



814 Elite Fastpitch Code of Conduct

General Information

814 Elite is an organization built around players, coaches, and families that have a superior reputation both on and off the field. Please read this information and then both player and parent need to sign, date and return the Team Agreement to your team's head coach. Please read the following guidelines that the 814 Elite organization expects its players and parents to follow. In an effort to clearly define what is expected from each player, parent, and coach the following guidelines have been developed. 814 Elite reserves the right to amend these guidelines at any time with or without prior notice to players and parents.

Active Players

When an individual is chosen to be a member of the 814 Elite softball team, the individual becomes an Active Player once the Team Agreement is signed and submitted to the head coach or team manager with your initial payment. Active Players are not allowed to practice or play for any other team or group (except for their school teams) without prior approval from the Head Coach. This includes tournaments, games, scrimmages, and practices. When we schedule time off, that time should be used for the sole purpose of giving our athletes time to rest and recover from the grueling softball schedule. If an 814 Elite athlete is found practicing or playing for another travel ball team or group without prior approval from the Head Coach, the individual can be subjected to termination from the team, forfeiting all funds and fees paid to the organization.

814 Elite Parent, Family, Fans Code of Conduct Agreement

“This applies to all family members – (i.e., grandmothers, cousins, dad, guardian’s significant others, etc.)”

I understand that travel softball is a highly competitive sport and there are no guarantees as to the amount of playing time or position that my daughter will play during games. I am aware that the team has limited membership, and as such that my daughter’s participation is crucial in maintaining the high standards of play the team is working to attain. The goal of 814 Elite is to build character in our young adults. In the excitement and high emotion of some of our games, guidelines regarding what the organization expects from parents and their children appear in this agreement and the player’s code of conduct. Please know that cheering, excitement and exuberance is encouraged, but please be careful and always express this in a positive manner. Even when being vocal in an attempt to help a child, you should avoid acting or saying anything that is demeaning to your child or someone else’s. By signing this agreement you understand your words and actions represent not just yourself and your family but also the 814 Elite organization. Parent’s poor or over-the-top behavior will ruin the experience for others. Parents are welcomed to help at practice only at the request of the coach. At games, only the coaches will be allowed in the dugout and/or on the bench. The organization will not tolerate any behavior on the playing field or in the stands which would hinder the spirit of sportsmanship and cooperation that we are trying to encourage.

1. **I WILL NOT COACH MY CHILD FROM THE STANDS!** The coach and player on the field may have specific signs, or prearranged scenarios to ask a player to do something. I will not interfere with that Coach’s instruction. I understand some managers and coaches are volunteers, and I will think twice before saying something critical. I will not openly complain about or bring up team issues or my displeasure about other players in front of my daughter, other players, or team parents.
2. Abusive and foul language is not permitted.
3. I will emphasize skill development with my daughter and agree to practice softball on a weekly basis.
4. Conduct of any guests of parents is the responsibility of the parent/guardian whose child will participate on the team. Anyone brought around the field, team, or team events should have no record of abuse or possible endangerment of children.
5. This is an elite travel program. I will do my part to have my player attend all practices, tournaments, scrimmages, and fundraisers at the designated time.
6. I will make sure my daughter remains in the dugout and/or on the bench when she is not in the game, and to cheer on her teammates.
7. I will remember that children participate in sports to have fun and that the game is for youths, not adults.
8. I will demand that my child treat other players and coaches, officials, and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, ability, or difference of opinion. I will teach my child to play by the rules and to understand the concept of what it means to be a team player.

9. I will not yell at, criticize, or ridicule my child or any participant for making a mistake or losing a competition.
10. I will reinforce to my child not to ask the coaches during a game, scrimmage, or practice about playing time, batting order placement, starting or substitute status. Should I have any questions concerning specific playing time, position(s), and/or concerns regarding interest in specific areas of the game, I will discuss this matter with the coaches directly at the appropriate time and place (outside of team events and a minimum of 24 hours after the occurrence).
11. It is understood that I may withdraw my player from the team at any time upon written notice to the Head Coach. No fees will be refunded. Any team equipment must be returned to the organization upon request. Unpaid items ordered prior to withdrawal are forfeited

Coach Code of Conduct

I understand that while travel softball is highly competitive, my goal is to foster a love for the sport in the girls and make sure they are always learning and given opportunities to grow while having fun and being challenged.

As a coach I understand it is my responsibility to:

1. Provide a safe playing environment for all players, mentally and physically.
2. Treat each player as an individual, keeping in mind the emotional and physical development of each participant, and place their well being ahead of all else.
3. Accept decisions of game officials as fair and called to the best of their abilities.
4. Not criticize an opposing team, its players, coaches, fans, or parents.
5. Be jointly responsible for the conduct of team fans, players, and parents.
6. Provide constructive criticisms in a positive manner. I will refrain from abusive or profane language and actions.
7. Be a good role model in terms of actions, body language, and sportsmanship.
8. I agree to display good sportsmanship, positive behavior, cheer on my teammates, take pride in personal & team accomplishments, and accept winning or defeat with dignity at all times.

As a coach, I understand there can be consequences for violations. The severity and frequency of the actions will dictate the severity of consequences.

Player Code of Conduct

I understand that travel softball is a highly competitive sport and there are no guarantees as to the amount of playing time or position that I will play during games. I will agree to listen and follow the instructions of the coaching staff at ALL TIMES. I am aware that the team has limited membership, and as such that each player's participation (including my own) is crucial in maintaining the high standards of play we are striving to attain. As such, I understand my attendance at all games practices, team meetings, scrimmages, and official games is important to the Team's success. I agree to display good sportsmanship, positive behavior, cheer on my teammates, take pride in personal & team accomplishments, and accept winning or defeat with dignity at all times.

Obey and understand the following:

- I understand that during games, team rules require me and my teammates to remain in the dugout and/or on the bench while the game is occurring. I am not permitted to sit with parents or spectators.
- While in the dugout, I will cheer on my teammates. No distracting horse-play. I will pay attention to the game on the field at all times. I will watch and pay attention to baserunning instructions from the base coaches and not from fans watching the game, including parents. NO player is to question a coach about player position or playing time during a game.
- At team functions, I agree to NOT: use foul language, physical aggression, and uncooperative behavior/body language (including: facial expressions, back talk, body gestures that criticize my Manager or any member of the coaching staff or players).
- I will arrive at practices, tournaments and team functions at the time designated by my coach. 814 Elite events are to take precedence over all other softball functions, with the exception of high school and anything deemed appropriate by the team's coach.
- I will be present and understand there could be consequences for unexcused absences. Walking out on practices, meetings, or games will also not be tolerated.
- I will not exhibit disrespectful or negative behavior towards teammates, coaches, officials, or spectators. I am a representation of 814 Elite Fastpitch. Each case will be handled on an individual basis.

As a player, I understand there can be consequences for violations. The severity and frequency of the actions will dictate the severity of consequences.

Financial/Payment:

Each year the Board Members of the 814 Elite will develop and implement an organizational and team operating budget. Once a due or fee is paid it is non-refundable. No exceptions. Financial hardship will be taken into consideration by the Board Members and each case will remain confidential between the Board and the family/player. It is important that any extension or assistance needed for payment is communicated to the Coach or Board. This will be handled on a case by case basis with no precedents being set.

Signature: _____

Date: _____