

Northbrook Girls Softball

House League Code of Conduct

1. Introduction. At Northbrook Girls Softball, one of the things we are proudest of is our Code of Conduct. The Code sets out the rules under which our program operates. It was the very first document we drafted, and we were proud when the Park District adopted it as the model for other programs. For the most part, we have been lucky here in Northbrook in that our players, coaches, and spectators are friendly, supportive, and generally WONDERFUL. But, when we've had to, we have acted firmly to enforce the code, and we will continue to do so. It's all part of providing our girls with the best we can possibly provide.

2. Purpose: The purpose of our Code was to make sure that our players, coaches, and families behave at all times in a positive and supporting manner. The watchword of our Code is *Respect* for others. In order to provide a safe and enjoyable experience for all of our players, we ask all participants in Northbrook Girls Softball to exhibit appropriate and professional behavior at all times. Coaches are reminded that they are responsible for themselves, their co-coaches, their players and their fans and must always set a good example, build self esteem and self confidence in their players and promote teamwork and good sportsmanship. The following guidelines must be exhibited before, during and after all games, practices, etc.

3. Scope: The Code contains three primary sections, the first directed to Coaches, the second to Parents and the third to players. Each section provides rules of behavior which the Association intends to enforce. Umpires of our games, as well as NGSB Board Members, have the authority to determine what is in violation of our Code of Conduct and to enforce 'on field disciplinary action'. Any and all violations will be reviewed by the NGSB Disciplinary Committee, which will consist of the board members currently serving on the NGSB House League Committee. All disciplinary decisions may be appealed to the NGSB Executive Board.

4. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR PLAYERS, COACHES, PARENTS, AND SPECTATORS.

1. Coaches:

1.1. Attention to Team. A coach shall give proper attention to his team.

1.1.1. Inattention to the team is defined as one or more of the following:

1.1.1.1. Failure to hold practice at least once per week.

1.1.1.2. Failure to give equal playing time or failure to rotate players according to our rules.

1.1.1.3. Failure to give sufficient attention to or make sufficient adaptations for special needs players.

1.1.1.4. Failure to make lineups, both for defensive placement and batting order.

1.1.1.5. Failure to report game summaries and umpire evaluations after each game and player evaluations at the end of the season.

1.1.1.6. Failure to communicate important team information to all of their players and their players parents/guardians in a reasonable fashion.

1.1.2. A coach found to be inattentive to his team shall be warned, on the first instance, by the Disciplinary Committee.

1.1.3. A coach found to be inattentive to his team shall be removed from duties on the second instance.

1.2. Inappropriate Language or Conduct. Inappropriate language or conduct shall be defined under two categories;

1.2.1. Category A: Minor or subtle instances; Including but not limited to, minor verbal or vocal complaints or negative body language in reference to umpires decisions, subtle negativity or any type of minor poor sportsmanship deemed inappropriate or unprofessional. First offense will be a warning. Second offense by the same team will result in an ejection from the field with that persons associated player (daughter, niece, etc.) also being ejected. An ejected person not leaving in a timely manner or any continued offense by that person or team will result in forfeit. It may also include suspension from the league deemed appropriate by the Disciplinary Committee.

1.2.2. Category B: Excessive or severe instances; Including but not limited to, excessive arguing, complaining or other types of verbal aggression and negativity or demonstrative behavior deemed inappropriate or unprofessional. First offense will be ejection from the field, with that persons associated player also being ejected, plus suspension from the league deemed appropriate by the Disciplinary Committee. An ejected person not leaving in a timely manner or any continued offense by that person or team will result in forfeit.

1.2.3. A coach found to have used inappropriate language or conduct a second time in violation to Category B, or continued violation of Category A, will result in expulsion from the league.

1.3. Violence, Physical Contact and Suggestive Behavior.

1.3.1. A coach found to have acted violently against, or made unwelcome physical or suggestive behavior to a player, umpire, fellow coach or spectator will result in immediate ejection from the field with that persons associated player also being ejected, plus the violator will face expulsion from the league. An ejected person not leaving in a timely manner or any continued offense by that person or team will result in forfeit.

1.4. Integrity. All coaches must uphold the highest level of integrity. Dishonesty and cheating will result in expulsion from the league. All umpire decisions are final. Coaches may not try to persuade or coheres an umpire to change or make a call. Arguing will not be tolerated. If a coach wishes to discuss a rule, they must do so after play has stopped and in a calm and professional manner. If they wish to discuss a judgment call, they must wait until after the inning and do so in a calm and professional manner. Violation of this rule will result in ejection from the field, with that persons associated player also being ejected and possible suspension. Repeated violations will result in expulsion from the league. An ejected person not leaving in a timely manner or any continued offense by that person or team will result in forfeit.

2. Parents:

2.1. Inappropriate Language or Behavior, Category A; If in the opinion of an umpire or NGSB Board Member, a players parent, guardian, or any of their family, friends or fans is behaving in a manner which is disruptive to the game, unsportsmanlike or negative as described in *Category A* under *Coaches Inappropriate Language or Behavior*, the coach of their players team will be given a warning. A second offense will result in that person being ejected from the field with that persons associated player also being ejected. An ejected person not leaving in a timely manner or any continued offense by that person or team will result in forfeit. It may also include suspension from the league deemed appropriate by the Disciplinary Committee.

2.2. Inappropriate Language or Behavior, Category B; If in the opinion of an umpire or NGSB Board Member, a player's parent, guardian, or any of their family, friends or fans is behaving in a manner which is disruptive to the game, unsportsmanlike or negative, as described in *Category B* under *Coaches Inappropriate Language or Behavior*, or acts violently or threatens the safety or well being of any player, umpire, coach or other spectator, the coach of that team will be given a warning and that person will be ejected, along with that person's associated player. An ejected person not leaving in a timely manner or any continued offense by that person or team will result in forfeiture. It may also include suspension from the league deemed appropriate by the Disciplinary Committee.

3. Players:

3.1. Players are expected to behave at all times in the highest tradition of good sportsmanship.

3.1.1. This includes showing respect for teammates, opponents, coaches, umpires and spectators.

3.2. A player who exhibits any disrespect towards any of the above shall be ejected from the game.

3.3. A player who uses abusive language towards any of the above shall be ejected from the game and suspended for an amount of time determined by the Disciplinary Committee.

3.4. A player who commits any act of physical violence towards any of the above shall be ejected from the game and permanently expelled from the league.