



## Softball Manitoba Parent Standards of Conduct



The following is a set of standards of conduct that all parents are required to follow this season. These standards will help establish clear expectations for all. Players and coaches will also have regular discussions about their team goals, values and expectations to create a positive, respectful environment. Your family is an extension of the team's softball family, and as a result, you are expected to commit to team rules and expectations.

### Parent Standards of Conduct

1. I will show respect for the umpires. They will sometimes make a difficult call, but the umpire's job is not easy. Voicing my displeasure will not improve the situation.
2. I will stay away from the dugout during games and practices. My job as a parent is to cheer on the team. While not easy, I will let go and allow my child to perform, succeed, and fail under the guidance of the coaches.
3. I will refrain from coaching from the stands and allow coaches to coach. I know that providing potentially conflicting messages during a game can be confusing to my child and my interactions may contribute negatively to my child's ability to focus. If there is something I believe my child needs to know, I will talk to them about that or work on that situation at another time. Whether my child remembers these things during a game is not my responsibility. I will allow them to learn and fail.
4. I will be a role model for my child regarding good sportsmanship, teamwork, and self-worth. These things start with the adults, and the players will behave accordingly. We will take pride in how we carry ourselves and treat others.
5. I am responsible for the behaviour of my family members at games and practices. Friends and family may attend games to cheer on my child, and I will ensure they also handle themselves according to these standards.
6. I will provide encouragement and support for my child. My child needs to hear my positive encouragement throughout the game, and I will ensure it is appropriate and not disruptive.
7. I will provide encouragement and support for all players on the team even when mistakes are made. We're in this together!
8. I will respect the opposing team, coaches, and fans. They are the same as us in many ways, but wear different uniforms. Appreciation for their performance and respect for their abilities will contribute to a positive game environment.
9. I understand that winning is important to the team, but the primary objective is promoting an environment of growth and learning. They will win. They will lose. They will make mistakes. The most important thing is what they learn from success and failure.
10. I will get to know the team culture and values and reinforce them with my child. I will provide reminders when they are not being met.

11. I will support the coach's message. While I will not always agree with the coach, I also understand that contradicting that message is counterproductive.

12. I will help my child embrace their role, no matter what it is. I may disagree with where my child hits or plays in the field, but it is important that I help my child embrace and master that role for the best possible experience.

13. I will help nurture a positive environment on and off the field. I will do my best to keep a positive tone as I realize my reactions impact my child, the team, other parents, and the organization.

14. I will refrain from public complaints about coaches and other players with parents. While I will not always agree with how the team is coached, I know these reactions do not help. Negativity is toxic.

15. If there are disagreements about my child's role on the team, I will have my child schedule a time to discuss this with the coaches. If I still have questions after my child discusses their role with the coaches, I can schedule a time to discuss this with the coach.

16. I will not approach the coaches about disagreements with their coaching, style, or philosophy during or after games. If I have an issue, I will wait 24 hours and bring it up using the proper channels.

17. I will respect the challenges the coaches face and the time commitment they make. I know that coaching isn't easy. It's a significant contribution of time and energy, often with the side effect of stress.

18. I will do everything within my control to make this a positive experience for my child, other players, families, and coaches. I will do my part to contribute to the organization's softball family!

All we ask is that you do your best to follow these standards. While you are not expected to be perfect, the main thing is that everyone makes a consistent effort to help nurture a positive environment for all. If these standards are neglected or ignored, depending on the severity and frequency of infractions, your actions may impact your child's standing on this team.

I acknowledge that I have read and understood the parent code of conduct,

Parent/Guardian:

Print name\_\_\_\_\_

Signature\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_