

## **GVGSA Mission Statement**

The Goleta Valley Girls Softball Association is an all-volunteer league. The objectives of the League are to provide a supervised recreational program that emphasizes maximum participation in competitive softball games for all interested young girls within league boundaries, and to firmly implant in the youth of the community the ideals of good sportsmanship. All directors, officers, and members shall keep in mind that attaining exceptional skills or winning games is secondary, and that providing an organized, positive program of softball for all is the primary goal.

## **Manager Binder Table of Contents**

Thank you for being part of GVGSA, an all-Volunteer Organization. See [GVGSA.com](http://GVGSA.com) for the Board of Directors contact list, calendar, and other information. Teams will have their own websites with schedules, rosters, scores, and standings.

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## **GVGSA Important League Information**

### **Waiver of Liability Forms**

Managers must carry all player waiver of liability forms with them at all GVGSA-related functions, including all practices. These forms are included in the Manager Binder. If a player is injured during a practice or game and requires medical attention, you must be sure that the waiver of liability form is available so the player can receive immediate medical attention. In case of an injury, immediately contact the League Vice President, Becky Kracke (beckykracke@gmail.com), who will assist with filling out the necessary reports.

### **Assistant Coach Applications**

Each practice and game assistant coach must fill out an application, found online. Background checks and IDs are required, and all applications are subject to GVGSA Board approval.

### **Volunteer Support Requirement**

Managers should communicate the following information to their team via email and at the first team meeting. GVGSA is an ALL VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION. GVGSA requires all families to volunteer 5 hours of time per registered player. These volunteer hours are required to maintain the league operating efficiency. Families may volunteer their time in a variety of ways: manager (1 per team), assistant coach (2 per team receive credit), scorekeeper (1 per team), umpire, concession worker, field day worker, or as a member of the board of directors.

GVGSA will collect a \$100.00 check as a volunteer deposit. Managers will be asked to collect checks from team families as needed. The check will be destroyed at the end of the season after the volunteer requirement is satisfied. If, at the end of the season, a family HAS NOT completed their volunteer commitment, the deposit check will be cashed.

### **No Dogs, No Tobacco, and No Alcohol Allowed**

All school district practice fields, game fields, and facilities have strict regulations and are tobacco- and alcohol-free. Dogs are not allowed at any time on any campus.

### **Zero Tolerance Policy**

It is the responsibility of each manager to handle their team's behavior. This includes behavior of parents. Managers, coaches, parents, and/or family members may not use foul language. In addition, GVGSA will not allow any players, coaches, or umpires to be harassed. **GVGSA HAS A ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY THAT APPLIES TO ALL OFFENDERS.** If an incident occurs during a GVGSA game, umpires or league officials will provide a single warning to the manager or offending party. If a further violation occurs, umpires have been instructed to contact the Officer of the Day (OOD). The OOD will then ask the offending party to immediately leave the premises. If the offender refuses to leave, a board member shall notify the umpire to rule the game a forfeit.

## A Note to Softball Families:

We ask a few things from each of you. In return, your coaching staff will try its best to communicate timely information during the season.

We have some basic rules and policies to share:

1. Please have your player ready at least 10 minutes before each practice and expect that the coach will ask her to arrive at least 30 minutes before each game.
2. Unauthorized, persistent absences from practices will most likely result in a reduction of playing time during games.
3. Please give the coaching staff as much notice as possible if your child will be missing or late for either practice or a game.
4. Please pick up your child promptly from practices and games.
5. If you would like to help out at practices, please let us know at the start of the season. There is required approval paperwork.
6. Your coaching staff will have an open door policy. We do ask, however, that you follow one simple rule. If you have a problem with something, please make sure to approach us after a practice or game, and away from the players. As an alternative, you can give us a call or send an email.
7. Practices will be physically challenging, it is imperative that the girls have a proper fitting softball glove and practice clothes. The items needed depend on the age of the player, and may include: softball pants or shorts, sliding shorts to go under the pants/shorts, sliding pads, and cleats (soccer cleats are permitted).
8. Our intent is to be well prepared for practices and games. We believe in having a set schedule, a good positive attitude, and a focus on teaching the girls fundamentally sound softball.
9. GVGSA is a recreational league to develop softball skills and team participation. We will challenge your girls to perform to their best level. We will do our best to give every one of them plenty of playing time. If you have a problem in this area, please see #6.
10. We represent not only ourselves, but also our team and league. It is important to know that GVGSA will not tolerate any out-of-line behavior from our coaching staff or our fans. It falls on our shoulders to police this. Please be courteous at all times.

Let's have a great season,

The Coaching Staff

## GVGSA Player Contract

We have a few team rules. To be sure that you understand what we expect out of each of you, we ask that you read this and sign below.

