



## **Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct**

### **PREAMBLE**

Youth sports play an important role in promoting the physical, social, and emotional development of children. Character-building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship. Parents, team staff, spectators, and officials must encourage youth athletes to embrace these values by being models of good sportsmanship by demonstrating fairness, respect, and self-control at all times.

### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

1. I will abide by all of the rules of the game and policies of the League.
2. I will, and will teach my child to, play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
3. I will refrain from the use of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol at all League events.
4. I will inform the team manager of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.
5. I will not, nor encourage my child to, engage in verbal or physical threats or abuse, retaliation, or any other behavior which would endanger the health, safety or well being of any participant or any other attendee.
6. I will never leave my daughter unattended at any team activity without verifying that at least one female staff member is present.
7. I will be early or on time when bringing my child to her practices and games, and for picking her up from practices and games.
8. I will "Honor the Game" by showing respect, dignity, and total sportsmanship at all times.
9. I will promote the emotional and physical well-being of all participants ahead of any personal desire I may have for my child or team to win, and will emphasize that skill development, practice, and doing one's best are more important than winning.
10. I will remember that children participate to have fun and that the game is for the girls, not the adults, and I will do my best to make the experience fun for all, including my child.
11. I will, and will ensure that my child, treat all players, team staff, officials, and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, gender, sexual orientation, knowledge, or skill.
12. I will respect the facilities at our opponents' grounds as well as all our home facilities.
13. I will not, nor encourage my child to, engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct regarding any official, team staff, player, or parent such as (but not limited to) booing, taunting, moaning, groaning, refusing to shake hands, or using profane language or gestures.
14. I will be a supportive parent and a respectful fan for all participants by offering applause and cheers of encouragement following a good play or a great effort at every game, practice or other softball-related event. If I am unable to do that, I will keep quiet.
15. I will never ridicule or yell at my child or any other participant for making a mistake or losing a game, and will refrain from "bleacher coaching" my child or other players during games and practices. I understand that mistakes are inevitable and that people learn from their mistakes.
16. I will respect the officials and their authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront them at the game field. If the umpire makes a call I do not agree with, I will refrain from



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questioning, insulting, or making personal attacks against him or her. I will accept the call and move on. I will be especially vigilant to my behavior when Youth Umpires are involved.

17. I will respect the team staff and their authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront them before, during, or immediately following a game, and will take time to speak with team staff at an agreed-upon time and place. I will remember that all team staff and League officials are volunteers and will respect the fact that they are willing to give so much of their time to my child.
18. I will not gossip, criticize, nor express negative comments about the game, team staff, umpires, or players in my child's presence, to my child, to other parents, or while in attendance of any League event. If I am not happy with the team staff or the League, I will raise the issue with the team staff and will be prepared to contribute my time and effort to improve the situation.

### **CONSEQUENCES**

I hereby agree that if I fail to abide by the foregoing rules while attending, coaching, managing, officiating, or otherwise participating in Mountain View – Los Altos Girls Softball activities, I will be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to the following in any order or combination:

- Verbal or written warning by a League official
- Game forfeit
- Adult and/or player immediate ejection or suspension from one or more League activities
- Adult, player, and/or family season or multiple season suspension
- Incidents that result in a criminal conviction will carry a lifetime suspension from all League activities

Notes:

- Written documentation of all incidents will be kept on file by the League and may affect future participation
- A suspension by one organization may be carried over to another organization
- The most severe consequence may occur after the first infraction and shall be in the unrestricted discretion of League officials

### **PLEDGE**

I agree to honor the Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct in my words and actions while attending or participating in all League activities and agree to hold my family, friends, and those around me accountable to these same standards of conduct.

I will contact, in writing, the League Player Agent, with any concerns I have in regards to my daughter's participation and well being.

**All parents and/or legal guardians with whom the player resides or who may otherwise participate in the league as a spectator or volunteer must execute this form before it is returned to the Mountain View – Los Altos Girls Softball League.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Player's Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Player's Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name