



# Windsor Wicked Player Commitment and General Rules

## Includes Code of Contact and Playing Time

### Practice Rules

Generally, each team will practice two to four times during the week, although extra practices or special clinics may be offered and/or required. We require all our athletes to attend each practice in order to get the maximum benefit of the program. Repeatedly missing practice may result in decreased playing time.

1. All coaches, athletes, and parents shall treat all facilities with respect. WGTS will have zero tolerance in regards to property destruction and mistreatment of facilities shall be grounds for dismissal from the program with no refund.
2. Players should arrive to practice at least 15 minutes early, however, each Head Coach may request that players arrive earlier. The scheduled time is the start time for practice, NOT the arrival time. This will allow time to get properly warmed up before the scheduled starting time.
3. Players are required to bring their own equipment.
4. Players are required to help set up and put away practice equipment. No player will be allowed to leave until equipment and trash are put away. Abuse of this rule may result in a team's loss of practice facility.
5. Practice is a time for coaches and players to work together to improve the individual skills and to become a cohesive team. It is the responsibility of the players to work hard at every practice and be cooperative with the other players and coaches. If the player is not participating, or is goofing off, or showing disrespect to teammates or coaches, the player may be dismissed from practice.

### Tournament Rules

When WGTS teams are scheduled to travel, each player will receive a detailed itinerary, including game times, locations, hotel information (if necessary). On time means arriving at the playing site one hour prior to game time so that all athletes have the proper time to warm up. Each player will be expected to:

1. Give her best effort throughout competitions
2. Focus on the team's goals and needs
3. Assist in keeping our area clean
4. Treat all tournament officials, referees, opponents, parents, and teammates with respect and in a sportsmanlike manner.

WGTS does not provide meals at tournaments. It is the player's responsibility to bring food and/or money to cover their meals during the tournament. Softball officials are off-limits for parents. Please refrain from yelling at the umpires. We teach our players that they will have to compete at times under adversity, and that showing emotion over things not in their control is a waste of mental energy. No parent shall approach a coach before, during, or after a game on a tournament day in an argumentative or controversial manner. These discussions should be held at a more appropriate time. Please wait 48 hours after a game to approach a coach for coaching questions.

## **Playing Time**

The philosophy of the Windsor Girls Travel Softball is that all players who have earned the opportunity to compete should play as much as possible at competition events. However, please keep in mind that players and their families are paying for instruction and practice time. Most of the instruction takes place at practices. Areas that may affect players playing time are as follows: level of effort, attitude, skill, practice attendance, position, and injury. The coach has the discretion to use players as deemed necessary. During tournaments Saturdays are pool play and coaches will make efforts for all rostered players to participate. Sundays are championship bracket days, often with different rules as set forth by the hosting organization. On Sundays the most competitive 9 will be in the lineup with bench players being available as needed. Practice players (aka development players) will not play in tournaments however, they are welcome in the dugout to participate in warm up and cheer on their teams. They must be in their practice jerseys to be in the dugout during games. In the rare circumstance that a team does not have enough players to fill the field plus one bench player, due to illness, injury or otherwise, the head coach may make a request to the board to have one or more practice players temporarily be added to the eligible roster.

Our coaches come from different areas of experience. They are here because they have a genuine interest in developing each player to the best of their ability. They have been selected because of their background, proven ability, and dedication. Each coach is under supervision of the Board of Directors. All coaches must pass a background check before they can work with WGTS. Coaches must also follow USA Softball Code of Conduct.

## **Parent Code of Conduct**

- Follow the rules of the tournament.
- Do not advise the coach on how to coach.
- Do not make derogatory comments to coaches, officials, tournament officials, or players of either team.
- Do not try to coach your child during a game.
- Remain in the spectator area during games
- Do not approach the dugout to speak to players, including their own child, during a game.
- No one may remove players from the game, dugout or field until dismissed by the coach except in the case of illness, injury or other emergency.
- Avoid conduct that is inappropriate as determined by comparison to normally accepted behavior. Please cheer for our team's efforts, dedication, and hard work. Refrain from celebrating our opponent's mistakes or downfalls. Keep all comments positive. A quick glance in the stands by your daughter can throw her off track if she sees you visibly upset or frustrated.

## **Failure to comply with the Parental Code of Conduct**

A failure to comply may result in consequences including, but not limited to, a reduction of playing time, suspension of the guardian or player, or the dismissal of the player and family from the league. The severity of the consequence will be weighed by the severity and consistency of the infraction(s). Documentation in the form of an incident report will be filed to the Board Secretary for any violation of the Code of Conduct. Additionally, any league member (including Board Members, Coaches and guardians) receiving more than two incident reports will be asked to leave the league.