



MYA Girls Softball Code of Conduct



MYA Girls Softball is comprised solely of volunteers including the Board of Directors (BOD), coaches, field crews, team parents and more. They give of their time to provide the girls with a superior program that teaches and competes in a safe and enjoyable environment. Like any other program, conflicts and concerns may arise. The Board of Directors, therefore, has established the following set of guidelines for parents, coaches, umpires and other volunteers to have their voice heard.

These guidelines are broken down into four main categories:

- Problem Resolution
- Code of Conduct for Players
- Code of Conduct for Coaches
- Code of Conduct for Parents

Problem Resolution:

Problems regarding specific softball rules and regulations should be brought to the attention of the Head Coach first. He/she will, if necessary, engage the help of the field umpire. Should the concern not be resolved, the field umpire should make every attempt to locate the MYA Umpire In Chief (UIC) for an immediate ruling. If the UIC can't be reached, the game will continue immediately and the head coach may file a 'protest' with any BOD member if, in his/her opinion, the ruling would have had significant impact on the outcome of the game. The protest will be reviewed and ruled on at the next meeting of the BOD. It is imperative, therefore, that coaches and umpires have a complete understanding of Babe Ruth and local rules and regulations to keep protests to a minimum. If the problem should arise at the Tournament Level, the on field Protest Committee will make it's ruling, as outlined in Babe Ruth Rules and Regulations, before the game can continue.

Problems regarding conduct should be brought to the attention of the head coach. If you do not reach a satisfactory resolution, you should bring your concern to the attention of your League Director. The Director will make every attempt to resolve the matter after speaking with all parties involved. If you are not satisfied with the Directors resolution, you may submit your complaint, in writing, to any Board member. Since all Board meetings are open to the public, you may present your grievance at the next scheduled meeting of the BOD. The BOD meets on the first Tuesday of each month at the MYA building. Every attempt will be made to resolve your grievance at this meeting. The BOD does reserve the right to table their decision should they feel that additional information is needed. A ruling will be rendered by, or before, the next scheduled meeting.

Code of Conduct for Players:

Players are expected to comply with the following. Failure to comply could result in disciplinary action including suspension from one game to expulsion from the softball program at the discretion of the BOD.

- Players are expected to show respect and courtesy to all other players, coaches, umpires and spectators at every game, practice or other MYA Softball related event.
- Players are expected to treat all equipment with appropriate care. Damage caused due to misuse or abuse may result in charges for replacement costs in addition to disciplinary action.
- Players are expected to refrain from swearing and derogatory language towards others.
- Players are expected to cooperate with their coaches.
- Players are prohibited from the use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco, on and off the field.

Code of Conduct for Coaches:

Coaches for all MYA Softball Programs are expected to comply with the following as well as the Code of Conduct for parents:

- Coaches agree to never physically engage a child in any manner which leaves a reasonable doubt, as perceived by the general public, as to their motivation. Violation of this provision will result in their immediate removal from coaching within the MYA Softball program.
- Coaches agree not to berate players. Coaches shall offer constructive criticism, in private, or in the presence of the team if the team, as a whole, might benefit. Violation of this provision will result in the following:
 - First Offense: Written Warning
 - Second Offense: Suspension from one game to as much as the entire season, at the discretion of the BOD.
 - Third Offense: Removal from coaching within the MYA Softball program.

Code of Conduct for Parents:

Parents of all MYA Softball players are expected to comply with the following:

- Parents, and their guests, are expected to be positive role models for their children and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect, courtesy, and positive support for all players, coaches, umpires and spectators at every game, practice or other MYA Softball related event.

- Parents and guests are prohibited from engaging in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or other parent such as booing and taunting, refusing to shake hands, using profane language or gestures.
- Parents are prohibited from encouraging any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and well-being of the players.
- Parents are expected to demand that their children treat other players, coaches, umpires and spectators with respect.
- Parents are prohibited from ridiculing or yelling at their children, other players, coaches or umpires for any reason.
- Parents are expected to respect the umpires and their authority and are prohibited from questioning, discussing, or confronting officials (or coaches) at the game field.
- Parents are prohibited from the use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco at practices, games or other MYA (or school) facility unless otherwise posted.

Failure to comply with any of these rules and expectations will result in the following:

- First Offense: Removal from practice and game facilities for a one week period.
- Second Offense: Suspension from any MYA Softball event for the remainder of the season.
- Third Offense: Permanent removal from the MYA Softball program.