

Lincoln Park Angels Softball Code of Conduct

Please initial each page and sign

The goal of the **Angels Code of Conduct** is to foster an atmosphere that promotes fun, fellowship, sportsmanship, fair play, and player development. This can be achieved only if all involved -- players, coaches, parents, spectators, and umpires -- adhere to high standards of conduct. We will strive to foster a positive environment, both for our team and for the teams that we play.

As a travel program, the teams are managed differently than the Lincoln Park PAL recreation league teams. For example, players are not guaranteed any particular position or playing time, because skill and strategy will determine these. Skill will be evaluated by performance at practices and games.

Player Standards and Responsibilities

- Notify the Head Coach of all planned vacations prior to the start of winter workouts.
- Attend practices, games, and tournaments. Notify the head coach promptly when you cannot attend an event
- Show up prepared for all events by getting proper rest, being clothed or uniformed properly, and bringing your equipment (cleats, fielding glove, batting glove, etc.) in good working order.
- Obey the coaches' instruction by working attentively at drills without requiring constant supervision, by paying attention at all times, and by not distracting other players.
- Cheer your teammates positively in the spirit of good sportsmanship, avoid public criticism of your team mates, and refrain from shouting negative comments or cheers about competing teams or the umpires. Examples of improper cheers: Commenting that the pitcher is slow, or that the batter is a poor hitter.
- Unless authorized by the coach, refrain from giving directions to your teammates. Example of an exception: The catcher may be instructed to direct pitches from the pitcher and to direct the infield where to make the play.
- Help other players upon request of the coach.
- Assist the coaches, as requested, in setting up and putting away equipment, supplies, and stations.
- Refrain from publicly criticizing or questioning the coach's calls or decisions. If you have a concern, please talk to the coach privately.

Parent Responsibilities

- Ensure that your daughter attends practices, games, and tournaments, and that the head coach is notified promptly when your daughter cannot attend an event. It is understood that if a player misses the practices preceding a game or tournament, it may affect her playing time.
- Supply registration information, including a birth certificate, and paying team fees when requested.

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- Cheer the team positively, avoid public criticism of your daughter or her team mates, and refrain from shouting negative comments or cheers about competing teams or the umpires. See examples under “player responsibilities.”
- Refrain from publicly criticizing or questioning the coach’s calls or decisions. If you have a concern, please talk to the coach in private.
- Refrain from giving directions to players at games or practices. Only the coaches, or in certain cases players, are authorized to provide directions to the players. See examples under “player responsibilities.”
- Help in team activities as assigned or as requested by the head coach. Examples include fundraisers and field preparation.
- Abide at all times by the *Angels Parent’s Pledge*.

Coaches’ Responsibilities

- Provide a learning experience that promotes the development of each player’s skills and knowledge of softball.
- Plan and organize practices to make efficient use of time and foster a productive learning experience.
- Ensure a positive environment and good sportsmanship by enforcing the code of conduct.
- Give feedback on player performance in a positive, yet corrective manner.
- Keep players and parents informed about team plans, policies, practices, and games.
- Keep players and parents informed about plans for player development, and player progress in her development plans.
- Be candid about expectations regarding playing time and positions to be played.
- Abide at all times by the Lincoln Park PAL *Coach’s Code of Conduct*.

Penalties for Violating the Code of Conduct

- Minor violations will be handled by the Head Coach in a manner that is deemed appropriate. This may range from a verbal counseling session with the player/parent, reduced playing time, or possibly a game suspension.
- Serious violations will result in a suspension or removal from the team.
- If a parent(s) behavior is deemed to be offensive to a team, player(s), coach(es), or umpire(s), the parent(s) may be either banned from attending any team functions, and/or the child will be dismissed from the team immediately and without prior notice.

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If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's experience playing travel softball, please contact any one of the Angels coaches. If you feel the matter has not been adequately addressed, please discuss your concerns with the Angels Program Director, Rory McHugh.

We have read the Code of Conduct, and we agree to abide by it.

Print Player's Name _____ Date _____

Coach's Signature _____

Player's Signature _____

Parent's Signature _____