

Miss Shen Softball League Code of Conduct 2014/2015 Season

The objective of Miss Shen Softball shall be to promote the ideas of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage, and respect in its players.

To help prevent physical assault and verbal abuse in the divisions & leagues within the Miss Shen Softball League; Miss Shen Softball League has adopted a ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY. This policy applies to all coaches, players, parents, spectators and other supporters and umpires effective immediately. Abusive and obscene language, violent play/conduct, fighting, threatening behavior and other behavior (including, but not limited to sarcasm, taunting, etc.) deemed detrimental by the Miss Shen Softball Board to the game between the above mentioned groups will not be tolerated and will result in immediate ejection from the game and/or contacting town law enforcement if necessary. The ultimate responsibility for responding to issues resides first with coach, then division coordinator and/or board member on premises.

It is the responsibility of the coaches to provide umpire support and spectator control, and it is the responsibility of the Miss Shen Softball League Division Coordinators to provide instructions to their coaches on how they are expected to carry this out.

This policy applies before, during and after the game at both Miss Shen and visiting softball fields and their immediate surrounding areas.

Your signature indicates you have read, understand, and agree to abide by the intent and the conditions of the Miss Shen Softball League Zero Tolerance Policy and Code of Conduct.

I further agree that if the Miss Shen Softball League is sanctioned for a violation of the Zero Tolerance Policy or Code of Conduct as a result of my conduct or the conduct of my child or my guests, I agree that I will immediately hold harmless from and repay the Miss Shen Softball League for any monetary sanctions. I understand that should I fail to fulfill my obligations under this hold harmless agreement, my child's opportunities to play for Miss Shen Softball League may be suspended or revoked in addition to further action by the Miss Shen Softball League.

I further understand that the Miss Shen Softball League reserves the right to impose sanctions and take further or action against me or my child (the player) in addition to any action taken or not taken by Miss Shen Softball League as the result of any alleged violation of the Zero Tolerance Policy and/or Code of Conduct involving my conduct or the conduct of my child or the conduct of my guest.

I understand that by not abiding by this Parents Code of Conduct or by displaying any other inappropriate conduct, will result in my being asked to leave the ball park and may possibly result in my child not playing for Miss Shen Softball League.

Parent Name (printed) _____ **Date:** _____

Parent Signature: _____

Player Name (printed) _____ **Date:** _____

Player Signature: _____

Parent's Code of Conduct Initials_____

As a parent of a child playing in the Miss Shen Softball League, I agree to and will comply with the Parent's Code of Conduct outlined below:

- Refrain from coaching my child or other players during games and practices, unless I am one of the official coaches of the team, or have the permission of the coach(es) during practice.
- Always address any questions or concerns to the Coaching staff at the appropriate time, defined as after games or practices and away from the players.
- Remember that children learn best by example. I will applaud the good plays by both my child's team and their opponents.
- Teach my child that trying their hardest despite the score or situation is more important than winning.
- A parent is never permitted to harass or openly criticize a Professional or Youth Umpire, coach or player during the game.
- Support my daughter, her coach and the rules of the league. Promote the positive aspects of the game and encourage good sportsmanship at all times, assuring that my daughter adheres to the rules of the game. I understand that if my daughter disobeys the rules, disciplinary action may be taken such as being taken out of a game, suspended or expelled from the season as the coach and board sees fit.
- Will follow the appropriate venues for raising concerns or questions and will not use social media to share negative remarks and derogatory comments about a player, coach or the league
- Support the game as an involved parent without interfering with the operation of the team.
- Never ridicule or yell at my child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition. I will not publicly criticize other players verbally or through written or online communication.
- I understand that Miss Shen is a volunteer organization and that coaches, parents and board members volunteer to promote the love of the sport.

