

Athletic Supervisor:

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# Welcome to the 2025 Fall Girls Softball League!

We are excited to get the season underway! But before we do, make sure to read through this packet as it contains all the information for the upcoming season. If you still have questions after reading through this packet, or if you have questions/concerns throughout the season, do not hesitate to contact me. Jason Stubbeman – 317.412.3498 - jstubbeman@woodridgeparks.org.

# **Sport Parent Code of Conduct**

The Woodridge Park District (WPD), believes in holding all of its members (coaches, participants, parents, guardians, etc.) accountable to a strict code of conduct/behavior policy when playing, watching, or coaching any activity. This is a key principle to making sports, especially youth sports, a safe, fun, and positive environment.

- I pledge to conduct myself in a manner that will reflect positively on the WPD to show respect for all involved in the game including coaches, players, opponents, opposing fans and officials.
- I pledge to encourage in a positive manner the efforts of players and will refrain from yelling out instruction to my
  child or his/her teammates for I understand that this is the coach's responsibility and such instructions may conflict
  with their teachings. I understand that games are chaotic times for players to deal with fast-paced action and need
  the flexibility without ridicule to learn how to respectfully respond to game situations, opponents, teammates and
  coaches.
- I understand that mistakes are inevitable part of any game and that players need to learn from their own mistakes and I pledge to encourage their pursuit in advancing their skills and knowledge of the game and to not criticize their mistakes.
- I pledge to refrain from using alcohol and illegal substances during any practice or game whether on WPD property
  or elsewhere.
- I pledge to educate myself on the rules of the sport, so that I have a better understanding of the game and calls made by the official(s).
- I pledge to not use inappropriate language, profanity, obscene gestures, offensive remarks of a sexual nature, trash talking, taunting, boastful celebrations, or other actions that demean individuals or the sport.
- I pledge to refrain from confronting opponents, opponents' fans, coaches, or officials in a manner that would
  escalate any situation to a verbal or physical confrontation and I understand that it is in everyone's best interest to
  remain silent.
- I understand that it is a best practice to take a timeout (24 hours) prior to dealing with a coach about any player issues I have. I will not confront the coach in public, rather I will talk to the coach while calm and rational and will do so in a private manner. Public confrontation is embarrassing to the player and entire program and may result in myself being suspended from watching my child/player and/or result in my child/player being suspended from play for the team.

#### **Signed Parent's Promise**

At the beginning of the season, your coach will ask you to sign a form to confirm that you have read the Sport Parent Code of Conduct. Failure to comply with this code of conduct, will result in disciplinary actions being taken to resolve the issue. Actions may include but are not limited to verbal and/or written warnings, ejections and/or suspensions. Incidents will be handled how staff deems appropriate based on the severity of the incident.

# **Equipment**

Each player will need to have the following equipment to participate:

Fielding Mitt	Softball Bat*	Fielding Mask
Game Pants	Batting Helmet with mask*	Cleats (No metal spikes)
*The Park District will provide each team with limited equipment for players to share		

### **Practice Information**

**Practices will start the week of August 4.** Teams will practice for 1.5 hours, once a week at either Orchard Hill Park Field 1, Janes Avenue Park NE Ballfield or Thomas Jefferson Jr High SE Field.

# **Game Day Information**

- Season will start Sunday, August 24 and conclude Sunday, October 5
- Games days will be Sunday, Monday and/or Wednesdays
  - o Sunday: Possible Game Times: 11am, 1pm, 3pm, 5pm
  - o Monday & Wednesday: Possible Game Times: 6pm & 7:45pm
- Games will be played against Burr Ridge, Darien, Lisle, & Westmont.

#### **Inclement Weather Policies**

- Coaches are responsible for cancelling their own practices. If there is availability, practice may be moved inside the ARC in either the Turf or the gym. If practice is held in the gym, then players must wear gym shoes.
- For game days, use the rainout hotline link below for the current field conditions:
  - https://rainoutline.com/search/dnis/6306013052
  - Please note that this is a DIFFERENT RAINOUT LINE CHANNEL than the standard Woodridge Park
     District programs are on. I suggest adding both as favorites so you can easily access them.
- Make sure to subscribe to each field so you can get a notification on the field conditions.

#### **Picture Day**

Picture Day is scheduled for Saturday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. Schedule is attached separately.

#### Volunteer Coaches Make It Happen!

We are extremely grateful for the volunteer coaches in our leagues! These programs do not have the success without them. Throughout the season, they may ask for help at practice or on game day. If you can, please step up and volunteer to help the team. A copy of the league rules can be accessed by using the link below and then can be found at the bottom of that page. <a href="https://www.quickscores.com/downloads/brwsoftball">https://www.quickscores.com/downloads/brwsoftball</a> spring2024.pdf

# **Helpful Resources**

Whether this is your first time being a sports parent or you have been doing this for a long time, you can always learn how to do better. Below is a list of different resources to help you as a sport parent throughout the season.

- Guidelines For Parental Involvement In Youth Sports
- 10 Tips For Sports Parents
- 8 Sideline Behavior Tips For Parents On Gameday
- Silence On The Sidelines Lets Kids Learn And Coaches Coach
- Parents Need To Stop Trophy-Chasing And Let Their Kids Learn
- Why Kids Staying In Sports Is Important
- My Kid Acts Disinterested In Sports But Says She Loves It
- Maintaining Support For A Coach During A Losing Season
- WHY AND HOW PARENTS CAN SUPPORT REFEREES IN YOUTH SPORT