## **Handling Tense Situations with Coaches**



## • SAY:

- Please. Thank you.
- Dave, what did you see?
- Dave, tell me what you saw.
- Dave, I am not going anywhere. I am listening to you.
- Dave, hold it. Let me be sure I understand what you are saying.
- I will listen to you, but I won't listen to you yell at me.
- Tell me how the rule applies.
- Dave, by rule, what you just told me is wrong.
- He's OK for me.
- I didn't like the pitch.
- If you won't answer my question, then we are playing ball.
- This is your warning for the rest of the game.
- If you don't return to the dugout, you will be ejected for delaying the game.
- If you come out here again and I don't think it's necessary, you will eject yourself for delaying the game.
- Back off immediately, or you are done right now.
- I'm not saying you did, and I'm not saying you didn't, I'm saying don't do it.

## • DO:

- Be a good listener.
- Talk in a low tone of voice.
- Use 1/2 the intensity of the manager.
- Ignore, Acknowledge, Warn, Eject
- WALK AWAY.
- Three Steps when dealing with a problem pitcher:
  - 1. Send the catcher to talk to the pitcher.
  - 2. Asking for the ball is a good way to have a quick chat with the pitcher.
  - 3. Get the manager involved.
- Remember -
  - Personal, Profane, Prolonged or Physical will get a coach ejected
  - Fair, Firm and Friendly will maintain control
  - Put yourself in a "defensible position" using these steps:
    - Ignore, Acknowledge, Warn, Eject