Player's Code of Conduct Initials_____

As a player in the Miss Shen Softball League, I agree to and will comply with the Player's Code of Conduct outlined below:

- ALWAYS play by the rules.
- Understand that the goals of playing Miss Shen Softball are to have fun, develop my skills and create team spirit.
- Follow the direction of the coaching staff and support a coach's decision.
- Come prepared with my equipment to practices and games. I will show up on time for games and practices. If I will be late or miss a game, I will notify my coach as soon as possible.
- Conduct myself in an appropriate manner and respect my teammates, the opposing team, my coaches, my parents, spectators, umpires and myself.
- Will not act in any way that could endanger the health or well being of others. I will not throw equipment (helmets, bats, etc.) and I will help keep playing areas clean.
- Respect the umpires and their authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront the professional or youth umpires on or off the field, and will allow my coach(es) to resolve any issue.
- I will demonstrate the highest level of sportsmanship, and understand that winning is desirable but is not the sole reason that I play the game. I will demonstrate good sportsmanship in losing as well as winning. I will not use any foul or obscene language.
- Never fault a teammate when a mistake occurs; I will be encouraging.
- Will not participate in negative chants or cheers - I will encourage my teammates and never cheer against my opponent
- Will not use electronic media to share negative remarks and derogatory comments about a player, coach or the league

I understand and agree to the rules above; I understand that failure to comply with the rules means that I will have disciplinary action taken against me up to and/or including suspension or expulsion from the league.

Coach's Code of Conduct

As a manager or coach in the Miss Shen softball League, I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care, and encouragement for each child participating in Miss Shen Softball by following this Code of Conduct:

- Place the emotional and physical well being of all children on all teams ahead of any personal desire to win.
- Do all I can to make the game fun and safe for all the children involved in Miss Shen, ensuring that players always wear required protective gear.
- Work with each team member to enhance their skills to make them confident with their abilities.
- I will follow and adhere to the policies of the Miss Shen Softball League.
- I will be a positive role model and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, other teams and coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice or other event.
- I agree that the umpire's call is final. If I wish to discuss the decision of an umpire I will do so politely, discretely, and at an appropriate time. I will never confront or treat a youth umpire with disrespect; I will speak with the umpire coordinator if I have any concerns.
- The use of foul or derogatory language will not be tolerated.
- Once the game is underway, coaches will be held accountable for the conduct of the players and parents. Respond appropriately and in a timely manner to any inappropriate player or parent behavior.
- Will not use electronic media to share negative remarks and derogatory comments about a player, coach or the league
- Submit to background check as required by the league prior to the start of the season.

I understand and agree to the rules above; I understand that failure to comply with the rules means that I will have disciplinary action taken against me up to and/or including suspension or expulsion from the league.

Coach Name (printed) _____

Division _____

Date _____

Coach Signature _____

Miss Shen Board of Directors (BOD) Code of Conduct:

- I understand that it is the mission of Miss Shen Softball to provide a welcome, enjoyable and rewarding opportunity for girls to participate in the sport of softball.
- I will support all programs that are offered by Miss Shen Softball, and will work to make improvements as such.
- I will attend regular monthly board meetings as scheduled.
- I will know, understand and abide by the constitution, rules, policies and codes of conduct for coaches, players and parents.
- I will recognize that as a board member, I am a part of a team. I shall always set aside personal differences that I may have with other members, and will strive to work as a team for the benefit of all Miss Shen Softball players. I will not air personal differences publicly but will feel free to speak my mind during board meetings.
- When making decisions at the board level, I will always consider whether my decision benefits all Miss Shen players and not only my daughter and her teammates.
- I recognize that I hold this position to benefit the Miss Shen Softball community, and not to serve my own interests, or for self recognition.
- I will not use social or electronic media in an inappropriate way to share negative remarks and derogatory comments about a player, parent, coach or the league, nor will I use social media to promote or recruit players for another league while serving on the board of the Miss Shen Softball League.
- To protect the health and environmental safety of all players, all board members who hold the position of division coordinators will ensure that all coaches are listed on team rosters and that all coaches and board members have completed a background check

I recognize that it is a privilege to serve on the Miss Shen Softball Board of Directors. I further recognize that if I break this Code of Conduct, that my offense shall be reviewed by the remainder of the board under an executive session. If the board finds by a majority vote of the members present that I have broken this Code of Conduct, I shall receive the following consequences. First Offense - A written apology shall be issued to the Board of Directors and/or to any individual(s), team(s) or leagues that may be affected. Second Offense - Position on Board of Directors shall be terminated as provided for in the by-laws.

Miss Shen Board of Director Member Name(printed)_____

Position (printed)_____

Date:_____

Miss Shen Board of Director Member Signature_____