

CODE OF CONDUCT

Mountain West Softball is a non-profit, elite level travel ball team that requires serious commitment from their players and parents. Our coaches are committed to provide an environment for their players to participate in a safe and healthy environment, focusing on: development, building team players, learning the value of hard work, respecting others and to support those players who would like to play at an elite/collegiate level. Parents and players are required to make the same commitment in order for their team to be successful. The purpose of the 'Code of Conduct' is to ensure all players, parents, family members, and coaches understand the high standards Mountain West Softball requires from all members.

48 Hour Rule: Emotions tend to run high during tournaments/games and coaches do their best to make decisions they feel is best for the team. If a parent/player would like to talk to a coach about play time, they must wait 48 hours after their last game to contact the coach.

Family Conduct: Family members are to set an example for players by showing good sportsmanship at all times. Yelling/commenting/questioning umpires, players, coaches, opposing team/fans/coaches will not be tolerated. Mountain West coaches are the only people allowed to address an umpire and they will do so at their discretion. Cheering in a positive, uplifting manner is always welcome and appreciated. Family members/fans will not come into the dugout unless invited by a coach. Parents are encouraged to help their player improve by working with her or taking her to a private instructor. Parents/family members are expected to offer positive support to the team and encouragement to all players. Parents/family members who choose to openly voice their displeasure with decisions of the coaching staff, will affect their player's playing time. Mountain West Softball has Zero Tolerance for the use of controlled substance, alcohol, tobacco, etc at or near the ball fields during games, tournaments, practice or other events where Mountain West is involved. Any person who is unable to follow the Family Conduct will result in their player being removed from their team.

Coaching Conduct: Our coaches are expected to help their players improve and to maintain an environment that their players feel safe. Coaches will be firm and hold players to a high standard but will not be demeaning. Coaches will make decisions that they feel are best for the success of the team and not what is best for an individual. When communicating with umpires/opposing teams, coaches will do so in a respectful manner - setting an example for their players and parents/fans. Coaches are to hold their players/fans to the same standards. Coaches will provide a schedule and budget to parents for each season and are subject to make changes when needed. They will do their best to keep parents updated in a timely manner on any changes that need to be made. Mountain West has a 48 hour rule which means: if a parent/player would like to talk to a coach about their play time, etc, they must wait 48 hours after the end of their last game to contact the coach. Coaches will have an open door policy as long as the 48 hour rule has been applied and things have been handled in a respectful manner.

Social Media Conduct: All posts/comments about any team (including Mountain West), organization, umpires, etc. on social media, text, message boards, etc should be positive and uplifting. If anything is found negative about any Mountain West team or the organization simply ignore it and continue to hold yourself to a higher standard. Player's social media content should represent Mountain West in a positive manner. Players who are in the recruiting phase should have a social media account designated for recruiting purposes.

Player Attitude and Commitment Conduct: Players represent Mountain West Softball and are to act with the highest level of professionalism. Players are to have a positive attitude and display a 'Team First' mindset. Players are not to argue with umpires, coaches, teammates, opposing teams/fans/coaches, etc. Players are to represent Mountain West on all forms of social media including but not limited to: hand gestures, pictures, comments, language, etc. Players will wear uniforms correctly while at the ball fields, which includes jerseys tucked in. They will come to the fields prepared and on time with the proper gear (this includes water). If a player is going to be late, they need to inform the coach. Constantly being late can result in not starting in games. Conflicts with schedules will arise, each player is responsible for letting the coach know in a timely manner. Players who consistently miss practices/games aren't showing their commitment level to their team and can result in loss of play time. When teams travel out of state for showcases/tournaments, it is expected that each player attends.

Play Time Conduct: The coaching staff is responsible to make decisions regarding line-ups, playing time, etc. The amount of play time a player gets is based on attitude, effort, positive energy and performance. Players are not guaranteed equal play time. Parents/Players are not to approach a coach before, during, or after a game to discuss concerns. Mountain West has a 48 hour rule to allow emotions to settle after games/tournament. If there is a concern regarding playing time, the player may talk with the coach after following the 48 hour rule, away from other players. From there, the coach will update the parents on what was discussed. At no time will comments/complaints be made by parents/players/family members regarding the coaches' decisions. Any parent/relative who violates this policy is in jeopardy of their player being removed immediately from the organization.

Financial Commitment/Parental Involvement: Being apart of a competitive organization takes a lot of commitment on everyone's end. Parent's involvement is essential in team/organization sponsored fundraising, events, getting sponsors, etc. All of these activities help keep fees low which will help all families with their financial commitment to their teams. Every parent will receive a team budget along with payment options. Parents are to pay their fees in a timely manner. In the event of emergencies, parents are to make alternate payment plans with the coach. Every August there will be a registration fee for each player playing for Mountain West Softball. These fees go towards the expenses/up keep of being a non-profit. All sponsorships received will go to the Mountain West Organization and from there will be distributed to the correct team. Sponsors are donating to the purpose of Mountain West Softball so no sponsorships can legally be given back if a team/player decides to leave for any reason.

Player Dismissal/Quitting: A player may be removed from a Mountain West team at anytime due to themself/parent/family member not adhering to any part of the Code of Conduct. Mountain West Softball holds high standards and will continue to do so and hope all players/parents can see the benefit in doing so. Any player who is removed from or leaves Mountain West Softball for any reason, will return all team equipment/gear/uniforms etc that was paid for through the team's funds and will forfeit any money paid into or raised for the team or the organization. These items must be return within seven (7) calendar days of leaving the team. Players will not be released from a roster until these items are returned. All team fees must be paid for the softball season which goes from September 1st 2023-August 31st 2024 whether: the player leaves freely or is removed from a team due to not adhering to the Code of Conduct. The remaining fees must be paid within fourteen (14) calendar days of leaving/being removed. By signing this document, parents understand their financial obligations must be paid in full.

Please review the Code of Conduct with your player/family members. Once reviewed and fully understood, please fill out the bottom portion and return to your coach/board member. Every player and parent must sign the Code of Conduct before they are allowed to play for any Mountain West team. Thank you in advance for keeping the standards of Mountain West softball!

By signing this document I, _____, agree that I have read and understand all parts of the Mountain West Code of Conduct. I also understand that my player may be removed at anytime if any parts of the Code of Conduct are violated. I also understand that I must pay all remaining fees within fourteen (14) calendar days and return any equipment/gear my player received that was bought my the team's funds within seven (7) calendar days. I also understand that it is my responsibility to make sure family members/relatives abide by the Code of Conduct while at the fields/games.

Parent Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Player Name: _____ Team: _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Player Signature: _____ Date: _____