

Southwest Wisconsin Coaches League (SWCL)

Decision-Making and Communication Process

The Southwest Wisconsin Coaches League (SWCL) is a volunteer-run organization and is not governed by an official regulatory body. Our Board members, community leaders, coaches, and volunteers dedicate their time to providing a positive and safe recreational experience for all participants.

Throughout each season, situations such as poor air quality, the potential for severe weather, extreme heat, and public health concerns have required individuals and families to make personal decisions based on what they believe is best for their child. We respect that every parent, coach, player, and community may assess these situations differently, and each family has the opportunity to determine whether participation is the right choice for them.

Like many decisions made within a volunteer organization, there is rarely a solution that satisfies everyone. The SWCL Board carefully considers the information available while balancing player safety, scheduling logistics, field availability, league rules, and the many volunteers who make our league possible. While we recognize that not every decision will be universally supported, disagreement does not mean that a decision was made without thoughtful discussion and careful consideration.

Communication and Chain of Command

To ensure concerns are addressed appropriately and efficiently, the SWCL asks that all participants follow the established chain of communication.

- **Player- or team-related concerns** should first be discussed with the player's coach.
- If the concern cannot be resolved or involves a broader community issue, it should then be brought to the appropriate **Community Recreation Leader**.
- Concerns regarding league rules, player behavior, coach behavior, or sportsmanship should also begin with the coach and then, if necessary, be elevated to the Community Recreation Leader.
- If the Community Recreation Leader determines that additional league involvement is warranted, they will refer the matter to the appropriate SWCL Board representative.
- **Baseball-related issues** will be directed to the **Baseball Vice President**.
- **Softball-related issues** will be directed to the **Softball Vice President**.
- If additional guidance or league-wide review is necessary, the Vice President may elevate the matter to the **League Commissioner**.

This communication process is designed to ensure concerns are reviewed by those closest to the situation first, allowing many issues to be resolved quickly while providing an appropriate path for matters requiring additional review.

The SWCL strongly discourages parents, players, and spectators from contacting Board members directly regarding concerns or complaints. Board members rely on the established communication process to ensure they receive complete and accurate information after appropriate local discussions have taken place. Should a Board member be contacted directly, it is at their discretion whether to respond or to redirect the individual back through the established chain of communication.

By respecting this process, we can promote consistent communication, timely resolution of concerns, and a positive experience for all players, families, coaches, volunteers, and communities that make up the Southwest Wisconsin Community League.