the rest of the season. Finally, anyone who acts in an extremely unsportsmanlike manner will sit out the rest of the year even if it is the first time. In cases of a second occurrence or extreme behavior, the Keystone Board will decide whether that person can sign back up or attend games the next year.

We are not trying to make everybody afraid to say or do anything. We do recognize that we are about competition, and competition pits one against another. We believe that sports should be enjoyable for our children. Competition can teach young children many life lessons in a safe, friendly, and controlled environment. We hope all of you will do your part in fostering a safe, respectful and friendly environment for our league. We realize that kids are just now learning how to handle the pressure of competition, and the feelings of winning and losing. So, in the case of players, the managers, coaches, and/or umpires may deal with minor isolated actions as long as they address the root issue and correct the behavior. For behavior that goes beyond this, it will be the good judgment used by the Board Members that the parents have elected that will help us keep our program of competition running in the right sportsmanlike manner.

Here's a list of some (but not all) examples of unsportsmanlike behavior:

- Foul language
- Throwing equipment in anger
- Spitting on anyone
- Verbally abusing anyone
- Intentionally throwing a ball at anyone
- Striking or fighting with anyone (except in self-defense)
- Continual or lengthy protest of any umpire's call
- Excessive taunting, demeaning or ridicule of anyone
- Excessive celebrating
- Any other action not a normal part of playing the sport that is meant to harm another.

If you have any questions regarding this policy, bring them up to any Board member.