

Dale District Mens Softball Association

Codes of Behaviour

Coaches' Code of behaviour

1. Be reasonable with your demands on young players' time, energy and enthusiasm
2. Teach your players that the rules of the game are mutual agreements that no-one should evade or break.
3. Whenever possible, group players according to age height, skills and physical maturity.
4. Avoid overplaying talented players. The "just average" players need, and deserve, equal time.
5. Remember that children play for fun and enjoyment and that winning is only part of their motivation.
6. Never ridicule or yell at the children for making mistakes or losing a competition.
7. Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of the player.
8. The scheduling and length of practice times and competition should take into consideration the maturity level of the children.
9. Develop team respect for the ability of opponents as well as for the judgement of officials and opposing coaches.
10. Follow the advice of a physician when determining when an injured player is ready to commence play.
11. Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed of sound coaching principles and the principles of growth and development of children.
12. Ensure that your dress and conduct both on and off the field are above the standards you set for our players.
13. A ruling of the Association with regard to the dress of coaches is that you must wear your Club uniform, or at least, a shirt that resembles your Club colours, with pants to suit and shoes/runners or boots on your feet with a Club cap.
14. Smoking and drinking alcohol in the vicinity of your junior team is totally unacceptable.

Players Code of Behaviour

1. Play for the "fun of it" and not just to please parents or coaches.
2. Play by the rules.
3. Never argue with an umpire, a coach, the opposition or officials.
4. If you have a problem. Discuss it with your coach and allow him to take the necessary action.
5. Deliberate fouling or provoking an opponent and throwing equipment is not acceptable or permitted in any sport.
6. Your coach, the umpires or the Association will not tolerate verbal abuse of or deliberate interference with opponents.
7. Strive to play to the best of your ability not only in a game but also training sessions.
8. Work equally hard for yourself and your team. Your teams performance will benefit - so will you.
9. Respect the time put in by your coach and officials. They deserve your support, attention and full commitment.
10. Softball is a team game. Encourage your team mates even when they make mistakes.
11. Always think safety to avoid injury to yourself and others.
12. Your coach or the committee will not tolerate foul language at training and during games.
13. Softball equipment is expensive, so abuse of equipment will be met with disciplinary action as will any other un-sportsmanlike behaviour.
14. You are a softball player and play the game to learn new skills and have fun within your coaches' guidelines.
15. Be a good sport. Cheer all good plays whether your team or the other team.
16. Treat all players, as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player.
17. Co-operate with your coach, team mates and opponents. Without them there would be no game.

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Administrators' Code of Behaviour.

1. Involve children in the planning, leadership, evaluation and decision making related to the activity.
2. Ensure that equal opportunities for participation in sports are made available to all children, regardless of ability, size, shape, sex, age, disability or ethnic origin.
3. Equipment and facilities must be made safe and appropriate to the ability level of participating children.
4. Rules, equipment, lengths of games and training schedules should take into consideration the age, ability and maturity of participating children. Ensure that qualified and competent coaches and officials capable of developing appropriate sports behaviour and skill technique provide adequate supervision.
5. Remember to downplay the importance of rewards, as children play for enjoyment.
6. Avoid allowing sports programs to become primarily spectator entertainment.
7. Focus on the needs for the participants rather than the enjoyment of the spectators.
8. Provide clinics aimed at improving the standards of coaching and officiating, with an emphasis on appropriate sports behaviour and skill technique.
9. Ensure those parents, coaches, sponsors, administrators and officials, physicians and participants understand their responsibilities regarding fair play in sports.
10. Distribute a code of behaviour sheet to spectators, officials, parents, coaches, players and the media.

Umpires', Referees & Officials Code of behaviour,

1. Modify the rules and regulations to match the skill level of children and their needs.
2. Compliment both teams on their efforts.
3. Be consistent, objective and courteous in calling infraction.
4. Condemn the deliberate foul as being unsportsmanlike, and promote fair play and appropriate sports behaviour.
5. Use common sense to ensure that overcalling violations does not lose the "spirit of the Game" for children.
6. Publicly encourage rule changes which will reinforce the principles of participation for fun and enjoyment.
7. Actions speak louder than words. Ensure that both on and off the field your behaviour is consistent with the principles of good sportsmanship.
8. Ensure that your dress and conduct both on and off the field are above the standards you expect from those players and sporting officials you officiate over.
9. Make a personal commitment to keep yourself informed and up to date with sound official principles and practices for the development of all participants.
10. Be firm, show unbiased discipline and control, but be fair, honest and understating.
11. Above all, if you have made a mistake, simply offer an apology, and then correct the matter. After all we are only human