1. I will come to practice on time. I will wear softball clothes and bring a good attitude. I will bring a bottle of water or appropriate beverage to each practice.
2. I promise to listen to the coaches and practice what they are teaching me. I will practice what I learn at home. If I need someone to help me, I will ask my parents, other family members, or friends.
3. I understand that the coaches have a plan for practices and games. If I have questions, I will ask the coaches after the practice or game is over.
4. I understand that I represent not only myself, but also my teammates and my coaches. I will be respectful to other teams.
5. I understand that I am not allowed to wear jewelry to practices or games. I will make sure to always double-knot my shoes!
6. I will run or jog on and off the field between innings and between drills at practice!
7. There is no "i" in team. I will support and respect my teammates, their parents, and all players and coaches.
8. I will be a good sport no matter if we win or lose!

I have read and understand these rules, and will do my best to follow them:

X \_\_\_\_\_

## **GVGSA Safety Requirement Reminders**

- Always have your player Waiver of Liability forms with you in your binder at all practices and games.
- If there is an accident, an ASA accident report form must be filled out. If you need to file a report, contact Becky Kracke, GVGSA Vice President, immediately: beckykracke@gmail.com
- All insurance claims will be covered 90% while the remaining 10% will be the responsibility of the person(s) filing a claim. Insurance forms are for secondary insurance and should be filled out as needed.
- Instruct your players to wear appropriate clothing at practice and games. Game dress code for 6U, 8U, and 10U will be team shirts, team socks, and long softball pants (color determined by the coach). 12U and 14U may wear shorts, sliders, and sliding pants as an option to long pants. Visors are optional and should be all the same. Softball pants or sliding shorts should be worn at practices.
- Helmets must be worn during practices and games when batting (on the field or in the cage), running bases, and in the on-deck circle.
- Helmets must have facemasks and be NOCSAE certified.
- Catchers must wear a helmet with a facemask any time they are catching a pitcher. This includes warming-up a pitcher during practice or at a game.
- Do not leave a child unattended after a practice or game; wait until all players are picked up.
- Pitching machines are dangerous, and no players should operate them. If you need instruction about how to safely operate the pitching machines, please ask a GVGSA board member.

## GVGSA Conex Equipment Shed Key Request Form

Bases, rakes, and hitting machine equipment will be kept in the locked Conex shed. If you are interested in a key to the Conex at DPHS and/or SMHS, please fill out this form and return it to Shon Weeks (shonweeks@gmail.com), GVGSA Equipment Coordinator.

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Last Name	First Name
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Street Address	City	State	Zip Code
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Home Phone#	Work Phone #	Cell Phone#	Email
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I understand that I am responsible for the following upon being issued a GVGSA key:

- Returning the key at the end of the season or upon request
- Locking the Conex after each use.
- Using all equipment safely.
- **If I lose the key, I will be asked for a donation to pay to re-key all of the locks and provide new keys to the League.**

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Signature	Date
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Key Number Issued: \_\_\_\_\_

Date key Returned: \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature, League President	Date
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**GVGSA Practice Field Request Form**  
**Please return to Becky Kracke (beckykracke@gmail.com)**

Date requested: \_\_\_\_\_

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Manager's Name

Division

Request 1:

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Day of Week

Time

Field location

Request 2:

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Day of Week

Time

Field location

Request 3:

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Day of Week

Time

Field location

Possible Fields:

- Dos Pueblos HS, San Marcos HS
- Santa Barbara Unified School District Jr. Highs
- Goleta Union School District Schools (exceptions: no approval for Mountain View, El Camino or Isla Vista)
- Goleta City Parks (Stow Grove)

Fields are first come, first served (exceptions: DPHS and SMHS must be scheduled).

Our league approval of these practice fields is very important for liability and safety reasons.

## **GVGSA Game Day Responsibilities**

### **Home Team:**

- Keep scorebook for game
- Get a “blue card” from the concession stand to report the final score
- Make sure the “blue card” is signed by the umpire and both managers
- Turn in the “blue card” to the concessions stand after the game
- **Input the game score on your team’s website at [gvgsa.com](http://gvgsa.com)**
- Clean trash out of both dugouts
- Clean trash around all of the field’s bleacher areas

### **Visiting Team:**

- Confirm that the field is set to the proper dimensions
- Fill in and level out all holes in the infield and outfield
- Rake pitching area and home plate and sweep the field with large infield brushes after the game
- If it is the last game of the day, the visiting team must:
  - Put away all bases
  - Insert rubber plugs into the base pegs
  - Put away the pitching rubber
  - Water the field for 10 minutes

**Last team of the day must lock the Conex before leaving the fields**