

Team Guidelines – 2011

Huntington Beach High School Softball Guidelines

www.hboilerssoftball.com

Varsity Head Coach – Jeff Forsberg

JV Head Coach – Tony Santopalo

PURPOSE:

Participation in athletics is a privilege, not a right. The student-athlete must earn this privilege through dedication, desire, and discipline. Without the pursuit of these ideals, the student-athlete can in no way do justice to herself or the school. The student-athlete must discipline herself to be a good citizen and student in order to achieve athletic excellence. Huntington Beach HS Softball believes that true athletic excellence is established and maintained by adherence to these principles.

In order for an effective course of action in the pursuit of athletic achievement and character development of young people, the following "Athletic Policies" must be understood and agreed to by the student-athlete, the student-athlete's parent(s) or guardian(s) and the coaches. Please read each section and understand the principals that we will follow.

CONDUCT:

Good sportsmanship and professional behavior is expected at all times, and, in all circumstances. There should be no conversation with umpires, coaches, players, or parents regarding calls or a play. HBHS players are expected to uphold a higher level of game sportsmanship and behavior.

Players are also expected to be good teammates to each other, by treating each other with respect and dignity. Unruly teammates will not be tolerated and will be disciplined.

It is also good sportsmanship for parents to allow coaches to coach. Parents are encouraged to work with their daughters, but not during game time or practices. That includes comments or instruction when up to bat. During game time, please be your daughter's biggest fan and support the team.

Any substance or drug use at any team function is strictly prohibited and immediate dismissal will result.

ATTENDANCE:

All team members are required to attend all softball related events. No team practices should be missed. If circumstance arises whereby the student cannot attend a practice or meeting, the coach must be notified prior to that event through a phone call, personal contact or a written statement from the parent or guardian. Do not tell a teammate to tell a coach, as it's not her responsibility. Only excused tardies will be acceptable.

Any student-athlete who cuts practice, fails to appear for a game, fails to make scheduled team or individual meetings, may not be allowed to suit up for any game or games for a period of time to be determined by the coach. Any student-athlete who misses more than

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two periods of the school day may not be allowed to practice or play in a game that day. The Athletic Director can grant exceptions to this rule.

Excessive absences from team practices, games, or meetings may be cause for removal from the team. All student-athletes are required to attend classes regularly. Lack of attendance of classes may result in failure of class work, resulting in loss of eligibility for athletics.

ABSENCES:

If a player must miss a practice, she must call or text the Head Coach and let him know. Do not tell an assistance coach - If a player misses a practice prior to a game, she should not "expect" to start the following game. This not meant to punish players who must miss a practice, it is meant to encourage and reward players who are at practice. The more a player is absent from practices the less the chance is that she will be playing in games or remaining on the team. In the event that a player misses a practice or game or has to leave early from either, it is the responsibility of the player to call or check the team website and get any updated information for the upcoming events.

A player is expected to attend every team function, unless she has been given permission from the coaching staff to be absent. Unexcused absences will not be tolerated.

If you know that you will miss a game, please inform a coach as soon as you know the conflict or at least 72 hours in advance. If you know you are going to miss a practice, please give the coach at least 24 hours notice and coach can determine the validity. Direct communication is a must for each player to a coach.

It is your responsibility to make all personal appointments (i.e. doctors, dentist, driving instruction, etc) outside of the practice times. Do not use an outside appointment as an excuse to miss or be late to practice. Hitting and pitching lessons (while very important to our success) will also need to be scheduled outside of your practice time and should NOT impact our schedules.

Student-athletes are encouraged to participate in as many sports as they are capable. But when it's our season (Spring), we are the priority sport. During our off-season (Fall and Winter), we will work with other sports to allow our players the opportunities to excel at another sport. If you are in season for another sport, you are not required to attend softball off-season activities but as a varsity player, you are required to support the program as your time allows.

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SCHOOL:

You are a Student, first, Athlete, second. Each player must be passing all classes to play in the program. Regular grade checks will be completed on players. Players not passing will be suspended or removed from games and practices until grades come up to an acceptable level.

If you have a class, tutoring, school event during a practice/game please notify a coach as soon as you know of the time conflict and both the coach and the player will handle each situation for an acceptable outcome. Poor timing on your part is not a valid excuse to miss a practice or a game.

INJURIES and SICKNESSES:

In the event of an injury and you should still attend the practice. Much can be learned from helping coaches and listening to practice.

If you are sick and did not go to school, notify the coach and you will be excused from practice. The more a player is absent from practices the less the chance is that she will be playing in games or remaining on the team.

If you are injured or become ill during a game or practice it is your responsibility to "your team" to report it to a coach immediately.

