

# Petaluma National Little League Disciplinary Policy

Petaluma National Little League (PNLL) expects all participants to exhibit exemplary behavior both on and off the field while involved in any PNLL associated events. PNLL reserves the right to discipline any Manager, Coach, Parent, Volunteer or Player who violates the League's conduct codes during any Little League associated game, practice or event. Disciplinary action will be taken according to the procedure and policy outlined below.

## **COMPLAINTS:**

- Complaints must be communicated to a Petaluma National Little League Board member, preferably in writing. Anonymous complaints cannot result in formal discipline.
- All complaints will be forwarded to the League President.
- In the event the complaint is against the League President, the complaint shall be forwarded to the Vice President who will act as the PNLL President.
- The League President may, at his or her discretion, deal with the complaint, or forward it to the Disciplinary Committee.
- Individuals accused of violating the disciplinary policy shall be informed of the complaint and will have the opportunity to respond before disciplinary action is taken.
- In cases in which the complaint is referred to the Disciplinary Committee, the President of the League reserves the right to suspend the manager, coach, spectator, volunteer or player from further participation until the Disciplinary Committee can perform its due diligence to determine the punishment.
- ALL participants determined to be involved in unacceptable behavior will be disciplined.

## **DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE REVIEW AND ACTION:**

- The Disciplinary Committee will be comprised of four members of the Petaluma National Little League Board of Directors and one non-board member, to be appointed by the League President before the beginning of the season. Should the complaint be against or directly involve a member of the Disciplinary Committee, the President shall appoint a replacement.
- In cases in which the complaint has been referred to the Disciplinary Committee, the Disciplinary Committee will review the case and present its recommended action to the League President. This will be done as expeditiously as possible.
- Once the League President has received the recommendation of the Disciplinary Committee, he/she may follow the recommendation or modify it as is seen fit.
- The League President will present the recommendation to the Board of Directors for approval.
- A summary of the disciplinary action(s) will be delivered in writing to the subject of the complaint. This may take the form of email, U.S. mail, or other means.

### **“3 STRIKES, YOU’RE OUT” POLICY:**

Petaluma National Little League’s “3 Strikes, You’re Out” disciplinary policy establishes the range of discipline to be used for any/all violations of the League’s Code of Conduct. This disciplinary policy applies to both the general and player memberships, as well as to parents, guardians, volunteers, spectators and fans.

**Strike 1** – In the event of a first violation, a penalty to be imposed based upon the severity of the infraction, ranging from, but not limited to:

- Warning
- Game(s) suspension (which includes all other PNLL activities during the period, including practices/events)
- Expulsion

**Strike 2** – In the event of a second violation, a penalty to be imposed based upon the severity of the infraction, ranging from, but not limited to:

- Game(s) suspension (which includes all other PNLL activities during the period, including practices/events)
- Expulsion

**Strike 3** – In the event of a third violation, a penalty to be imposed based upon the severity of the infraction, ranging from, but not limited to:

- Expulsion
- Including non indelibility for managing and coaching All Stars

PLEASE NOTE: Expulsion is an option, even after the first violation, depending on the severity of the violation. Also, in accordance with Little League International rules, any person suspended from Little League activities is not allowed to be present at any Little League event or function including practices and games. This includes being in the dugout, or any spectator areas (bleachers, outfield, etc.).

Little League International rules state that any player, manager, or coach ejected from a game is automatically suspended from the next game.

Any disciplinary action that results in removal from the League for the remainder of the season must be approved by two-thirds of the PNLL Board of Directors. The person, or their parent(s), subject to removal for the remainder of the season, will have an opportunity to address the Board before a vote is taken.

In the event the complaint is against one or more members of the PNLL Board of Directors, they will not be allowed to observe or participate in the proceedings.

In the event the complaint is against a member of the disciplinary committee, they will not be allowed to observe or participate in the proceedings, and the League President will appoint a substitute.