

901 Rays Softball Player and Parent Agreement

Mission Statement

The mission of 901 Rays Softball is to empower youth through sport by providing a positive, inclusive, and development-focused environment where athletes build physical fitness, leadership abilities, confidence, work ethic, discipline, teamwork, and character. We are committed to fostering excellence on the field while preparing young athletes for success in their schools, communities, and future endeavors through mentorship, sportsmanship, and service. Participation in the organization is a privilege that requires commitment from athletes, parents, coaches, and fans alike.

Communication Expectations

Players

- Communicate respectfully with coaches, teammates, officials, opponents, and volunteers.
- Accept coaching and constructive feedback with a positive attitude.
- Address concerns respectfully and at appropriate times.

Parents/Guardians

- Communicate respectfully with coaches, volunteers, tournament staff, and other families.
- Follow the "24-Hour Rule" and refrain from discussing concerns immediately following games.
- Schedule meetings with coaches for concerns regarding player development.
- Understand that coaches are not required to discuss playing time during games, tournaments, or practices.

Practice Attendance and Participation

Expectations

Practice is critical to player development and team success.

Players are expected to:

- Attend all scheduled practices.
- Arrive 10-15 minutes early and prepared.
- Have practice attendance confirmed 14-days in advance of scheduled practices OR within 24 hours for practices added after practice schedules are released.
- Notify coaches as soon as possible of any absence.
- Give full effort during all practices.

Attendance Thresholds

- Missing more than 2 practices in a calendar month without prior approval may result in reduced playing opportunities.
- Missing more than 20% of scheduled practices during a season may result in a review of roster status.
- Repeated tardiness may be treated as an absence.
- School activities, illness, family emergencies, and religious obligations will be considered excused absences when communicated promptly.

Injured Players

Injured players who are unable to participate are encouraged to attend practices and games whenever possible to remain engaged with the team.

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Game and Tournament Attendance

Expectations

Players are expected to:

- Attend all scheduled games and tournaments.
- Have tournament/game attendance confirmed 14-days in advance of scheduled tournaments OR within 24 hours for tournament/game added after season schedules are released.
- Arrive at designated check-in times.
- Notify coaches immediately if attendance becomes an issue.

Tournament Commitment

Tournament rosters and schedules require significant planning. Unexcused absences from tournaments may result in:

- Reduced playing opportunities.
- Suspension from future tournaments.
- Additional review by team leadership.

Playing Time Philosophy

901 Rays Softball strives to balance player development and competitive success.

Playing time decisions may be influenced by:

- Attendance
- Effort
- Attitude
- Coachability
- Position needs
- Preparation
- Team strategy
- Competitive circumstances

No player is guaranteed equal playing time.

Coaches retain full discretion regarding:

- Lineups
- Defensive positions
- Pitching assignments
- Batting orders
- Tournament rosters

Players who consistently demonstrate commitment, effort, and positive attitudes are more likely to earn additional opportunities.

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Game and Tournament Behavior

Players

Players will:

- Demonstrate good sportsmanship.
- Respect umpires and officials.
- Avoid arguing calls.
- Refrain from inappropriate language or gestures.
- Support teammates regardless of game circumstances.

Parents and Spectators

Parents and spectators will:

- Encourage all players positively.
- Refrain from coaching from the stands.
- Respect officials, opponents, coaches, and volunteers.
- Avoid negative comments or confrontational behavior.

The behavior of family members reflects upon the organization and may impact participation privileges.

Social Media Policy

Players and parents are expected to:

- Represent 901 Rays Softball positively.
- Avoid posting negative comments about teammates, coaches, officials, tournaments, or opponents.
- Refrain from sharing confidential team information.
- Use social media in a manner consistent with organizational values.

Posts determined to be harmful to team culture may result in disciplinary action.

Financial Obligations

Participation in 901 Rays Softball requires a financial commitment to support team operations and organizational activities.

Team Fees

Families agree to pay:

- Registration fees
- Uniform costs
- Tournament fees
- Organizational assessments
- Any approved team-specific expenses

Payment Expectations

- Payment schedules will be provided before the season.
- Payments are due on established dates.
- Families experiencing financial hardship should communicate with team leadership promptly.

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Delinquent Accounts

Failure to maintain financial obligations may result in:

- Ineligibility for tournaments
- Withholding of uniforms or team gear
- Suspension from team activities
- Removal from the roster

Outstanding balances remain the responsibility of the family regardless of player participation status.

Fundraising

Participation in team and organizational fundraising activities may be required. Funds raised are intended to offset team and organizational expenses and are generally non-refundable.

Disciplinary Procedures

The purpose of discipline is to support player development and maintain a positive team culture.

Examples of Conduct Subject to Discipline

- Unsportsmanlike behavior
- Repeated attendance issues
- Disrespect toward coaches, teammates, officials, or volunteers
- Violation of organizational policies
- Bullying or harassment
- Inappropriate social media activity
- Failure to uphold team standards

Progressive Discipline Process

Level 1 - Verbal Warning: Coach discusses concern with player and/or parent.

Level 2 - Written Warning: Documented communication outlining concern and corrective action.

Level 3 - Suspension: Temporary suspension from practices, games, or tournaments.

Level 4 - Probation: Player remains active but under review for continued participation.

Level 5 - Removal from Team: Serious or repeated violations may result in dismissal from the team without refund.

The organization reserves the right to bypass progressive discipline for serious misconduct.

Parent Code of Conduct

Parents agree to:

- Support all team members.
- Respect coaching decisions.
- Promote a positive environment.
- Model good sportsmanship.
- Assist in creating a culture of respect and accountability.

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Parents who violate organizational expectations may be:

- Issued warnings.
- Restricted from team activities.
- Required to meet with organizational leadership.
- Removed from attendance privileges at team functions.
- Have their athlete's participation reviewed in severe situations.

Commitment to Team Culture

Players and families understand that team success depends on:

- Respect
- Accountability
- Commitment
- Positive attitudes
- Team-first behavior

All members of 901 Rays Softball are expected to contribute to a culture that helps every athlete grow on and off the field.

Acknowledgment and Agreement

We have read and understand the expectations, policies, and obligations outlined in this agreement. We agree to abide by these standards as members of 901 Rays Softball.

Player Name: _____ Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Player Signature: _____ Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____ Date: _____

Coach Signature: _____

Date: _____