

Tinley Park Rockers – Code of Conduct – 2023-2024

The goal of the Tinley Park Rockers is to enhance your child's life with a positive learning experience of both on and off the field. There will be skills that are taught that your child may carry with them throughout life, always compete hard and yet not always win, how to accept others and be accepted, and what it means to be a team player not just on the field but off.

Please read through the Code of Conduct with your child. To accomplish our goals, it will take a team effort from the Rockers Organization, the Players and Parents. Please understand that by signing the registration form and initialing and signing the Code of Conduct you are agreeing that you and your child are to abide by the Code of Conduct set forth.

Competitive play can evoke strong emotions and your attitude is essential in helping your child put these emotions in perspective. Make sure that your child knows that win or lose, you appreciate her efforts and are proud of her performance.

If you choose not to agree to any of the line items listed in the code of conduct, your child will not be able to participate in any Tinley Park Rocker events and will end up being removed from the Organization and no refunds will be given.

It is also important to remember that the managers and coaches of the Tinley Park Rocker Organization also want your child to play and succeed. While each parent is concerned about their child as part of the team, managers and coaches are concerned with the well being of *each child – not just yours*.

Managers and Coaches volunteer their time and put in long hours that can, at times, interfere with their jobs and family life. **It is important for each parent to understand this and respect the men and women who take the time to help your child improve as a ballplayer and person.**

The most frequent complaints parents have about the coaching is playing time allotted their children, positions played in the field, and positions in the batting order. The manager is the one person who sees each child in practice and works to improve that individual's play. Where a child plays in the field, bats in the lineup and how much she plays is strictly up the manager. **Please do not complain about these issues with coaches and Tinley Park Rocker Organizational Officials. They will not discuss them with you or anyone else.**

I have read the opening letter and realize that this is part of the overall code of conduct.

Code of Conduct

- **RULE #1 I will be a supportive parent**
- I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, managers and other officials at every game, practice or other softball-related event.
- I understand that the Tinley Park Rockers have a "24 Hour" Rule in affect. No parent will address a manager, coach, or Tinley Park Rocker official for 24 hours after a practice, game, tournament, or event ends. This is known as a "cooling off" period. Please understand that managers and coaches want to win every game. All managers and coaches take it to heart when things go wrong or they might have made a mistake. They do not need a parent giving them negative feedback after giving their best coaching effort and energy trying to coach their team. When a parent approaches a manager or coach with negativity or "suggestions" right after a tough loss, usually a bad experience will occur. **THERE WILL BE NO APPROACHING A MANAGER OR COACH BEFORE, DURING, OR AFTER a game or tournament. PERIOD!!!!**
- I am appreciative of the time and energy in which the Tinley Park Rockers officials, coaches and volunteers generously give to my child and will support them with their approach and their determination as to the role of each participant.
- Be helpful and supportive, but please do not "coach" your child prior to, during and after a game. It is difficult for a child to receive constant advice, pep talks and critical instruction. Also, you may place your child under additional stress when your instructions are at odds with the instructions of the coach.
- Try not to relive your athletic life or lack of one through your child's experience in a way that creates pressure. Let your child make her own decisions on the field. Do not pressure your child because of your pride. Do not assume that your child likes the same things you like, wants the same things or has the same attitude
- Parents must ensure that players arrive on time for games and practices. It is unfair to your child, the other players and coaches to arrive late for practice or moments before the start of a game. If your child cannot attend a practice or game, you should notify the coach as soon as possible. This is a matter of common courtesy and respect
- I will support coaches, managers and officials working with my child, in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.
- I will help my child enjoy her softball experience by being a respectful fan and supporting parent. (Please keep comments to yourself; you never know who is sitting next to you!)

- I will treat other players, coaches, managers, fans and umpires with respect regardless of race, sex or ability.
- I will review Tinley Park Rockers rules and the CODE of CONDUCT with my child to ensure that they, and I, understand and follow them.
- I will make every effort to have my child attend each practice and game.
- I will pick my child up promptly from practices, games, and or tournaments. I will notify the coach if someone else will take my child home.
- I will not use or tolerate the uses of alcohol and/or illegal drugs or anyone under the influence of alcohol or drugs during any Tinley Park Rockers event.
- I will not use or tolerate the uses of alcohol and/or illegal drugs or anyone under the influence of alcohol or drugs after any Tinley Park Rockers event while still on practice, game, or tournament property. This includes playing fields, stands, and parking lots.
- I will be responsible for my behavior at practices, games, and tournaments and understand that may be asked to leave if my behavior is not appropriate. My behavior will also be appropriate at any Tinley Park Rocker hotels, meetings, outings, and dining experiences.
- I will not harass, tease, taunt or humiliate any fan, manager, coach, umpire or player.
- I will not use profanity towards any manager, participant, coach, umpire or Tinley Park Rocker official.
- I will be responsible for the behavior of other family members and friends that attend practices, games, tournaments, hotels, outings, meetings, and dining experiences.
- I will not hurl verbal abuse towards any manager, fan, coach, umpire, Tinley Park Rocker official, or player.
- I will not petition or incite other parents, fans, umpires or players against a manager, coach or anyone else involved in Tinley Park Rockers.
- I understand that I can be asked to leave any Tinley Park Rocker event by any Tinley Park Rocker official. I also understand that if I am asked to leave any event, I may not return for any Tinley Park Rockers event for the remainder of the season pending review by the CODE of CONDUCT Board.
- I will reinforce to my child the qualities of being part of a team and placing personal objectives second to team objectives.
- I will support all Tinley Park Rockers fund raisers.

- If I am not paid current with all Tinley Park Rockers fees and fundraisers, I can be dismissed from the Organization.

Consequences:

_____(INITIAL) I understand that the Tinley Park Rockers plan to have a “zero tolerance” policy when our code of conduct is violated. In most cases, we will remove the player and the family from the Tinley Park Rockers Organization. This will include any siblings that play for the Tinley Park Rockers.

It is possible that other consequences can be administered. They include:

1. A verbal warning from the Tinley Park Rockers and/or a written reprimand for the file.
2. Placement on probation.
3. Banishment for the player and/or parent/guardian from all further practices and games with the length is to be determined by the Tinley Park Rockers.

With my signature I pledge to abide by all the rules that are set forth by the Tinley Park Rockers Organization on these four pages of conduct.

Date: _____

Child's Name

Tinley Park Rocker Team the Child Plays for:

Parent's Name _____

Parent's Signature _____