ATTIRE/EQUIPMENT:

Come prepared to play. IT IS MANDATORY THAT PLAYERS WEAR THEIR CORRECT PRACTICE ATTIRE DURING PRACTICE. All equipment should be taken care of with respect, at all times, as it may have to be returned to school and used by other players.

If you need any medical needs (inhalers, etc) - please notify a coach and you must bring it to practice and games. Coaches will be aware of any special medical needs at time of clearance.

Team will use team helmets and uniforms which all will be returned. Practice shirts, visors and cleats are the responsibility of the player to purchase and can be kept. Bats and gloves are the responsibility of the player. Black Cleats will be required- no exceptions.

UNIFORMS:

Players should ARRIVE in the correct uniform for all games and it should be clean and in good shape. **NO ONE** will be allowed to play if not in FULL & COMPLETE uniform. **THE UNIFORMS & HELMETS ARE NOT YOUR PROPERTY AND THEY ARE EXPECTED TO BE RETURNED TO YOUR HEAD COACH/MANAGER AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SEASON.** Please take proper care of the uniforms when washing them.

Program fees must be paid in full prior to receiving an uniform. Participation in athletics is a privilege, not a right. In order for the program to pay for equipment, uniforms,

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tournaments, coaches and facilities, program fees are needed and required. If you have difficulties paying these fees, please speak to Booster president and you can talk to the school for certain aid. There are many ways to pay off the fees with fundraising and volunteer work.

TEAM TRAVELING:

Players are required to take a team bus to games when a bus is supplied. You will be required to return on the bus for these games. If no bus returns to the school or we don't have a bus (i.e. tournaments), then you may go home with your parents. No students are allowed to leave with a student. Parents can pick you up at the school when traveling on a bus. Both teams will in the bus for games when both teams play at same site.

Parents must have required documentation approved by the school before one can drive any student athletes. This includes driving your own child or another teammate.

If traveling requires the team to spend the night, team rules will be handed out prior and all players will adhere to them. Team will stay together and eat together, no exceptions.

It is "not" the responsibility of the coaching staff to babysit your player when traveling. If you are going to send your player on a trip unattended, then it is the parent's responsibility to talk with another parent on the team to make sure she is looked after and transported to and from the practices/games.

CELL PHONES:

Cell phone usage are not allowed. You will not use them during team meetings, warm-ups, games and practices. This includes texting.

FRIENDS/PARENTS:

Friends or parents should not attend practice "if" it is a distraction to "any" players. Players should always remember that game time is not designated as time to visit with friends or family outside the field of play.

All team outings will be player-only unless designated by a coach prior. This is no exception. This includes parents, boyfriends, friends, etc.

DUGOUT:

Coaches & Players in dugout, ONLY. Parents are encouraged to support their children. However, during practices and games they should refrain from approaching the dugout to coach, counselor, or to critique their daughter. Players do not leave dugout during games unless given permission. Drinks, seeds, and gum only. No food allowed, unless ok'd by a Coach. **DO NOT WALK INTO THE DUGOUT AND HAND YOUR PLAYER ANYTHING.** Players will not come to the opening of the dugout and obtain what you want them to have. It's their responsibility to be prepared to play, not yours.

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HUSTLE and EFFORT:

Your image as a Huntington Beach High School Softball Student Athlete is an important one. You are a member of this Softball Team and we will represent ourselves with Pride. YOU WILL ALWAYS RUN ON AND OFF THE FIELD DURING GAMES AND PRACTICES. Every player will also be expected to conduct themselves with integrity, both on and off the field.

ADDRESSING CONCERNS/PROBLEMS:

We encourage an open relationship between coaches, players, and parents. Parents should call the Head Coach to set up an appropriate time to address questions or concerns. For your sake and for the sake of the players **Do Not** bring up concerns **during or after a game, or in the middle of practice. Playing time questions will not be discussed.**

The 24 Hour Rule: Give yourself 24 hours after a game to cool down and then call the coach. We will be happy to discuss your concerns at that time.

WEB SITE: www.hboilerssoftball.com

All information concerning our softball program will be posted at our website on a regular basis. We will not handout maps, practice or game schedules to the players or parents. Everything you need to know about this Softball Program will be listed and accessible on the team web site listed above.

It is the **Players** and **Parents** responsibility to access our team site on a daily basis. The coaching staff will not contact the parents concerning schedule, practice, field changes, or team events unless the changes were made within 2 hours of the event.

It's easy to exhibit good sportsmanship and attitude when things are going our way. How do we conduct ourselves when things are not going our way is our challenge.

Communications is key - please have open communication with your coach!

These guidelines are meant to make the program run as smoothly as possible. Please take each of them as seriously as we do!

Please review this document with your student- athlete. If you have any questions, please speak to a coach.