



## Duties of a Youth Umpire Field Marshall

- \* Introduce yourself to the youth umpire(s).
- \* Introduce yourself to both coaches before the game. Explain you are there only to safeguard the interests of the youth umpire and have nothing to do with the calls of the umpire. No calls can be "appealed" to the Field Marshall and you are not expected to enforce any rules. You are there to encourage everyone - coaches, ball players, parents and umpires - to have fun and enjoy the game in a respectful atmosphere.
- \* Remember, respectful questions from the coaches toward the umpire are OK...Coaches are allowed to call "Time!" and approach an umpire. Umpires should be able to handle questions and be able to defend their calls.
- \* **As Field Marshall your most important guide will be common sense.** Usually, only a quiet word with a coach between innings to remind the coach that "our Youth Umpires are learning too," is all that is necessary to correct something small (e.g. a coach shaking their head in disbelief over a call)
- \* In the unlikely event of an on-field blow-up (e.g. "AW, C'MON UMP!" "@#\$(\*&^!" "PAY ATTENTION!" "DO YOU NEED GLASSES?") the Field Marshall must be prepared to:
  - enter the field of play
  - remove the youth umpire from the event (for example, to the stands)
  - explain to the coach that it is not acceptable to treat a grade-school youth umpire in anything other than a courteous and respectful manner. Allow the coach to cool off and agree to that rule. Otherwise, the umpire will not re-enter the game. This is non-negotiable.
- \* Field Marshalls are not there to "police" the action - or to report to anyone after the game. **You are there to encourage everyone - coaches, ball players, parents and umpires - to have fun and enjoy the game in a respectful atmosphere.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Thank you very much for volunteering as a Field Marshall and for making sure our youth umpires (players, parents, and coaches too!) have a positive experience at our ball field.**

(This information was adapted from a poster created by Lloyd Mildon, Umpire in Chief for Carnarvon, c. 2012)