



Coaches - Code of Conduct / Expectations

2023-2024 Season

The following codes of conduct are intended to promote good sportsmanship and support the overall goal of the Geneva Foxes Softball Organization. We are dedicated to providing young women with a positive “player centered” environment to learn and enjoy the game of fastpitch softball. We offer female athletes the opportunity to learn life lessons in sportsmanship, teamwork, perseverance, commitment, loyalty, self-discipline, accomplishment, competition, responsibility, and fair play. It is the requirement of the Geneva Foxes Executive Board that all spectators, participants, coaches and players abide by the following codes of conduct.

As the leaders of your team, your influence has a tremendous impact upon your players both in this season and in the future seasons. Always remember that not only do you represent your team, but more importantly you represent the Geneva Foxes Softball organization, its philosophies and every family that participates within our programs.

1. Exemplify behavior that is representative of being an adult, a coach and a member of the Geneva Foxes Organization.
2. Demonstrate high integrity, good sportsmanship, and a positive attitude in personal behavior and demand the same standards from his/her players.
3. Recognize that different players have different abilities. Celebrate great effort and steady improvement as much as great athletic achievements. The chances are limited that you will coach a future professional softball player, but you are guaranteed to have future parents, leaders and/or coaches on every team.
4. Maintain self-control at all times.
5. Cooperate with and assist the Geneva Foxes Executive Board in the planning, scheduling and implementation of organizational activities as applicable.
6. Pay close attention to the physical condition and well-being of players. Be conscious of player “burn-out” by providing variances in practice and game schedules where necessary.
7. Refuse to disparage opponents, officials, or others associated with the Geneva Foxes or its activities. Actively discourage profanity or abusive language directed towards anyone.
8. Conduct himself/herself properly when raising a question about or discussing a call with an official.
9. Coaches have an obligation to participate in the building of the Foxes organization, not just his/her team.
10. Team managers are the primary contacts for interaction / communication with parents, fostering an atmosphere of open communication and trust. Head / Assistant Coaches will focus primarily on player development, training and game strategies.
11. Coaches acknowledge the requirement to demonstrate fundamental proficiencies with respect to the game of softball, player development & well-being and the operating philosophies of the Geneva Foxes. Consequently, all coaches agree to attend the “off-season” training sessions for Fielding/Throwing, Hitting & Pitching. The coaches also agree to reinforce these training methods throughout the remainder of the season, as well as during tournament play.



Coaches - Code of Conduct & Expectations – 2023-24 Season (cont.)

12. Coaches should conduct organized and productive practices. Practices should be conducted in a “Game Pace” manor. Practice is for learning and improving. Be prepared for practice and set the tone for your team.
13. Be responsible for your budget.
14. At common tournaments, all Geneva Foxes teams will make every effort to watch each other in between their games or during “off” times. On off weeks, team-based travel to tournaments where other Foxes age groups are playing is strongly encouraged.
15. Once committed to playing for the Geneva Foxes, players may not be “rostered” on any other travel/club softball program for the same season. “Guest Player” status will be allowed upon approval of team’s Head Coach and/or Foxes Board Member.
16. Coaches will comply with the decisions of league officials for the various host organizations where we may participate and also observe all rules, policies and procedures as established or endorsed by the Executive Board of the Geneva Foxes. Coaches/Managers must ensure that they are in compliance with all Geneva Park District and Geneva School District rules. Coaches/Managers are strictly prohibited from using alcohol and/or drugs during all team activities, included and not limited to games and practices.
17. The Head Coach may establish individual “team rules” as long as they are in accordance with the overall philosophies and by-laws of the Geneva Foxes. As an organization, we believe all players have the right to EARN their playing time. Active participation in practice and games, a positive attitude, work ethic, and attendance are all critical to player development, and should be rewarded. As a general rule, all players should bat and be given playing time in the field during non-tournament and tournament “pool play” games. For bracket play games, playing time is at the discretion of the individual team’s Head Coach (batting everyone, only batting 9, substituting during games, etc.).
18. If players (14U and up) have questions about their playing time, they need to approach their coaches directly. Parents are encouraged not to approach the Coaches/Managers for these age groups. Should player practice/game attendance, participation, “parent – coach” interaction or any other factor arise that may adversely affect the coaches decision to follow the play-time guidelines, the situation is to be brought to the attention of the Executive Board for awareness and/or resolution.