

NORTH READING GIRLS SOFTBALL

PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

LAST UPDATE MAY 2019



It is expected that all parents and spectators read and understand the Parent Code of Conduct and follow these guidelines throughout the year.

North Reading Girls Softball (NRGS) is a non-profit youth sports organization dedicated to providing a safe, positive and fun environment in which our players can learn the fundamentals of softball while also enhancing their self-esteem, self-confidence and self-discipline.

We not only strive to teach age-appropriate softball skills, but also important character traits such as a good work ethic, dedication to realizing a goal, self-motivation, value of teamwork, sportsmanship and, most importantly, respect for themselves and others.

NRGS acknowledges and celebrates the continued tradition of our program, but realize our players are children, not professionals. It is a priority that they have fun. We are committed to providing every girl a positive youth softball experience.

I (and my guests), therefore, agree:

1. I will not force my child to participate in sports.
2. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for youths, not adults.
3. I will refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices, unless I am one of the official coaches of the team.
4. I will encourage my child to play by the rules and resolve conflict without resorting to hostility or violence.
5. I will inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.
6. I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of NRGS.

7. I will be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice or other NRGs event.
8. I will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player or parent such as booing and taunting; refusing to shake hands; or using profane language or gestures.
9. I will never yell, taunt, threaten or inflict physical violence upon any player, coach, umpire, or spectator at any team activity. I will refrain from the use of abusive or vulgar language, racial ethnic or gender-related slurs at any time at the field or team activity. I will support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from team and NRGs activities.
10. I will not throw objects of any kind on the field. I will not walk on the field or into any player areas during a game.
11. I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and well-being of the athletes.
12. I will demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex or ability.
13. I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her performance.
14. I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard and make my child feel like a winner every time.
15. I will never ridicule or yell at my child or other participant for making a mistake or losing a competition.
16. I will emphasize skill development and practices and how they benefit my child over winning. I will also de-emphasize games and competition in the lower age groups.
17. I will promote the emotional and physical well-being of the athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have for my child to win.
18. I will respect the officials and their authority during games and will never question or confront officials.
19. I will not question or confront coaches at the game field and will take time to speak with coaches at an agreed upon time and place.

20. I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free from drugs, tobacco and alcohol and I will refrain from their use at all sports events.

21. I will communicate any and all concerns regarding inappropriate behavior to the coach, age level Division Directors (emails are available under the "About Us" tab, "Board Members" subtab on our website at northreadingsoftball.com) or the NRGs Board of Directors (at hornetssoftball@gmail.com).

22. I understand that NRGs has set up priority guidelines to refer to when there is a conflict.

23. I agree that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I will be subject to disciplinary action that could include, but is not limited to the following:
 - a. Verbal warning by official, head coach and/or the NRGs Board of Directors

 - b. Written warning

 - c. Parental game suspension with written documentation of incident kept on file by NRGs

 - d. Game forfeiture

 - e. Parental game or season suspension