

## **Naperville Diamonds Softball Association PARENT AGREEMENT 2009-2010**

In order to ensure that all families and the NDSA are aligned on expectations, the following Diamonds Softball Association (“NDSA”) Parent Agreement has been developed. It is important that all parents and/or guardians read and sign this Agreement thereby evidencing their obligations as parents to the NDSA.

As a parent and/or guardian of a NDSA player, I agree to:

1. Provide transportation to and from all NDSA practices, training sessions, games, tournaments, and events (hereinafter “Scheduled Activity”), ensuring the player is prompt not only in arriving but also leaving. When my daughter cannot make a Scheduled Activity, I will, whenever possible, give the Manager as much notice as possible. I also understand that the location of a Scheduled Activity is selected by NDSA and the team’s Manager and may be changed from time to time at their discretion.
2. Ensure my daughter brings all equipment to and from all Scheduled Activities and that this equipment is in good condition and is worn properly. For safety reasons, your daughter may not be allowed to practice or compete without safe and properly worn equipment. Further, the determination of what constitutes safe and properly worn equipment lies solely in the discretion of the NDSA, Manager and the umpires and field officials associated with the NDSA, leagues which NDSA plays and sanction tournaments. Any equipment provided to my daughter by the NDSA, is the property of the NDSA and shall be returned to the NDSA when requested by the Manager or the NDSA, clean and in good condition, normal wear and tear excluded.
3. Ensure that my daughter refrains from using foul language, alcohol, drugs, nicotine or tobacco products, or any substance that in any way degrades or damages her condition or performance as an athlete and NDSA participant. It is also understood that all parents are to refrain from using alcohol at any NDSA activity unless permission has been granted by NDSA.
4. Maintain “sideline” behavior of the highest standards with no verbal or physical abuse towards anyone at any time including the time while providing transportation to and from Scheduled Activities. I also understand and accept that I am personally responsible for my own actions and the actions of my daughter and family members at all times. In no way do I hold any Umpire, Manager, coach, parent manager, or NDSA official responsible for any inappropriate actions by myself, my child, a family member, or spectator associated with me, my child and/or family member at any time. I also acknowledge that if my daughter’s coach, parent manager, or any NDSA official believe my behavior to be inappropriate in any manner, I may face sanctioning including, but not limited to, not being allowed to attend games or be present at team and/or other NDSA Scheduled Activities.
5. Treat my daughter, her teammates, opponents, umpires, assistant umpires, all coaches, parents of all players, NDSA officials with dignity, courtesy, respect and sportsmanship at all times. I agree to guide my behavior by common sense principles and ethics that make us all proud to be associated with NDSA. I acknowledge that any person who physically abuses an umpire, Manager, coach, participant or spectator during a game or Scheduled Activity, may, in the State of Illinois be arrested, fined up to \$5,000 and be sentenced to up to one year in jail. Should such abuse occur, the NDSA will support any prosecution resulting.
6. The commitment being made to the NDSA and recognize it is both to the Association and the team. The player and the team’s growth are dependent on participation at Scheduled Activities. SWS Teams offer more flexibility for children who play in multiple sports. Travel Teams require a higher level of commitment. While all players can play multiple sports, we ask that players on Travel Teams place NDSA games ahead of other sport’s games whenever possible and commit to attending a clear majority of NDSA practices. I recognize that the Travel Teams offer a competitive environment and that playing time may not be equally divided amongst all the players on the team. The Manager will address any problems with other sporting conflicts (based on this paragraph) directly with the parents, not with the child.

