YUCAIPA CALIMESA GIRLS SOFTBALL
Player & Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct Agreement

Purpose

Yucaipa Calimesa Girls Softball is committed to providing a positive, safe, respectful, and family-oriented environment where athletes can develop their softball skills, learn accountability, and grow as players and teammates.

All players, parents, guardians, relatives, supporters, and guests are expected to represent their team, YCGS, and the communities of Yucaipa and Calimesa appropriately.

1. Respect for Coaches and Coaching Decisions

- Coaches are responsible for all instruction and coaching during practices, games, and team activities.
- Parents, family members, and spectators may not coach players from the stands or sidelines. This includes giving hitting, pitching, catching, fielding, baserunning, positioning, or other softball-related instruction.
- Players must be allowed to focus on their coaches without receiving conflicting instructions from spectators.
- Decisions regarding playing time, positions, batting order, pitching, substitutions, and game strategy are made by the coaching staff.
- Questions or concerns must be addressed privately, respectfully, and at an appropriate time—not during or immediately following a practice or game.

2. Dugout and Field Boundaries

For the safety and focus of our players:

- Parents, relatives, friends, and spectators must remain away from the dugout, bench, bullpen, field, and other designated areas of play during practices and games.
- Parents may briefly approach these areas when necessary to deliver water, medication, equipment, or another essential item, or to assist during an emergency.
- Dugouts, fields, bullpens, and other designated team areas are reserved for players, coaches, officials, and authorized personnel.
- Only individuals who have completed all required YCGS and USA Softball registration, background checks, SafeSport training, and other applicable requirements may assist on the field or in the dugout.
- Families must allow the coaching staff to manage the team and its players during all practices and games.

3. Zero Tolerance for Intimidation, Bullying, or Harassment

Adults are expected to protect and support the team environment. YCGS will not tolerate:

- Intimidating, threatening, bullying, or harassing a player, parent, coach, volunteer, official, or spectator.
- Confronting another family's child regarding the child's performance, behavior, position, or playing time.

- Making degrading, insulting, discriminatory, or inappropriate comments about any player, coach, family, official, or team.
- Attempting to create conflict among players, families, coaches, or teams.
- Retaliating against a player or family because of a disagreement between adults.
- Conduct that causes a player or family to feel unsafe, intimidated, or fearful about participating.

4. Gossip, Drama, and Negative Communication

YCGS expects families to communicate respectfully and directly. Players, parents, guardians, relatives, supporters, and guests must not create or spread gossip, rumors, drama, or negative communication that affects a player, family, coach, team, opponent, official, or the YCGS organization.

This includes conduct occurring:

- At practices, games, meetings, or team activities.
- Through social media posts, comments, or direct messages.
- Through team applications, group chats, or private text messages.
- Through phone calls, emails, or other electronic communication.
- By word of mouth or through rumors and gossip.

Disagreements may occur, but creating an ongoing negative environment around youth athletes is unacceptable. Concerns must be brought privately and directly to the appropriate coach or YCGS leadership rather than discussed throughout the team.

5. Parent, Guardian, and Spectator Sportsmanship

Parents, guardians, relatives, supporters, and spectators are expected to:

- Cheer positively and appropriately for YCGS players and teams.
- Treat teammates, opponents, coaches, families, volunteers, and officials with respect.
- Refrain from arguing with, threatening, or confronting umpires, opposing teams, or other spectators.
- Avoid yelling criticism, negative comments, or instructions at any player.
- Follow all USA Softball and YCGS rules.
- Remember that the players are youth athletes who are learning and developing.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship in both winning and losing.
- Represent YCGS appropriately at all practices, games, team gatherings, and other activities.

6. Player Expectations

YCGS players are expected to:

- Respect their coaches, teammates, opponents, officials, volunteers, and families.
- Arrive prepared and on time for practices, games, and team activities.
- Communicate absences or scheduling conflicts according to team expectations.
- Give their best effort and maintain a positive, team-focused attitude.
- Listen when coaches are speaking and follow team instructions.
- Encourage teammates rather than criticize or exclude them.
- Take responsibility for their attitude, behavior, preparation, and performance.
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship in both winning and losing.
- Care for fields, dugouts, facilities, uniforms, and team equipment.

