

## SWA Diamond Divas Player Agreement

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### Expectations, Player & Parent commitments for the 2017 Diamond Diva Softball Travel Program

#### Date

November 12, 2016

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This Statement of Commitment (SOC) has been designed to insure that everyone on the 2017 Diamond Diva's Softball Team as well as families of players understand their roles and commitments associated with playing softball with the Diamond Divas '06 Travel Team. Our goal is to provide a positive environment in which our kids have an opportunity to experience the game of softball at a much higher competitive level while also developing social skills and how to work together as a team. Practices and workouts are very important to us as a team and a necessity to becoming the best players that they can be. We are truly blessed to have such wonderful people as part of our family. However, families sometime share frustrations with each other and therefore guidelines need to be constructed so that we can all work through any issues and still respect each other. Below are a list of expectations that we have listed out for Coaches, Players, and Parents to read and agree to. In signing your name you are stating that you understand and agree to follow the guidelines set forth for this team. If you have any questions, concerns with any of the items below, please let me know before signing. I am looking forward to this season and all of the tremendous things that we will experience together through our softball family.

## Coaches Commitments

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- Coaches are responsible for the development of each player during practices, workouts, and games.
- Coaches are committed to being at practices, workouts, games, and other related team activities.
- Coaches will at times be forced to discipline a player when needed (such as extra running or sitting on the bench).
- Coaches will handle any issues on the field such as: bad umpire judgments, bad sportsmanship, and ridicule from other team's parents or coaches.
- Coaches commit to showing good sportsmanship and represent themselves, their team, their organization, in an exemplary manner.
- Coaches are not perfect but will commit to be fair in their judgment of line-ups, positioning of the team and decisions during a game that may or may not lead to a victory.

X

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Matt Forkum  
Coach

X

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Marty McWilliams  
Assistant Coach

X

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Matt Geater  
Assistant Coach

X

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Hal Murrell  
Assistant Coach

## Game Day Behavior

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- Parents should be encouraging, supportive and affirmative in regard to their daughters play on the field. (This includes kids on the other teams)
- Parents must respect the judgment of the umpires.
- Parents must refrain from coaching or officiating from the stands. Often times the players are confused when being coached from the stands and could undermine what the coaches are trying to accomplish on the field. Some instances your child will be given direction from their coaches via signs that you may not be aware of, trying to coach could counteract what they are being told do by their coach.
- Parents may not step onto the playing field for any reason during a practice or game unless invited by the Head Coach or in the event of an injury to your daughter.
- Parents, coaches, and players should show good sportsmanship at all times.
- All cheering should be positive and done with controlled excitement.

## Parental/Coaches Communications

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- Parents are encouraged to communicate with the Head Coach but following the guidelines below:
  - Parents cannot communicate with the Head Coach immediately before or during a game or practice except to convey information regarding the player's attendance, health or other important information. Absolutely no communication regarding any prior events (especially complaints) may be made at this time.
  - If an issue arises that requires communication, parents must wait at least until after a game or practice before communication with the Head Coach and should be respectful with their response.
  - Parents should refrain from posting derogatory statements on social media as it relates to our team or other team which we play.
  - Parents should keep in mind that the purpose of athletics is for the benefit of their kids and to teach sportsmanship and skills.
  - Most tournaments will be in the Middle Tennessee Area with the exception of summer tournaments. Some of those may require overnight stays in which the parents are responsible for those cost.
  - We will host several fundraisers over the year. Your child is expected to participate in these to help offset their fees. If they choose not participate the parent is responsible for paying 100% of their fees to participate.
  - A player's fees are non-refundable and must be paid in fully by the time uniforms and equipment are distributed.
  - A copy of your child's birth certificate is required to be turned in.
  - Practices/Games will start on time. We must have the girls 15min prior to the start of practice and no less than 30min before a game.
  - Playing time is always an issue. If you have concerns regarding this please contact your Head Coach to discuss this one on one. We want your daughter to play but we want them to learn to be competitive as well. We will be fair regarding playing time. Please note playing time and positions are two different topics. Positions will be chosen by your coaching team as a group and can be changed as identified as being needed.
  - Only if we are short a player for a scheduled tournament due to illness or injury will we attempt to pick up a player. Diva players are not permitted to pick up tournaments on other travel teams. We have many reason for this and are strongly against it.

Parent #1

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Parent#2

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## Player commitments and responsibilities

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- Players are committed to attend practices and events.
- Players should commit to give 100% each time they arrive on the field or venue related to this team.
- Each player should be encouraging to her teammates and coaches as well as others they play against.
- Will show good sportsmanship at all times! (We want each player to be engaged and enthusiastic but not negative to others or down on themselves).
- The following items will not be tolerated by players coaches or parents:
  - Foul Language;
  - Fighting;
  - Arguing with an umpire (If needed, only a coach will be permitted to address a conflict regarding officiating);
  - Cheating;
  - Rude conduct of any kind;
- If a player or coach is ejected for any of the above mentioned violations, he, she must leave the playing area immediately and the grounds of the park. In addition to the ejection from the game, the coach, player or fan will receive a suspension for the following game as well. If multiple suspensions accrue during the season, SWA Softball board will meet to discuss the situations and determine the appropriate course of action.
- Consumption of food must be done before or after a game or practice, not during.
- Pants need to be worn at all practices. We practice how we play and when the girls play they play in pants.
- If at any time a player has a concern regarding a skill, a position, or a coach's decision we encourage that player to go directly to their coach after the game or practice to discuss.
- Any act of disrespect to a coach or teammate can lead to being asked to sit the remainder of the practice or game. Being coachable is the highest quality a player can possess and will only enhance the player's ability to achieve success.

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By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: (Please sign)