

## Saskatchewan Baseball Yellow Card Sanction System

- Saskatchewan Baseball for the 2013 season will introduce a new sanction system when dealing with discipline issues.
- The purpose of the new system is an attempt to make the sanctions for misconduct more evenly applied by umpires and make the system fairer to the participants in the game.

Why this new system of issuing sanctions?

Presently when misconduct occurs an umpire has only two options:

- **first is to do nothing**
- **second is an ejection.**
- These changes to how baseball deals with misconduct are being implemented after consultation with coaches, players, umpires and administration in the sport.
- Also, the “best practices” and methods of how other sports deal with misconduct was investigated.
- The new sanction system provides two distinct levels of discipline providing more options to deal with misconduct. Umpires will use an established set of guidelines to determine what sanction should be applied for each misconduct.
- The new system will allow a participant in the game to have a minor misconduct indiscretion which in the past might have resulted in an ejection now to remain in the game. A major misconduct indiscretion would still result in an ejection under the new system.
- This new system should provide all participants, coaches, players and umpires a clearer and more defined set of guidelines in what are a misconduct action and the penalties for different levels of misconduct.

What constitutes misconduct at each level of the new sanction system?

Misconduct by a team towards umpires, opponents, team mates and spectators will be classified in two categories:

- Minor Misconduct (a yellow card) - actions contrary to good manners, moral principles, or expressing contempt.
  - The result of such sanction is the misconduct will be that the violation will be reported to Saskatchewan Baseball.
  - The offending individual will be allowed to continue to participate within the game.
  - A second yellow card to an individual will result in immediate ejection without the second card being shown to the offending individual.
  - A yellow card does not have to precede an ejection. If the misconduct is serious enough, the individual can be ejected without receiving a yellow card.
- Major Misconduct (an ejection) – include defaming or insulting words or gestures, actual physical contact or aggressive or threatening behavior along with other behaviour that would have resulted in ejection in past years.