- Represent YCGS appropriately in person, online, and while wearing YCGS apparel.
- Refrain from bullying, harassment, gossip, fighting, inappropriate language, or behavior that disrupts the team.

7. Playing Time and Player Development

While YCGS is a developmental program and coaches must ensure all players on the roster, both offensive and defensive, must play half the game, coaches may consider attendance, punctuality, effort, attitude, preparation, skill development, performance, team needs, the opponent, the game situation, and other relevant factors when determining lineups, positions, substitutions, and playing time.

Parents and guardians should encourage their player to communicate respectfully with her coaches and learn to appropriately advocate for herself as she develops.

8. Concerns and Communication

When a concern arises:

1. Allow emotions to settle before addressing the issue.
2. Do not confront a coach during or immediately following a practice or game.
3. Contact the appropriate coach privately to arrange a suitable time to communicate.
4. Keep the conversation respectful, factual, and focused on solutions.
5. Do not involve other families or players unnecessarily.
6. If the concern cannot be resolved with the coach, contact the appropriate YCGS Player Division Rep or Board member.

YCGS leadership may end any conversation or meeting that becomes threatening, disrespectful, aggressive, or inappropriate.

9. Zero Tolerance Policy: Alcohol, Tobacco, Vaping, and Intoxication

YCGS maintains a strict zero-tolerance policy regarding alcohol, tobacco, vaping products, and illegal or controlled substances at any YCGS-related event.

This policy applies during practices, games, meetings, team gatherings, and other YCGS-related activities, whether held on or off YCGS property. Please be mindful when engaging in such behaviors when wearing YCGS apparel.

Violations include:

- Possessing, consuming, or using alcohol, tobacco, vaping products, illegal drugs, or unauthorized controlled substances at a YCGS event.
- Attending or participating in a YCGS event while under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or any other intoxicating substance.

This policy applies to all players, parents, guardians, relatives, supporters, and guests associated with a YCGS player.

Consequences

Any violation of this zero-tolerance policy will result in:

1. Immediate removal of the individual or individuals involved from the premises or event.
2. Immediate and permanent removal of the associated player and family from YCGS.
3. No refunds, appeals, or reinstatement.

YCGS and its Board of Directors reserve the right to enforce this policy without prior warning and to contact law enforcement when necessary.

10. Other Violations and Consequences

Conduct that disrupts the team environment or negatively affects a player, family, coach, volunteer, official, opponent, or YCGS will be taken seriously.

Except for violations governed by the zero-tolerance policy above, consequences may include:

- A verbal warning.
- A written warning.
- Removal of a parent, guardian, spectator, or guest from a practice, game, or team activity.
- Temporary suspension of a parent, guardian, spectator, or guest from YCGS activities.
- Suspension of a player from practices, games, or other activities.
- Removal of the player and/or family from YCGS.

Consequences will be determined by YCGS based on the nature, severity, frequency, and effect of the conduct. Serious misconduct may result in immediate suspension or removal without a prior warning.

YCGS does not seek to penalize a player for an adult disagreement. However, when an adult's behavior prevents YCGS from maintaining a safe, respectful, and productive environment, YCGS reserves the right to discontinue the family's participation.

11. Our Standard

Support your player. Cheer for the team. Respect the coaches. Respect the officials. Respect other families. Let the athletes play softball.

By signing below, the player and parent/guardian acknowledge that they have read, understand, and agree to follow this Code of Conduct. They understand that violations may result in disciplinary action, suspension, or removal from YCGS.

They further acknowledge that any violation of the Zero Tolerance Policy regarding alcohol, tobacco, vaping products, illegal or controlled substances, or intoxication will result in immediate and permanent removal of the associated player and family, without refund, appeal, or reinstatement.

Player Name: _____

Team/Division: _____

Player Signature: _____
Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____
Date: _____

Additional Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Additional Parent/Guardian Signature: _____
Date: _____

