

## Code of Conduct

Our goal is to enhance your child's life with a positive learning experience of both mentally and physically playing softball. There will be skills that are taught that your child may carry with them throughout life, not just how to win, but how to lose, how to accept others and be accepted, what it means to be a team player not just on the field but off. But we need your help. Please read through the Code of Conduct with your child. Please understand that by signing the registration form, you are also agreeing that you and your child are to abide by the Code of Conduct set forth. Thank you for your support.

- Good sportsmanship is expected of PARENTS/PLAYERS as well as coaches. **Never** criticize an umpire during a game.
- Do not make derogatory remarks/comments about other players, coaches, umps regardless of the team. Communication is key. Do not go behind a coach/trainer/teammates back when a simple face-to-face conversation usually resolves most issues.
- Focus on your child's effort and development rather than the outcome of any particular game.
- Competitive play can evoke strong emotions and your attitude is essential in helping your child put these emotions in perspective. Make sure that your child knows that win or lose, you appreciate her efforts and are proud of her performance.
- Try to be completely honest to yourself about your child's athletic capability, competitive attitude, sportsmanship and actual skill level. Do not develop unrealistic expectations, as inability to match such expectations may be interpreted as failure by your child.
- Be helpful and supportive, but please do not "coach" your child prior to, during and after a game. It is difficult for a child to receive constant advice, pep talks and critical instruction. Also, you may place your child under additional stress when your instructions are at odds with the instructions of the coach.
- Try not to relive your athletic life or lack of one through your child's experience in a way that creates pressure. Let your child make her own decisions on the field. Do not pressure your child because of your pride. Do not assume that your child likes the same things you like, wants the same things or has the same attitude.
- Do not compare the skill, courage or attitude of your child with members of the team. If your child shows a tendency to resent treatment that she gets from the coach, or the approval that another team member gets, be careful to talk of the facts quietly and try to provide fair advice.
- Get to know your child's coach so that you can be assured that his or her philosophy, attitudes, ethics, and knowledge are such that you are happy to expose your child to him or her. The coach has a tremendous potential influence.
- If a problem develops between a player or parent and a coach, discuss the problem with the coach first. If the problem is not resolved at that level, contact your commissioner or any member of the Board.
- Parents must ensure that players arrive on time for games and practices. It is unfair to your child, the other players and coaches to arrive late for practice or moments before the start of a game. If your child cannot attend a practice or game, you should notify the coach as soon as possible. This is a matter of common courtesy and respect.

- Lastly, we believe the Wasco Girls Fastpitch Softball League is a class organization. Therefore, PARENT(S) / PLAYER(S) will conduct themselves with the utmost of sportsmanship, appropriate language and behavior towards their team's coach(es), and the opposing team's coach, players, parents, and umps. Strict penalties for any PARENT(S) / PLAYER(S) that cannot conduct themselves accordingly will be imposed, beginning with **but not limited to:**
  - **1st offense:** Verbal and/or Written warnings to PARENT/PLAYER but is subject to final word from Board
  - **2nd offense:** One (1) game suspension of PLAYER/Parents but is subject to final word from Board
  - **3rd offense:** Suspension from the league for the duration of season including, but not limited to, All-Star games, tournament play, and/or future participation in the League.

Constant and repeat offenders will not be allowed back into WGFSL Organization until further notice from the Board.