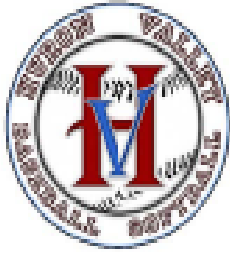


Huron Valley Youth Baseball Softball League

24-Hour Communication Rule



Youth sports can be an emotional experience. The physical activity and outcomes of a game can often create strong reactions in coaches, players, and parents. Each year over 2 million people volunteer their time to help coach youth sports. These coaches are the vehicle that provide organized youth athletics an existence. As parents we will not always agree with a coach's decision. However, it is important to recognize that the coach's role is to make decisions for the team first and a player second. Often, we tend to recognize the coaching staff decisions through our player first and the team second. For parents, it is important to separate their child's sports development from game emotions. For this reason, we adopted the "24 Hour Rule" which simply states that coaches will not discuss a game or situation in a game with parents until at least 24 hours after the fact.

Parents/guardians are not allowed to confront a coach, team or league official to discuss any 'negative' game or practice situation with the coaching staff and/or Huron Valley Youth Baseball Softball League Board of Directors until at least 24 hours has passed from the completion of the game or practice. A confrontation shall consist of any conversation, which elevated from a normal speaking tone and demeanor to one which involves yelling, profanity, or derogatory comments toward said coach, team or league official. A confrontation may also consist of any text, email or social media posting.

The emotional aspect of any sport is one of the reasons it makes exciting entertainment, but it is important to have a "cooling off" period so emotions do not cloud judgement. If parents respect the 24-hour rule, their concerns are more likely to be fully addressed in reasoned discussion. More importantly, the kids' enjoyment of a game will not be marred by an ill-timed confrontation. The intent of this rule is to move an emotional and confrontational discussion away from the presence of the players, and to allow the parties to "cool off", compose themselves, and put the incident or situation that occurred in the game in perspective before meeting to discuss it.

Violation of the 24-Hour Rule Policy will result in the parent receiving a warning from the board on the first offense. A second violation will result in a one month suspension. A third violation will result in suspension for the remainder of the year and possible deterrents from future participation in the baseball club.

Parent(s) Signature
