

## CAPE CODGERS CODE OF CONDUCT WHAT MIGHT BE CONTROVERSIAL

With the updated code of conduct, the Codger Board and Conduct committee should expect some pushback from players concerned about how these changes might negatively impact the league and their experience on the field. This document is intended to identify potential concerns, and how we might address and mitigate them.

### **1. These new rules will take all the fun out. Guys won't be able to banter and tease each other.**

That's not the intent. It's important that we remind players that as the code states, the goal of this initiative is:

*"to foster a safe, pleasant, and courteous atmosphere that respects the dignity of individuals and provides an environment that is free from harassment, bullying, and any unsportsmanlike behavior, whether intentional or inadvertent."*

And the word "inadvertent" is important because first and foremost what we are trying to create is an awareness that language that might be considered fun banter for one player, may not be received by another player in the same way. And along with creating that awareness, the code is also intended to give players a process for addressing those issues and concerns.

### **2. We're grown adults playing a game. We don't need a discipline committee telling us how to behave.**

It's important to note that this does not have to do with discipline, but rather how we as players and a league conduct ourselves. A code of conduct. Our intent is to empower players to feel comfortable speaking up if they believe that some behavior has breached the code. But equally important is for players to understand that our priority is for issues to be resolved on the field. The committee is only there for non-resolved issues.

*"Players, coaches, and umpires are urged to resolve Code of Conduct issues among themselves. For issues that cannot be resolved in this way, the Code outlines procedures to reach resolution."*

### **3. "The league requires Codger participants and spectators affiliated with Codger participants to comply with the Town of Falmouth's rules and regulations regarding use of Town fields."**

**Does this mean I can't have a beer after the game with my teammates?**

It's important that players understand that they are representatives of the Codger league, and as such their behavior reflects on the league. Is it the end of the world if guys have a beverage in the Admin parking lot or on Nye field after the game? No but it is against Town regulations, and if the Town were to receive a complaint then the league runs the risk of losing the use of those fields for future play.

The Board and Conduct Committee are not going to police post-game activities, but for the sake of the league, players and teams are asked to take after game camaraderie to non-town venues.