



## **Asahi Baseball Association**

### **Philosophy and**

### **Player Code of Conduct:**

The following document outlines the Asahi Philosophy, a brief history of the Vancouver Asahi, and the Player's Code of Conduct the Asahi Baseball Association (ABA) expects of all the players to adhere to both on and off the field. It should be noted that this is just a guide and there are other expectations that are not listed. If a player is found to have broken any of the codes, the ABA board members and coaches will decide the consequences of the player's actions. All players joining training sessions and games must adhere and abide by the following the rules and must sign the following document upon becoming a member.

#### **ASAHI PHILOSOPHY**

The actions of players are a reflection of themselves, their team, the Asahi Baseball Association and their community, and the game of baseball. A player's involvement in baseball provides opportunities and experiences that are important to the development of a well- rounded individual; however, players must remember that their participation in baseball and functions as a member of the Asahi Baseball Association is a privilege, not a right.

The Asahi Baseball Association (ABA), we focus on spreading the Japanese way of baseball. We value the concept of team, discipline, and respect. Though it is important to improve as a player, without the other members of your team, you cannot play the game. It is important to think about how you can become better to raise the level of the whole team. The type of training that we do is to help raise the level of the players, to make the team stronger as a whole. We do want each player to find and play their own individual style of baseball and bring that style and skill to contribute to the team, but there are fundamental techniques we want everyone to try and to master.

#### **"Always start with respect, and end with respect"**

This is an important part of Japanese culture. Culturally, there is a belief that there is a soul in everything, from the mountains and sun, to simple objects and possessions. Japanese people have always treated things with deep respect as to not disrespect the spirit dwelling within. This belief has reached baseball as well. The equipment, the ball park, and even your cleats all contain a soul. This is why we will not tolerate things such as kicking the ball, throwing your equipment, spitting on the field, eating during games and practices or fooling around.

The respect not only goes for the inanimate things. This also goes for the people that have helped you reach where you are. We must always show respect, gratitude, will and spirit in whatever we do. In action, we show these feelings by bowing. Bowing is not only something that you have to do because you have to. It's an important ritual that you do to communicate these feelings to others. This is the reason we bow to the opponents, umpires and the audience, to thank them, to pay your respect and most importantly, to show that you will give everything you have till the very end. Though it may be difficult at first, this is something that we hope the kids will come to understand. Respect also goes for your coaches and teammates. It is expected for the players to give coaches their full attention when they speak, respect their fellow players, to help with prepping and tearing down the field and dugout, and lining up at the beginning and end of every game and practice.

## PLAYER'S CODE OF CONDUCT

As active players and members of the Asahi Baseball Association, players agree to adhere to the following code of conduct. Players shall:

### 1. Treat everyone with respect

- Treat teammates, coaches, umpires, opponents, event organizers and spectators with respect.
- Players are expected to thank all staff members of any facility they are visiting and clearly acknowledge and "greet/aisatsu" other adults and players.
- Players will respect and accept with dignity the decisions of umpires
- Players will be generous in winning and graceful in losing.
- Regardless of the outcome, Asahi players will always bow to both the home and away spectators.

### 2. Asahi Players will refrain from Unsportsmanlike conduct such as:

- inappropriate Gestures and language including derogatory comments and profanity.
- taunting the opposition is unacceptable.

### 3. Asahi Players Will:

- Refrain from throwing equipment (bat, helmet, glove, or any object).
- Refrain from the use of physical force outside of the rules of the game.
- Follow the guidelines set forth by your coach for your team and program.
- Follow the guidelines set forth by the Asahi Baseball Association.
- Play within the rules and the spirit of the rules of the game at all times.

### 4. Other important rules:

Asahi players must conduct themselves professionally and will be punished for the following:

- Social media-engagement in any negative manner or harassment
- Damage to another player's belongings
- Theft of any kind
- Use recreational or performance enhancing drugs or illegal supplements
- Use of alcohol or tobacco products.

### 5. During road trips:

- Players will be dealt with harshly if curfew is broken and being out of rooms after curfew
- Damage to rooms, the hotel or any other establishment we visit
  - \*\*You will receive a bill for the damage
- Keep hotel rooms clean and tidy at all times!
- Garbage goes in garbage cans
- Sunflower seeds or gum should not be found on the hotel room floor
- Any food that is spilled must be cleaned up
- Rooms will always be inspected by the coaching staff at check-out and must be left in better than satisfactory condition before leaving
- Respect the patrons of the hotel; this means keeping noise to a minimal level at all times while in rooms, and remaining quiet at all times while in the hotel hallways, lobby, and parking lot
- Players are expected to thank all staff members of any facility they are visiting
- Do not travel off the hotel property alone, always go with a teammate
- You must tell a coach where you are going when you are going "off site"
- Carry a cell phone with you at all times

***\*Players must understand that they represent the entire Asahi Baseball Association and all the members both on and off the field. Your actions do not just reflect upon yourself, they also reflect upon the Asahi name, parents, the coaching staff and your teammates.***

I \_\_\_\_\_ have read and clearly understand the expectations set out by the Asahi Baseball Association. I also understand that should I break any of the rules I will be disciplined, and that could even include suspension from the team and/or being sent home at my own expense.

Player's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_