



PCGSL Parents Meeting Spring 2006

THE SPORTSMANSHIP ZONE **More than a place, it is an attitude**

Vision: The PCGSL will provide a positive social environment that will serve as a role model for our players, other girls, teams, and leagues, as well as the community

Pitt County Girls Softball League
Players Can Give Sportsmanship Lessons



League Mission Statement

To promote girl's softball and to provide a safe learning environment for all girls of Pitt County interested in playing softball.

League Code of Conduct

The essential elements of character building and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of **sportsmanship** and **six core principles**.

Sportsmanship Having qualities or behaviors of a sportsman/woman

Core Principles

Trustworthiness	Fairness
Respect	Caring
Responsibility	Good citizenship



Facts about kids and sports

- ? Sports can build character in kids **if** social environment encourages moral and ethical behavior
- ? The most common reasons kids play sports are to have fun and hang out with friends
- ? NCAA fact: 3-5% of high school athletes will play college sports (3-5 girls/100)
- ? NCAA fact: .02%-.09% of college athletes will be drafted by a professional team (2-9 girls/1000)
- ? 70% of kids drop out of sports by the age of 13
- ? 15-20% of youth sporting events involve some kind of behavior that requires a written notice (National Alliance of Youth Sports)
- ? The least favorite aspect of the game for kids is the ride home with parents



Promoting Girls Softball in a Safe Learning Environment

Promote the Game

- ? Ultimate goal is to teach girls the game of life while learning the game of softball
- ? Players who play in a fun, safe atmosphere will learn the games of softball **and** life and then go on to teach others
 - ?Role model for other players in our league
 - ?Role model for players outside our league
 - ?Role models in the community

Learning Environment

- ? Teach girls the game of softball
- ? Fundamentals are stressed
- ? Players are taught to strive for excellence
- ? Strive for success/winning while maintaining a commitment to fairness, honesty and respect



Safe Environment

- ? Positive, fun atmosphere is created
- ? All can enjoy the game
- ? Create the ideal sports environment
 - ?Players are allowed to play
 - ?Officials are allowed to officiate
 - ?Coaches are allowed to coach
 - ?Spectators are a positive influence on the environment

- ?Players are allowed to play
 - ?Players should learn effort, working to improve skills, and good sportsmanship are rewarded
 - ?Don't turn the game into a negative experience through our behavior, criticism, and pressure
 - ?Players are role models for each other, coaches, and parents

- ?Officials are allowed to officiate
 - ?Officials are people
 - ?Trained to deal with controversy
 - ?Respect the call and move on
 - ?Think about what we are teaching kids as they watch us deal with an authority figure



? Coaches are allowed to coach

? Coaches have difficult decisions to make

? No coach intentionally makes a decision that he or she hopes will be detrimental to the team

? Trust coaches

? If you wonder why a child is not playing more ask, but be ready for the truth (not listening, lack of hustle, poor attitude)

? Coaches are positive role models

? Spectators are a positive influence on the environment

? Enjoy the game

? Remember players aren't perfect

? Encourage and praise effort and good sportsmanship

? Be accountable for your behavior

? After the game, ask your child:

Did you have fun?

Did you try your best?

Did you learn something?

Did you get better?



Sportsmanship Zone

More than a place, it is our attitude

Vision: The PCGSL will provide a positive social environment that will serve as a role model for our players, other girls, teams, and leagues, as well as the community

Components of The Sportsmanship Zone

Support
Accountability
Visibility
Education



? **Support**

- ? Players, parents, coaches, board members

? **Accountability**

- ? We are all accountable to each other
- ? Good sportsmanship will be rewarded
- ? Wrist bands with the logo **Players Can Give Sportsmanship Lessons** will be handed out based on sportsmanship. These can be given to players, coaches, and parents who exhibit characteristics of a good sportsman/woman
- ? Sportsmanship Award
 - ? Player from each player
 - ? Parent from each team
 - ? Coach from each age division
- ? Players, coaches and parents sign a contract stating they will attempt to demonstrate sportsmanship-like behavior.
- ? Behavior determined to be inconsistent with league policies will be handled as outlined in the league handbook



?Visibility

? Signs around the park reminding everyone to be a good sport (inside and outside dugouts, bathrooms, concession stand, gates as exiting park)

- *Try your best and let the refs take care of the rest
- *Go around first base, but don't get into anyone's face
- *Make a hit, but don't throw a fit
- *Victory you may make, but don't forget a handshake
- *When players and coaches are in defeat, please do not stomp your feet
- *On the ride home talk about the good and the bad, just don't make you kid sad
- *Parents can make it a lot more fun if they laugh and smile while enjoying the sun

- ***Education:** ?Mandatory coaches meeting
?Mandatory parent/player meeting

Pitt County Girls Softball League Players Can Give Sportsmanship Lessons

