

WOODBRIIDGE SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

CODE OF ETHICS



Commitment to the Players

1. Coaches will provide a copy of the Coach's and Player's Code of Ethics to each player on their team.
2. Coaches will put the welfare of the players above all else while maintaining professional relationships with them.
3. All games will be conducted within the communicated rules of WSA.
4. Coaches will encourage the players to maintain sportsmanship at all times.
5. Coaches will not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, sexual orientation, age, national or ethnic origin, or qualified handicapped or challenged persons.
6. Coaches will follow Association, governing body and Provincial rules regarding drug, alcohol and tobacco use.

Commitment to Your Program

1. Coaches will behave in such a way that they will bring credit to themselves and pride to the Association.
2. Coaches will exhibit professionalism in their actions, words and attire.
3. Coaches will act in full accordance with the Association and Provincial Governing Body rules.
4. Coaches will immediately report any violation of league or governing body rules regardless of how minor they believe the violation to be.
5. Dissatisfaction with the implementation of Association and governing body rules will be addressed through the proper channels and not through the media and through public opinion.

Commitment to Other Coaches

1. A coach has an obligation to be honest and forthright during the recruiting process. A coach must refrain for making derogatory statements about another coach or program.
2. Coaches will treat their colleagues with dignity and respect.
3. Coaches will honour all relationships with their colleagues. They will avoid conflicts of interest and exploitation of these relationships.

Commitment to Umpires

1. All games umpires will be treated in a professional and respectable manner at all times.
2. Any displeasure with an umpire's actions or conduct will be addressed through the proper channels and not through the media or through public opinion.
3. Woodbridge Softball Association members will strive to develop positive working relations with the umpires.

Coach's Fair Play Code

1. Be reasonable in your demands on the young player's time, energy and enthusiasm. Remember that they have other interests.
2. Teach your players that rules of the game are mutual agreements, which no one should ignore or break.
3. Avoid coaching the talented players. The "just average" players need and deserve equal opportunity.
4. Remember that children play for the fun and enjoyment and that winning is only part of it. Never ridicule or yell at the players for making mistakes or losing a competition.
5. Develop team respect for the ability of opponents, as well as for the judgment of officials and opposing coaches.
6. Follow the advice of a physician when determining when an injured player is ready to play again.
7. Remember that players need a coach that they can respect. Be generous with your praise when it is deserved and set a good example.
8. Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed on the newest coaching principles and techniques.
9. Create opportunities to teach sportsmanship.
10. Help players understand the fundamental philosophical differences between the games they play and professional games shown on TV. The professional is an entertainer and a wage earner whose play often reflects these facts.
11. Make players aware of the physical fitness values of sports and their life-long recreational value.
12. Coaches will actively use their influence to enhance sportsmanship by their spectators working closely with parents and other fans.

Player's Code of Ethics

Fair Play Code for Athletes

1. I will participate because I want to, not just because my parents or coaches want me to.
2. I will play by the rules, and in the spirit of the game.
3. I will control my temper – fighting and "mouthing off" can spoil the activity for everybody.

4. I will respect my opponents.
5. I will do my best to be a team player.
6. I will remember that winning isn't everything – that having fun, improving skills making friends and doing my best are also important.
7. I will acknowledge all good plays/performances – those of my team and my opponents.
8. I will remember that coaches and officials are there to help me. I will accept their decisions and show them respect.
9. I will remember that when I play or practice the game of softball, wherever I am, I represent my team, my city, but most of all myself.

Fair Play Code for Spectators

1. I will remember that children play sport for their enjoyment. They are not playing to entertain me.
2. I will not have unrealistic expectations. I will remember that young players are not miniature professionals and cannot be judged by professional standards.
3. I will respect the official's decisions and I will encourage participants to do the same.
4. I will never ridicule an athlete for making a mistake during a game. I will give positive comments that motivate and encourage continued effort.
5. I will condemn the use of violence in any form and will express my disapproval in an appropriate manner to coaches and league officials.
6. I will show respect for my team's opponents, because without them there would be no game.
7. I will not use bad language, nor will I harass athletes, coaches, or officials or other spectators.

Official's Code of Ethics

Fair Play Code

1. WSA has entrusted us to assist them in the development of our youth through athletics. The proper operation of such a process requires that officials will be independent, impartial and responsible to people they serve.
2. An official must devote time, thought and study to the rules of the game and the mechanics necessary to carry out these rules so that one may render effective and credible service in a fair and unbiased manner.
3. An official must work with fellow officials and the Association in a spirit of harmony and cooperation in spite of differences of opinion that may arise during debate of points or rules at issue.
4. An official must resist every temptation and outside pressure to use one's position as an official to benefit oneself. Under all circumstances, officials must avoid promoting the special interest of any person or group of persons other than the athletes we serve.

5. An official must constantly uphold the honour and dignity of the avocation in all personal conduct and relations with the athletes, coaches' administrators, colleagues, and the public, to be a worthy example to the athletes under one's jurisdiction.
6. An official will be prepared both physically and mentally, dress according to expectations and maintain a proper appearance that is befitting the importance of the game and Softball Canada's expectations.
7. Every member of the officiating profession carries a responsibility to act in a manner becoming a professional person. The conduct of any official influences the attitude of the public toward the profession in general as well as toward the official in particular.

Commitment to Players and Coaches

1. I will make sure that every player has a reasonable opportunity to perform to the best of his or her ability, within the limits of the rules.
2. I will avoid or put an end to any situation that threatens the safety of the players.
3. I will maintain a healthy atmosphere and environment for completion.
4. I will not permit the intimidation of any player either by word or action. I will not tolerate unacceptable conduct toward officials, other players, spectators or myself.
5. I will be consistent and objective in calling all infractions, regardless of my personal feelings toward a team or individual athlete.
6. I accept my role as a teacher and role model for fair play, especially with young participants,
7. I will remain open to constructive criticism and show respect and consideration for different points of view.