

# **CALGARY WOMEN'S FASTPITCH ASSOCIATION**

## **CODE OF ETHICS**

When all those involved in the sport of softball understand and accept the values of team play, it leads to the development of attitudes, which make the game safer and more enjoyable for all. The following are code of ethics for players, coaches, parents and league organizers.

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What is the CWFA'S policy on preventing abuse and harassment?

The CWFA policy is zero tolerance of any type of abuse. The CWFA expects every member, parent, volunteer and executive to take all reasonable steps to safeguard the welfare of its participants and protect them from any form of maltreatment.

**(Borrowed from: Hockey Canada "Fair Play Codes", Canadian Council on Children and Youth "Fair Play Codes for Children in Sport" and the "Coaching Code of Ethics".)**

## **CODE FOR COACHES**

**THE SUCCESSFUL COACH INVESTS MORE IN THE WELL-BEING AND INTEREST OF THE PLAYERS THAN IN THEIR WIN-LOSS RECORD.**

1. I will be reasonable when scheduling exhibition games and practices, remembering the players have other interests and obligations.
2. I will teach my players to play fairly and to respect the rules, officials and opponents.
3. I will act with integrity in performing all duties owed to the players, the sport, other members of the coaching profession and the public.
4. I will strive to be well-prepared and current in order that all duties in the respective discipline are fulfilled with competence.
5. I will ensure that all players get equal instruction and support.
6. I will act in the best interest of the player's development as a whole person.
7. I will not ridicule or yell at my players for making mistakes or for performing poorly. I will remember that players play to have fun and must be encouraged to have confidence in themselves.
8. I will make sure that equipment and facilities are safe.
9. I will take proper training and continue to upgrade my coaching skills.
10. I will work with officials for the benefit of the game.

## **CODE FOR PLAYERS**

**IT ISN'T WHETHER YOU WIN OR LOSE, BUT HOW YOU PLAY THE GAME!**

1. I will play fastpitch because I want to, not just because others or coaches want me to.
2. I will play by the rules of fastpitch, and in the spirit of the game.
3. I will respect my opponents.
4. I will do my best to be a true team player.
5. I will remember that winning isn't everything, that having fun, improving skills, making friends and doing my best are also important.
6. I will acknowledge all good plays/performances – those of my team and of my opponents.
7. I will remember that coaches and officials are there to help me. I will accept their decisions and show them respect
8. I will control my temper, poor attitude or behavior can spoil it for everybody.
9. I will honor and fulfill my commitment to the team.
10. I will work equally hard for my team and myself - my team's performance will benefit and so will my own.

## **CODE FOR PARENTS**

**PLAYERS LEARN TO BE A “GOOD SPORT” AT HOME. BY THE TIME A PLAYER JOINS A TEAM, A SENSE OF SPORTSMANSHIP (OR LACK THEREOF) IS ALREADY WELL ESTABLISHED.**

1. I will not force my daughter (s) to participate in fastpitch.
2. I will remember that my daughter (s) plays fastpitch for her (their) enjoyment, not mine.
3. I will encourage my daughter (s) to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
4. I will teach my daughter (s) that doing one’s best is as important as winning, so that my daughter (s) will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game.
5. I will make my daughter (s) feel like a winner every time by offering praise for competing fairly and trying hard.
6. I will never ridicule or yell at my daughter (s) for making a mistake or losing a game.
7. I will remember that women learn best by example. I will applaud good plays/performances by both my daughter (s) team and their opponents.
8. I will never question the officials’ judgement or honesty in public.
9. I will support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from women’s fastpitch games.
10. I will respect and show appreciation for the volunteer coaches who give their time to coach fastpitch for my daughter (s).

## **CODE FOR LEAGUE ORGANIZERS**

**THE LEAGUE ORGANIZERS ARE THE KEY FIGURES IN MAKING SURE THAT THE SPIRIT OF THE GAME INCLUDES COMPETITION, FRIENDSHIP AND TO ASSIST EVERYBODY INVOLVED TO ATTAINS HIS OR HER GOALS.**

1. I will do my best to see that all members are given the same chance to participate, regardless of ethnic background or race.
2. I will absolutely discourage fastpitch from becoming primarily an entertainment for the spectator.
3. I will make sure that all equipment and facilities are safe.
4. I will make sure that all members are treated with respect, integrity, honesty and fairness.
5. I will make sure that the age and maturing level of the participants are considered in program development, rule enforcement and scheduling.
6. I will remember that play is done for its own sake and make sure that winning is kept in proper perspective.