

# South London Baseball Association Incorporated

## **Tobacco Free Policy**



Adopted by Executive Council: November 15, 2011

At London, Ontario, Canada

**President's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Vice President's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dated:** \_\_\_\_\_



**Overview:**

The South London Baseball Association wishes to promote a healthy athletic environment and portray a positive role model for youth. 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 have 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.

**Softball Canada:** Special Operating Rules, rule 3 – 3.4:

*No smoking . . . shall be allowed on the benches, in the dugouts or playing field area.*

*PENALTY: ejection from the game.*

**Baseball Canada:** Section 1.4.6

*The use of all tobacco products, including smokeless tobacco, by on-field participants (players, coaches, managers, umpires, etc.) shall be prohibited at all competitions sanctioned by Baseball Canada. Any offenders caught using tobacco products will be ejected from the game.*

**London District Baseball Association:** Prohibition on the Use of Tobacco Products:

*Players, coaches and umpires in uniform must refrain from using any tobacco products during all games*

*PENALTY: immediate ejection of players and coaches and may result in loss of accreditation for umpires.*

**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, or team/game personnel (coaches, athletic trainers, managers and game officials) and board members during all practices and competitions as required and by Baseball Canada and Softball Canada Official Rules and enforced by the London and District Baseball Association and Community Softball League of London.

The use of tobacco, including smokeless tobacco, is prohibited by all: parents, guardians, sponsors and spectators within 100m of the playing field and surrounding stands including: the dug-out, spectator seating areas and areas in which individuals gather for the enjoyment of the game as required and enforced by the South London Baseball Association Inc.

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

This policy applies to all affiliated sister organizations and must be complied with by all administration, parents, guardians, players, participants and spectators as set out in the South London Baseball Association Inc. affiliation papers. Failure for sister organizations to comply with this policy will result in disciplinary action being taken with individuals under the South London Baseball Association Inc. discipline policy and/ or discipline being taken with the sister organization as per the South London Baseball Association Inc. Constitution Dismissal Clause (*Section V*).

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 S.L.B.A. 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. Logo: The Tobacco Free logo will be screened on all new administration shirts.
3. Public events: Organizers and attendees at public sporting events using S.L.B.A. facilities or S.L.B.A. hosted 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 or head official can choose to ask the person to leave the premises for the remainder of the event.

In the event of repeated infractions, the S.L.B.A. Board of Directors can request a temporary or permanent ban from all S.L.B.A sanctioned events, be issued by the President under the direction of the S.L.B.A. discipline policy.