

PGSA Parent Code of Conduct

The essence of character-building and ethics in sports is encapsulated in sportsmanship and six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship. The pinnacle of sports potential is reached when these "six pillars of character" are reflected in competition.

As a parent, I agree to the following:

1. Voluntary Participation:

I will not force my child to participate in sports.

2. Sports are for Fun:

I acknowledge that the primary reason children play sports is for enjoyment and that the game is intended for youths, not adults.

3. Safety First:

I will notify the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect my child's safety or the safety of others.

4. Know the Rules:

I will familiarize myself with the rules of the game and the policies of the league.

5. Positive Role Modeling:

I, along with my guests, will exemplify positive sportsmanship, showing respect, courtesy, and positive support for all players, coaches, officials, and spectators at every game or practice.

6. No Unsportsmanlike Conduct:

I, and my guests, will refrain from engaging in any unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent, including booing, taunting, refusing to shake hands, or using profane language or gestures.

7. Health and Well being Above All:

I will not promote any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and well being of the athletes.

8. Resolving Conflicts Peacefully:

I will teach my child to abide by the rules and resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.

9. Respect for All:

I will instill in my child the principle of treating other players, coaches, officials, and spectators with respect, irrespective of race, creed, color, gender, or ability.

10. Effort Over Outcome:

I will teach my child that exerting one's best effort is more significant than winning, preventing any feelings of defeat regardless of game outcomes or personal performance.

11. Consistent Encouragement:

I will always praise my child for fair competition and effort, ensuring they feel valued regardless of the game's outcome

12. No Ridicule or Yelling:

I will never mock or yell at my child or any other participant for mistakes or loss in a competition.

13. Focus on Skill Development:

I will prioritize skill development and the benefits of practice for my child over winning, especially in lower age groups.

14. Emotional and Physical Well-being:

I will place my child's emotional and physical well-being above any personal desires I might have for them to win.

15. Respect for Game Officials:

I will respect officials' authority during games and will not confront coaches on the field, instead opting to discuss matters at an agreed-upon time and place.

16. Drug, Tobacco, and Alcohol-Free Environment:

I will advocate for an environment free from drugs, tobacco, and alcohol and will abstain from their use at all sports events.

17. No Unauthorized Coaching:

I will avoid coaching my child or other players during games and practices unless I am an official coach of the team.

Failure to abide by these rules and guidelines may subject me to disciplinary actions, including but not limited to:

- Verbal warning by an official, head of the league, or manager of Petaluma Girls Softball Association (PGSA).
- Written warning recorded and kept on file by PGSA.
- Suspension from games with a written account of the incident kept by PGSA.
- Game forfeiture through the league's official, manager, or head.
- Season suspension enforced by the PGSA Board.