

## **Marin Girls Softball League Parent's Code of Conduct**

The following Code of Conduct for parents is intended to promote the belief that everyone has a responsibility to follow the principles of good sportsmanship. The emphasis is that respectful relationships between people send a clear message to everyone participating that what is important is not who wins or loses but how the game is played and watched. The purpose of the Code is to insure parents behave at all times in a positive and supportive manner. It is expected that each parent will:

1. Exemplify good sportsmanship at all times.
2. Teach your child to always respect the manager, coaches, umpires, and other players.
3. Learn the local rules of the game and help your child to understand the rules.
4. Encourage your child to practice in order to improve her skill level; help her to understand the importance of good sportsmanship at all times.
5. Refrain from ridiculing or shouting at your child or other children.
6. Set a good example. Both players and coaches are looking to you as a role model for proper behavior during both practices and games.
7. Never use alcohol in the stands or near the field during any game or practice.
8. Applaud good plays by your team and by members of the opposing team but refrain from coaching or directing players during the game.
9. Allow the players to play, the coaches to coach and the umpires to officiate.
10. Never question, complain or argue with an umpire's judgment call. Be a good example for your daughter.
11. Recognize the importance of and value of coaches who volunteer their time to teach and lead the team. Without them there would be no softball program.
12. Communicate directly with the coach in a positive manner with concerns about your child. This communication must not occur during a game and must be done privately. Playing time and position are addressed in the MGS Rules and are at the coach's discretion within these rules.
13. Never use inappropriate language at any time during a practice or game.
14. Help ensure players are on time to every game and practice.
15. Accept the results of each game. Encourage your child to be gracious in victory and turn defeat to positive experience for improvement.
16. Any parent who is ejected from a game must immediately leave the field and the venue itself. If a 1<sup>st</sup> offense, the parent will be suspended from the next game at a minimum. The situation will be reviewed by the Rules and Conduct Committee and further action recommended to the MGS President if warranted. If a parent is ejected a 2<sup>nd</sup> time in a season, the parent will be banned from any participation in the league or contact with the team for the duration of the season. Any violation of the suspension or banishment will result in a forfeit of the team's next game.

This Code of Conduct is not all inclusive. Any complaints regarding parent behavior must first be directed to the president of the parent's home district. If the district is unable to resolve the problem, the situation will be referred to the MGS President and the MGS Rules and Conduct Committee. The decision made by the Rules and Conduct Committee will be final.

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