

Appendix I:

Douglas County Girls Softball Code of Conduct

It is the desire of Douglas County Girls Softball (hereafter DCGS or “League”) that all League Events are wholesome and edifying for the children that participate. The DCGS exists to provide a fun experience for the Players as they learn to become better human beings, better teammates, better sportswomen and better softball players. To this end the League emphasizes teaching proper skills & techniques, sportsmanship, physical fitness and teamwork thus providing an opportunity for fun and enjoyment of the game of softball by the Players.

It should always be noted by all adults associated with DCGS that its programs are designed as a recreational outlet solely for the enjoyment of children. The program is not intended as a hobby for adults seeking to inflate their own egos nor is DCGS’s purpose to produce future elite softball players. DCGS’s emphasis is on participation rather than perfection, fun rather than winning.

It is the policy of DCGS to have all League Officials, Team Officials, Players and Patrons conduct themselves in a manner appropriate for a youth sport event during any League Event or Team Event. As appropriate for their position all League Participants and Patrons agree to abide by this Code Of Conduct, the NYSCA Coach’s Code, League Rules & Bylaws, Douglas County Parks & Recreation Regulations, State Law and Federal Law.

The following has no place in the League and will not be tolerated: Derisive conduct, including without limitation; outbursts that demean or belittle the Players, the Umpires or other Team Officials. Any conduct that endangers the mental or physical well being of a Player or other Participant. The consumption of or being under the influence of alcohol or other intoxicants (legal or illegal) during a Team Event or League Event.

Any allegations of child abuse or molestation reported to a League Official shall be referred to local law enforcement for investigation.

It is the policy of DCGS that those persons representing themselves as League Officials, Team Officials or Players for DCGS must refrain from any communication, whether written, electronic or spoken, that tends to degrade or demean any person or group. Violation of this policy, in the opinion of the Board of Directors of DCGS will be considered not in the best interest of DCGS. This in no way is meant to interfere with any person’s right of free speech. It is intended only to ensure that any person refrains from making any statements that demean any person or group, while acting in their capacity as a representative, leader or player at any level of DCGS. It also is important to note that local, state, provincial or national laws take precedent over this policy if there is a conflict.

Team Managers are primarily responsible for the behavior for Patrons that are associated with their Team at any League Event. Patrons are not to interfere with the game or the Umpires. If a Patron’s team association can not be reasonably determined, the Patron will be asked to leave the grounds of the League Event.

All League Participants will adhere to the Code of Conduct whenever they are representing the League or a League affiliated Team.

(continued next page)

All who are associated with DCGS, including members, League Officials, Team Officials, Players, Patrons and parents, understand and hereby agree that the goals and policies listed above constitute the Code of Conduct of DCGS and understand that actions in contravention of this Code of Conduct may in the sole discretion of DCGS's Disciplinary Committee, constitute ground for suspension or expulsion of the member, League Official, Team Official, Player, Patron or parent whose actions are in contravention of the Code of Conduct.

Any violation of the DCGS Code of Conduct by a League Official, Team Official, Player or Patron at a League Event or Team Event, as determined by the DCGS Disciplinary Committee, shall result in a minimum mandatory one (1) game suspension and a one (1) year probation period, or greater disciplinary action against the violator, as determined in the discretion of the DCGS Disciplinary Committee. Any further violation may result in additional suspension from participation in any League Event for a period to be determined by the DCGS Disciplinary Committee. Multiple or egregious violations may also result in permanent expulsion from participation in any League Event.

Definitions:

League Event: League Games, League Tournaments, Board Meetings, or other activity sanctioned by the League to include pre-game warm-up, post-game meeting.

League Official: Any person affiliated with the management of the League such as Executive Board members, Area Representatives, Board Members, Umpire-in-Chief, Umpires or Committee Members.

Participant: a League Official, Team Official, or Player participating in a League Event or Team Event.

Patron: Person who attends a League Event as a spectator. Examples include but are not limited to: Player's Parents, siblings, friends, etc. Payment for attendance is not required to be a Patron.

Player: Girl registered to play on a Team that is part of the League

Team Event: Any activity, including but not limited to League Events, in which Team Officials supervise Players or represent themselves as a Team Official. The location of the Event does not matter. Examples include but are not limited to: Practice, Team Banquet, DC Night with the Braves, non-softball related team-building activity.

Team Official: Anyone acting in the capacity of Manager, Coach, Assistant Coach, Team Mom, Dugout Mom/Dad or Scorekeeper.