



Tobacco Free Sports Policy

Overview:

The Chatham Minor Baseball Association strives to instil a healthy athletic environment for the youth of Chatham-Kent. Tobacco use is considered the single most preventable cause of premature disease and death in Canada.

This Policy is established to:

- Discourage youth from using tobacco industry products
- Protect the health of participants and observers and;
- Reflect and emphasize the hazards of tobacco use for the environment and individuals.

We recognize that the health hazards from the use of tobacco products for both the user and the bystander has been well documented. We acknowledge that our coaches, parents, and officials are role models in the community and have an incredible opportunity to positively affect youth's lifestyle decisions. Lastly we acknowledge that tobacco products contribute to litter issues and potential ingestion by toddlers.

BASEBALL ONTARIO Constitution

Section P2.3 – PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS, ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

- a) Players, coaches and umpires in uniform must refrain from using any tobacco products during all games.

Definition:

For the purpose of this Policy, tobacco is defined to include smokeless tobacco, also known as spit, chew, dip, snuff, in any form any lit or unlit cigarette, cigar, pipe, self-rolled cigarette or clove cigarette. Tobacco use includes smoking, chewing, dipping or any other use of tobacco industry products.



Policy:

The use of tobacco, including smokeless tobacco, is prohibited by all athletes, team/game personnel (coaches, athletic trainers, managers, game officials) and board members during practice and competition at any facility.

This Policy applies to all practice, training and competition sites and is considered to begin upon arrival and ends when one leaves. This ban includes related activities such as banquets, clinics, special events and tournaments (regardless of location).

Spectators are not allowed to use tobacco products on the field and with-in the spectators' areas. Athletes are encouraged to not use tobacco industry products at any point in their life in order to adopt a healthy lifestyle.

Procedures:

1. Publication: This Policy will be posted on the CMBA website. All associated personnel will be made aware of the Tobacco Free Sports Policy at the start of each season (at /during registration, coaches meeting, officials meeting, etc)
2. Signage: Appropriate signage will be placed at the fields and/or entrances to buildings and at other locations deemed necessary.
3. Logo: The Tobacco Free Baseball logo will be screened on all new shirts.
4. Public events: Organizers and attendees at public sporting events using CMBA facilities will be required to comply with the Tobacco Free Sports Policy. Organizers of such events are responsible for communicating this policy to attendees and for enforcing the policy.

Compliance:

Any person who uses tobacco during practice or competition shall be first asked if they were aware of the policy.

Secondly the person in offense will be asked to adhere to the policy through choosing to use tobacco industry products at a different location.

If a person continues to deliberately ignore the policy the board can choose to ask the person to leave the premises for the remainder of the practice or competition. It will always be assumed that the person is not aware of the policy and is willing to comply to avoid stigmatizing the smoker.

The success of this Policy will depend upon mutual consideration and co-operation.