

Bloordale Baseball League

POLICY ON HARASSMENT AND ABUSE

Bloordale Baseball League is committed to providing a sport environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and dignity. Each individual has the right to participate in an environment which promotes equal opportunities and prohibits discriminatory practices. Bloordale Baseball League will not tolerate harassment amongst its members and participants.

Harassment takes many forms, but can generally be defined as comment, conduct, or gesture directed toward an individual or group of individuals, which is insulting, intimidating, humiliating, malicious, degrading or offensive. Sexual harassment refers to any sexual advances, requests, suggestions or activity of a sexual nature that is unwelcomed by the recipient.

Our objective is to make baseball a sport in which children can feel safe playing and in which parents can feel safe having their children play.

An individual, who perceives any activity as a form of harassment, should be encouraged to tell the offending party that the activity is not appreciated. If the offending behaviour continues, the complainant should be encouraged and supported in notifying the appropriate authorities, including the executive. The authorities should act promptly and with integrity, while respecting the rights of all those involved.

If someone in authority uses his / her power or position to harm another, whether emotionally, physically or sexually, this is abuse. If a person is threatened, intimidated, taunted or subjected to racial, homophobic or sexist slurs, this is harassment. Emotional and physical abuses are attacks on a child's self-esteem and can be psychologically damaging. Name calling, threatening, ridiculing, intimidating, isolating, hazing or ignoring a player's needs are examples of emotional abuse and should not be tolerated at any level. Any purposeful attack on a player, coach or umpire such as slapping, kicking, hair pulling, shaking, shoving, grabbing, etc.. can be physical abuse and is both offensive and unacceptable.