



French Valley Girls Softball Association

Coach's Code of Conduct Agreement

The Board of Directors of French Valley Girls Softball Association (FVGSA) seeks to ensure that all FVGSA softball games and activities are fair, positive, and enjoyable experiences for all of the children and adults involved. Participation in French Valley Girls Softball Association should be friendly and unifying – a spirited social and instructional athletic occasion for players, coaches, umpires, and spectators.

As such, we jointly expect all league coaches to adhere to the FVGSA code of ethics and conform to the following code of conduct:

CODE OF ETHICS

Commitment to the Players

- Coaches shall put the welfare of their athletes above all else while maintaining professional relationships with them.
- Coaches shall encourage the athlete to exhibit sportsmanship at all times.
- Coaches will familiarize themselves with the FVGSA Rule book and will comply with all FVGSA rules.
- Coaches need to understand that they are role models for their young players. They must project a proper role model image.
- Coach's commitment to the player and the player's commitment to the coach is an equal partnership.

Commitment to the Organization

- Coaches shall behave in such a way that they shall bring credit to the organization and to themselves.
- Coaches need to have and show professional behavior.
- Coaches shall act in full accordance with FVGSA, Southern California ASA, and National ASA rules.
- I will respect the contribution of all league volunteers and extend appropriate courtesies to those in the league that volunteer their time in the interest of my team.

CODE OF CONDUCT

During Practice

- Treat everyone fairly within the context of the activity, regardless of gender, ethnic background, color, sexual orientation, religion, political belief or economic status.
- Direct comments at the performance, rather than the person.
- Provide a safe playing situation for the players by ensuring that the activity being undertaken is suitable for the age, experience, ability and fitness level of the players, and by educating players as to their responsibilities in contributing to a safe environment.
- Review and practice the basic first-aid principles needed to treat player injuries.
- Hold but do not exceed, the number of practices required for the age division.
- Do your best to organize practices that are instructional, fun and challenging for all players.
- Be knowledgeable in the rules of the game and teach these rules to the players.

During the Game

- Lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all players.
- Place the emotional and physical well being of the players ahead of a personal desire to win.
- Refrain from public criticism of fellow coaches.
- Exchange friendly greetings with opposing coaches prior to the start of each game and immediately upon its conclusion.
- Accept responsibility for the sportsmanship and conduct of your players and their parents. Hold a meeting in the preseason to explain and discuss your expectations.
- Abstain from/discourage the use of alcohol, drugs and tobacco in conjunction with the sport.
- Refrain from the use of profane, insulting, harassing or otherwise offensive language while coaching.

With Umpires

- Demonstrate respect and support for all umpires, and encourage your players, parents and spectators to do the same.
- Recognize that at some levels of play, umpires are sometimes young and inexperienced, requiring even more of your patience and support.
- Treat umpires in a courteous manner at all times, and be sure that you and your players thank the umpire after the game.
- Address all comments and concerns about league umpires in writing to the League Umpire in Chief. Present your comments/concerns in a calm, objective and rational manner.

Off the Field

- Take advantage of any opportunities to develop and enhance your coaching ability and skills.
- Attend and fully participate in league/division meetings and activities involving coaches.
- Communicate clearly and consistently with players, player parents, team staff members, and league representatives.

I accept disciplinary action for misbehavior or un-sportsmanlike conduct that may result in my suspension or expulsion from all league-sponsored events of FVGSA softball program.

I _____, agree to abide by the expectations in the FVGSA Code of Conduct agreement.

Date: _____

Signature: _____