

## **2021 Managers Commitment**

### ***Enjoying, Teaching and Coaching Baseball the “NALL Way”***

While our Little League is governed officially by the Little League International 'Rulebooks' and procedures manual. North Arlington Little League also has an ethos (or DNA), of how we desire our league to look both for today and for years to come. As a manager, it's critical you understand these desires set out by our board, so that there is no confusion as to your role in serving, coaching and leading the kids, families, fans and sponsors of NALL.

#### **The Purpose of NALL**

- Give kids and families a healthy experience when it comes to youth baseball
- Provide a safe and secure place for kids to practice and play
- Provide a team atmosphere where no one is singled out in negative ways, but rather in which everyone feels like they are contributing to the overall success of the team
- Provide a community within our community where people are supported and cared for

#### **How Does NALL Define Success?**

- Kids and families who are growing in their love for the game and community
- Kids who are coached in such a way where they desire to get better at the game of baseball and they are receiving the training they need to get better
- Parents who feel their commitment (in time and money) to NALL is worthwhile and effective for their son or daughter's emotional, physical and social development
- Continued growth (numerically as the league grows and physically as we play the game better) in the coming years

#### **How Can Managers Help NALL be Successful in a General Way?**

- Keep clear lines of communication open between you and your Commissioner
- Over communicate to your parents and players
  - at least weekly send out an email or make phone call
  - text parents when last minute changes occur
- Establish healthy boundaries for practices (including times, locations and frequency)
- Develop a fun filled atmosphere during games where kids can't wait to get back out to the field for the next game
  - cheer FOR your team not AGAINST the other team
  - occasionally let the kids make out the lineup (yes I am serious)
- Win or lose, encourage the team to see how they are developing as humans and ball players
  - give out a game ball after every game (win or lose) and do your best to ensure each kid on the team gets a game ball at some point during the course of the season
  - give away baseball cards after each game (or in between innings) to kids with the best attitudes and those who work hard on the field
- Never speak ill about a board member, other manager, family or athlete
- Promote NALL in word and deed to help us grow in every way possible

#### **Especially as a Manager we ask that you:**

- Teach multiple positions to the kids, and then give them “in game” opportunities to perform in those positions
  - o please ensure every athlete is getting at least 2 innings in the infield per game
  - o NEVER leave a kid in the OF for the entire game. This isn’t select or travel baseball. It’s recreational level baseball. Don’t forget this.
- Teach at least 5 players on your team how to pitch
  - o utilize 2-3 pitchers a game if possible during the regular season
  - o complete pitched games by a Little Leaguer aren’t necessary until the tournament (and even then it may not be the best way to help the team long term or our league)
- Rotate players in positions
  - o develop a strategy where kids are getting equitable playing time at multiple position (enlist a team administrator to track this if needed)
- Never yell or raise your voice at an umpire, opposing coach, member of our league or fan in the stands
  - o if your coaching style has you being extremely loud with the kids please ensure you are yelling even louder when they do the right things (praise kids at least 3 times as much as you are correcting/training them)
- Deal with any conflict between a parent, player or other member of our league in a courteous way
  - o assume the best of the person you are having conflict with
  - o if the conflict can’t be resolved between the two of you then enlist a Player Agent, Commissioner or another Board Member to help mediate

I have read the above and I understand the spirit and letter of this document, and more importantly the North Arlington Little League. I will commit to NALL and our parents and players to honor this commitment during my time as a manager of NALL.

If I don’t honor the spirit of this document, then I understand my Commissioner will speak to me about how she/he can help me adjust to put the needs and desires of NALL above the needs and desires of myself or team.