7. Understand that it may be detrimental to the NDSA and my daughter's team to take any NDSA player to any other softball organization's or club's training sessions, games, practices, coaching sessions, or meetings. I will obtain written permission from the NDSA President before doing so. Written permission is not needed for Jr. High School softball, or High School softball programs. Each player should let their Manager know if they are playing for school teams.
8. Lend all players positive support and not to point out mistakes or coach during Scheduled Activities unless requested to do so by the Manager. I understand that it is the Manager's and his or her assistant coach's role to coach. I agree to allow the Manager and the assistant coaches of the NDSA to do their job accordingly. I will approach the Manager directly with questions by email when possible or at a time that does not interfere with practice times or games. **I also agree to wait 24 hours after an event (unless it is an emergency) to help take the emotion out of the situation before I bring any concerns or complaints regarding a specific event to the attention of the Manager, Team Liaison, NDSA official, or NDSA President. (Playing time and/or positional discrepancies and game results are not emergencies.)**
9. **Follow the appropriate chain of command to resolve issues or questions relative to Managers, assistant coaches or NDSA policies. The appropriate route for resolving issues or questions regarding team issues is the Manager, Team Liaison, NDSA president, or a board member(s). For NDSA policies, you can start with the Manager otherwise the Team Liaison.** I will always do my best not to discuss concerns or problems in public or in front of NDSA players. Concerns with other players should be discussed with the parents, Manager, NDSA president, or board member(s) but not with the player.
10. Allow the NDSA to use the likeness of my child or their name from time to time on the web site or in a newspaper. By initialing this line, I am authorizing the NDSA to use my child's likeness or name on the Association's web site or in newspaper articles providing the likeness cannot be identified by a name or player number. Further your authorization, permits the NDSA, in its sole discretion, the ability to prevent third parties from using your child's likeness or name at Scheduled Activities without the consent and approval of the President of the NDSA:

**Initial: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_**

11. Honor and pay all financial commitments to NDSA per the 2009-2010 softball program. The undersigned agrees to pay in full all fees for training, coaching, uniforms, travel, administrative, Team Fee and other reasonably assessed fees by a Manager and/or the NDSA for the 2009-2010 season (collectively "Player's Expense"), effective the day this agreement is signed. Failure to pay any portion of the fees will result in suspension of your child until payments are made. I understand that a majority of the NDSA's expenses are fixed and based on my commitment to pay my fees in full. Any exception made to the full payment of Team Fees or Player Expense can only be approved by the Board, with the Treasurer's recommendation. It is further acknowledged that I agree to pay a late fee of \$50.00, if I fail to pay the Team Fee of my daughter by December 1, 2009. Any payment that is not honored by NDSA's bank will result in an additional fee of \$25 plus the costs incurred by NDSA. If I fail to pay my daughter's Player Expense (or if I fail to return any equipment of the NDSA), I will pay all costs of collection including, if necessary, collection company fees, attorneys fees and costs of litigation to secure such payments in full (or to secure the return of NDSA equipment). I agree that I may not offset payments, reduce or take a credit for other payments I have made to NDSA for uniforms, Spirit Wear, equipment or for participation in a NDSA Scheduled Activity for a player's Team Fee or other Player Expense without the expressed written consent of the Treasurer of the NDSA.
12. Understand that transferring my daughter to another softball organization has a detrimental effect on her team and the NDSA. The NDSA Board may, but is not required, to support any such transfer unless a player's transfer occurs under extenuating circumstances such as a relocation. A Refund, if any, of a player's Team Fee rests with sole discretion of the Board. In no event, however, shall the Board authorize any refunds for monies paid for uniforms, Spirit Wear, equipment or for Scheduled Activities in which my daughter participated or had an opportunity to participate. Furthermore, no refund of a player's Team Fee or Player's Expenses shall occur if extenuating circumstances do not exist, and a player seeks to transfer to another softball organization that is located within a 100 hundred mile radius of Naperville, Illinois, prior to the completion of the 2009-2010 season. Because of the detrimental effect a player's transfer may have to the success of her team, the Board may require the

additional prior payment of an administrative release or transfer fee not to exceed \$100.00 to process any such release or transfer. If approved by the Board, the President or Treasurer shall also execute any releases required of NDSA by the sanctioning body of any softball organization requested, in writing, by me.

It is the Association's intent that these guidelines answer many of your questions and detail your obligations, financial and otherwise, as a parent of a NDSA player. Thank you for participating with the NDSA. Your signature acknowledges your understating of the aforesaid obligations and your agreement to abide by each and every obligation and your payment of Player Expenses as defined hereinabove.

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*Print Player's Name above*

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*Print Player's Team above*

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*Print Coaches Name above*

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*Print Parent/Guardian's name above*

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*Parent/Guardian's signature*

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*Date Signed by Parent/Guardian*