



ADM YOUTH SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

COMPETITIVE. COMMITTED. COMMUNITY.



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Parent/Athlete/Coach Expectations

Parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each other's expectations, we are better able to accept the actions of both parties and provide greater benefits to our athletes. When a child becomes involved in a co-curricular activity, parents and coaches have a right to understand what EXPECTATIONS are going to be placed on the athlete and on each other.

This begins with clear communication from the athlete, parent, coach, and Association Board.

Communications/Expectations

Communication To Parents/Athletes from Coaches:

1. The expectations the coaches have for their children and all team members
2. Location and time of all practices
3. Team requirements, fees, special equipment, game dress, off-season opportunities
4. The policy dealing with excused and unexcused absences (i.e. what will consequence be for missing a game/practice because of vacation?)
5. The ADM YS and USSSA requirements for eligibility
6. The coaches' act as a role model for good sportsmanship, use of appropriate language, promoting a healthy environment and safe teaching techniques
7. Well-planned, energetic practices

Communication To Coaches from the Athlete and Parent:

1. Notification of any schedule conflicts that may occur, well in advance of the season
2. Special concerns regarding coaching expectations
3. Support and respect for Association and established team rules
4. If the athlete has a concern, the parents should encourage their daughter to speak with the coach, assistant coach or division director
5. Support and respect for all team members, the coaching staff and all Association members
6. Positive support at games for your daughter, her teammates, and the coaching staff
7. Exhibit good sportsmanship and appropriate language by the athlete and parents at games and/or practices
8. A great work ethic at practices and in games

Appropriate / Inappropriate Concerns

Athlete/Parent May Address with Coaching Staff:

1. The treatment of the athlete mentally and physically
2. Ways to help the athlete improve his/her performance and skill level
3. Concerns about the athlete's behavior in school/practice/games

Areas That Are Inappropriate for Parents to Discuss with Coaches:

1. An individual's playing time
2. Team strategy
3. Play calls
4. The make-up of the team and the decision as to who plays a particular position and on a particular team
5. Other members of the team, other parents, and other coaches

The PROPER Method to Address a Concern:

Step One:

The athlete speaks with the coach. [Coaching staff and/or division director be involved/present for the conversation].

Step Two:

The parent asks for a meeting with the coach [staff] and the athlete. The athlete must be present if a meeting is to take place. If the coach cannot be reached, the parent may contact the division director and / or president of the Association to help arrange for the coach to contact parent.

Step Three:

If the meeting between parent/athlete and coach does not resolve the concern, there will be a meeting set up by the president of the Association who will moderate the meeting.

The meeting will deal with specific issues that the parent/athlete has. Both parties will be allowed to speak in an uninterrupted manner. The meeting will be held in a non-threatening environment.

Positive Positioning and Parent Expectations

The parents will encourage their student athlete to be responsible and a good sportsman by:

- Encouraging their athlete to discuss issues with coaches directly without any parental involvement.
- Encouraging their athlete to take ownership of their losses and discouraging them from finding excuses.
- Encouraging them to always respect coaches' decision.
- Encouraging them to always respect umpire calls/decisions.
- Encouraging them to be punctual at practices and tournaments.

The parents will communicate fairly and openly with coaches by:

- Communicating openly, honestly, and with respect.
- Communicating issues and concerns in a timely manner including those of physical and emotional well-being on behalf of their athlete.

The parents will demonstrate good sportsmanship by displaying the following behaviors:

- Providing support for coaches and umpires in order to provide a positive, enjoyable experience for all athletes.
- Understanding the game is for the athletes and not the adults.
- Recognizing that athlete participation in athletics is a privilege.
- Using good sportsmanship as a spectator and conduct themselves in a manner that reflects well on both the team, the Association and the community.
- Promoting the team by being supportive and helpful of the program.
- Refraining from coaching their athlete during games and practices unless otherwise asked to. Only supportive words of encouragements and not words that entail coaching.
- Expecting consistent attendance at practices and games.

The parents will create a positive and supportive environment to promote their athlete's well-being by:

- Supporting good conditioning and healthy lifestyle habits.
- Placing the emotional and physical well-being of their athlete ahead of any personal desire to win.
- Expecting their athlete to play in a safe and healthy environment.
- Being a role model for other parents by remaining positive at sporting events and speaking positively about the program when not at an event.
- Not confronting a coach before or after a game or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution of concerns.

As a result, the Association and coaches will uphold our mission and commit to creating a positive and competitive environment where your athlete(s) will not only continue to grow their love for the game but will excel at it as well.