

Carmichael Girls Softball

PLAYER/FAN CODE OF CONDUCT

For Parents, Players and Coaches

Parents, players, coaches and fans represent the Carmichael Girls Softball League when our teams play and practice. The actions of one of us affect the image of all of us. As a reminder, we are dealing with "amateur athletic recreation, strictly for enjoyment... not a life and death matter." This CGS Code of Conduct encourages us to work together to play with good sportsmanship and to treat players, parents, fans, coaches, and umpires with respect. This Code also identifies the possible consequences we will encounter when we do not behave appropriately.

Treat USA Softball Officials with Respect

Standards of conduct are part of the USA Softball National Code and Sacramento Rules and Regulations. Each manager, coach, player, parent, or other individuals affiliated with the team shall not violate any of the following:

1. Unsportsmanlike conduct or any derogatory action on or off the playing field.
2. Verbal or physical attack or threat upon an umpire or an USA Softball official.
3. Destruction of property, abusive behavior or violation of state or federal law.
4. Non-payment of team-incurred debts.
5. All players and coaches MUST be individually registered and background checked with USA Softball.
6. All managers/coaches/team parents that will be on the field or in the dugout must be individually registered and background checked through the Sacramento USA Softball/GSSA mandatory Registration system. ID cards must be visible at all times.
7. One member from each team participating in Championship Play must be ACE certified.
8. Playing under an assumed name or falsifying an official USA Softball document.
9. Writing checks with non-sufficient funds or account closed checks to an USA Softball representative.
10. Commission of fraud perpetrated against an USA Softball representative, team or individual.
11. Commission of larceny perpetrated against an USA Softball representative, team or individual.
12. Use of any USA Softball logos or trademarks without express permission.
13. Commission of any acts that are contrary to the objectives and purposes of USA Softball.
14. Forfeit a game in Championship Play.
15. Knowingly competing with or against individuals or teams who are suspended from USA Softball play.
16. Any other acts of suspension as listed in the USA Softball National Code.
17. Team Manager/Team Coach will not contact a National Championship Tournament Director regarding "Fill-In" berth at any time.
18. At no time shall a spectator, player, coach or manager be allowed to drink alcoholic beverages or smoke on the field, inside or outside the dugout.

Treat Umpires with Respect

- There are no circumstances in which a coach, parent, fan or player should confront an umpire during or after a game. Coaches must engage umpires in a respectful manner consistent with the rules of the sanctioning body (NORCAL and USA Softball)
- Do not verbally harass an umpire. If you disagree with a call, keep it to yourself. Be a mature example to your daughter and other people.
- Coaches will be held responsible for ensuring that parents comply with this portion of the Code of Conduct. A coach who, in the opinion of the Umpire-In-Chief or other CGS Board Member, fails to control unruly parents / fans will be subject to suspension. The umpire has the authority to eject anyone or forfeit a game for bad behavior. (This is actually in the umpires rules. Once the game starts the entire field and stands are under their authority).

Treat Your Team with Respect

- Softball is not an individual sport – it is a **team sport**. Bear this in mind at all times.
- Ensure that your child/player and all of her equipment get to games and practices on time.
- Pick up your child/player promptly at the end of games, practices or other team functions. Do not make the coaches wait for you.
- Disagreements with the coach do not belong on the field before, during or after a game or practice. Questions and comments should be voiced later in an adult atmosphere with the coach or manager. CGS recommends using the 24-Hour rule. This rule states that if you disagree with a coach's decision, **you should wait 24 hours before discussing the situation with the coach**. Many times this cooling off period will facilitate a more logical course of action.
- A coach's decision about position, strategy, tactics, etc., consistent with this Code of Conduct, the Coaching Staff Code of Conduct, and the rules set forth by the CGS Board, is final.

Treat Our Coaches, Players and Opponents with Respect

- Whether you win or lose, do so as a positive example to our kids and other parents. When you interact with others, do so with class.
- Encourage each and every player with positive comments.
Coaches are in charge of overall team direction and instruction during play and practice. Parental criticism or advice for other players is usually not well received by the player, coach or the player's parents.
- Never criticize or yell at a player on your team or the opposing team. Consider how you would feel if you were that player's parent.
- Avoid confrontations or shouting matches with coaches, parents or fans from your team and an opposing team.
- Constant yelling is very irritating to the people around you (even if you think your comments are positive).
- Coaching your child or any other player from the stands is not permitted. It is illegal under NORCAL rules.
- Standing directly behind home plate on the outside of the fence and commenting to players or umpires is not permitted.
- Alcohol, tobacco, drugs (legal or otherwise), profanity or fighting are never permitted at softball games or practices.

Treat Our Facilities with Respect

- CGS is very serious about the quality and condition of the fields and other facilities.
- If you are in doubt about the condition of a field, stay off the field and contact the Parks & Recreation Department.
- Obey all signage and instructions regarding use of the facilities.
- Vandalism in any form will not be tolerated.
- Clean up after yourself and your children, especially in the restrooms. Teams are also responsible for clearing out their dugout after all games and practices.

All Star/Tournament Teams

- All Star/Tournament teams are competitive teams that play in post-season tournaments. Players are selected for an All Star team by the league through a tryout process.
- No guarantee of field position or place in the batting order will be made for any All-Star player.
- If a player quits or is removed from an All Star team for any reason, no refund of fees will be made. If the player quits the All Star team, eligibility for future All Star teams may be forfeited.
- Parents of All Star players are expected to publicly support the coaches, the other players and the team as a whole at all times.

Grievances and Consequences

- The Player Agent for your age group is the first person you should contact if you feel a parent's, spectator's, player's or coach's behavior warrants corrective action. The CGS President will attempt to resolve or correct the issue, but may refer it to the NORCAL Board for further investigation and remedy.
- The CGS Board of Directors may impose penalties including reprimands and suspension of playing / coaching / spectator privileges. Any appeals shall be made to the full CGS Board of Directors. If a parent or coach is suspended they will forfeit their voting privileges for the current season. The penalty for any coach being ejected from a game is a one game suspension.
- In the event of suspension or expulsion from a team, no refund of registration or sponsorship fees will be made.

As a coach or parent of a player in the Carmichael Girls Softball League, I acknowledge:

- That I have read, understand and will adhere to this Code of Conduct;
- That my continued participation in association activities, as well as the participation of my children, is contingent upon my ability (and that of my immediate and extended family) to adhere to this Code of Conduct; and
- That I will help my fellow parents and coaches when, in the heat of the moment, they need to be reminded of their commitment to this Code of Conduct.