



GGSL Rules of Conduct for ALL Volunteers

Every volunteer must conform to the rules below. If anyone observes conduct inconsistent with these rules, we ask that you make immediate contact with one of the GGSL Board Members.

VOLUNTEER COMMITMENTS

1. **Responsible.** As a volunteer you share the responsibility for ensuring the parents and players on your team to conduct themselves appropriately. If you have any problems or circumstances you are unable to control, you must bring it to the attention of the Duty Officer or a Board Member immediately.
2. **Good Example.** We are trying to promote healthy fun and clean competition for our players. Please help by refraining from use of tobacco or alcoholic products around the players.
3. **No Offensive Language.** Players will not be subjected to profanity directed toward them, the umpires or anyone else in attendance. Sarcastic remarks are also a demonstration of unacceptable behavior and will not be tolerated.
4. **Good Sportsmanship at All Times.** Our goal is to offer an environment where our players can learn an appreciation for teamwork and develop a true enjoyment of the game. In our desire to develop competitive players we must at all times encourage them to show respect for their opponent. Team cheers should remain positive and not be directed toward any member(s) of the opposing team in a demeaning fashion. This behavior can undermine the positive atmosphere that we are trying to create.
5. **Teach Playing Skills.** As a manager, your time will be limited. Good coach selection will be important to your team's performance. Read, watch videos and observe other coaches to become knowledgeable in the fundamentals of sound instruction. If you have any questions or need assistance in this area please contact a Board Member.
6. **Supervision.** Make sure no child is left unattended during or after a practice or game. The manager or coach will wait with the child until they are picked up. Make every effort to insure that a manager or coach is not alone with one child.
7. **Safety.** Managers and coaches are responsible for the safety and security of the players in his/her charge. Do not engage in any physical roughness with a child (i.e. hitting, pushing, grabbing, and wrestling) who could be misconstrued as physical abuse.
8. **Injuries.** Never force an injured player to compete or practice. Always notify a Board Member or Duty Officer of an injury to a player.
9. **Staff.** Managers are selected and approved by the GGSL Board of Directors and serve at the Board's discretion. Managers select their own coaches and/or team parents; however, the GGSL Board of Directors retains the right of approval or disapproval of selected coaches or team parents.
10. **Umpires.** Treat umpires with respect. The field is theirs during the game and as such, you may have to bend a little to accept their decisions. Study the rules and have a working understanding of them. If a dispute arises over a rule interpretation, voice your objection in an educated, civil manner. However, judgment calls can never be argued!
11. **Directors.** These are hard working volunteers who are responsible for running Guilderland Girls Softball League, disseminating information and assisting managers and parents with any questions or concerns that may develop. Please do not demand immediate answers to your questions. Show them courtesy and respect and you will get their best effort in resolving problems.
12. **Equipment.** Basic equipment, catching gear, and practice balls will be issued to you. It will be your responsibility to care for these items and return them in good condition at the end of the playing year.
13. **Uniforms.** You will be given uniforms to distribute to your players. Keep a list of the jersey number issued to each team member. Managers will turn in all equipment and uniforms at a place and time designated by Guilderland Girls Softball League.
14. **Litter.** Each team and staff is responsible for litter left in their dugouts and around the field, including the backstop area. Take a few minutes after each game or practice to make sure the field is left in better shape than the way you found it. Yes, sometimes this might mean having to clean up after someone else.
15. **Mission Statement:** We must never forget that these games are for the enjoyment of our players. As we would like to win every game, we will never sacrifice the feelings of any player in order to do so. We will strive to instill a value of sportsmanship in our players by the example we set on the field. We will always encourage our players with praise and positive support.

If a volunteer violates the rules of conduct, the following disciplinary action will be taken:

1. First warning is a written reprimand from the GGSL Board of Directors. First warnings are at the discretion of GGSL. Depending on the nature of the offense, managers, coaches or team parents may be dismissed immediately without initial warning.
2. Second warning will lead to the immediate dismissal of that volunteer. That person will also forfeit all future volunteering opportunities within the Guilderland Girls Softball League.