

FireStix Parent & Player TEAM Rules

The TEAM – Softball is a TEAM sport. Just as every player has committed to the coach of their TEAM, the coach is committed to every player (and family) to help them be their best and to assist them in the college recruiting process. Golf, Tennis, Track, etc. provide ample opportunity for those concerned only with individual progress, accolades and being the center of attention.

- **Exposure** - FireStix 14u, 16u and 18u TEAMS are college exposure TEAMS. This means every player will be given the opportunity to play in front of college coaches throughout the year. Winning is nice, but it is not the top priority. The top priority of the TEAM is to prepare the players to play college softball and to get their college degrees. It is the coach's responsibility to manage this process.

- **Playing Time & Positioning** - This is the coach's responsibility to manage. Upon accepting their offer, every player is informed about the coach's expectations for them as well as the positions they may play. Every player will have numerous opportunities to play in front of college coaches in positions they are best suited (most likely to be recruited for). Playing time and positioning will be fair, not equal, and never negotiable.

- **Player Conduct** – Players are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that would help them and their TEAMMATES to be always recruited. They are expected to control their focus, attitude, and effort in pregame warmups and during the games. They are expected to have everything they need when we meet to carry the equipment into the park (drinks, snacks, tampons, ibuprofen, etc.) College coaches do not want to see players who are dependent upon their parents/families during pregame warmups or the games. This means when they meet with their TEAM and coaches, they say goodbye until after the post-game coach's talk. In the event of injuries or other issues, the player can approach a coach for assistance and the coach will determine whether parental/family involvement is necessary. Players are also expected to show respect for the other TEAMS as well as the umpires.

- **Parental (Family) Conduct** – Parents/Families are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that will NOT HURT their daughters or her TEAMMATES' chances of being recruited. The only person who should communicate with umpires is the head coach. In the event you have an issue or concern, you can approach the coach almost anytime (after games when equipment is put away or before the TEAM takes the equipment into the park) so long as you're able to control your emotions and engage in a rational discussion.

- **TEAM & Player Equipment** – Each coach will set rules for their TEAMS concerning TEAM equipment. Typically, it is carried by players to and from the main gate or parking lot of the park. Player equipment is carried by the player only, not a parent, friend, or family member. Catchers are exempt from carrying TEAM equipment. Players will be assigned to help catchers with their gear after games are over. College coaches do not want to see "coddled/babied" players.

- **Dugouts** – Players will not leave a dugout full of trash. It is their responsibility to keep it picked up before, during and after games. Coaches and Players are the only people who should be and or around the dugout. Dugouts are a No Parent zone unless requested by a coach.

- **Communications** – Coaches expect prompt replies to TEAM and individual player correspondence, whether via cell phone, text, or email acknowledging that they received, understand and/or have performed the requested action. Communication during the pregame and games is also expected. Communication on the field is critical for a TEAM to be their best.

- **Sports Recruits** – This is our platform included in your player fee that makes the recruiting process significantly easier as well as increases a player's opportunities to be seen by colleges of her interest. Every player is expected to utilize the tool on a regular basis to help them be recruited. Coaches may also take into consideration every player's effort with Sports Recruits concerning playing time and positioning.

- **College Recruiting** - When a player has been in communication with a college coach (see Sports Recruits) and that coach is planning to attend a game/day/tourney, the coaches need to know. If they show up during a game, this is one of the only acceptable times a parent (or family member) is permitted to approach the coaches during the game. Players can do so at any time. Ask if you have any questions.

- **TEAM Practices** – TEAM practices are handled differently by each head coach. Players are expected to follow the coach's rules concerning practices for their TEAM.

- **Winter Workout**- Our Winter Workouts are very important to the development of players. Players will receive proper instruction for the fundamentals of the game as well as advance skills. This is where players can really improve their game. Players will need to communicate with their coaches about their availability for these workouts.

BY SINGING BELOW YOU ACKNOWLEDGE YOU HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND AND AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE FIRESTIX RULES

PARENT OR GAUARDIN

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

PLAYER

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

