

## *TFGSL Rules for Board Members, Coaches, Assistant Coaches and Volunteers*

1. Coaches and Managers shall always conduct themselves so as to maintain the highest principles, integrity, and dignity of the game of Softball.
2. Coaches and Managers are responsible for knowing, understanding, and following all rules as established by the TFGSL Board.
3. Both the letter and the spirit of all rules must be adhered to by the Coaches and Managers.
4. It is the coach's and managers responsibility to make sure that all players understand the rules and their spirit. The letter and spirit of all rules must be adhered to by all participants.
5. Dissatisfaction with TFGSL Softball rules and by-laws and/or their implementation may only be addressed through the TFGSL Board. Coaches and Managers should avoid expressing dissatisfaction through parents, players or other Coaches and Managers.
6. Umpires - like Coaches, Managers and players - are major participants in the game. The coach and manager shall neither exhibit nor tolerate any behavior from others - verbal or otherwise – directed at umpires that might reflect poorly on TFGSL. This includes, but is not limited to, arguing a judgment call. Coaches and Managers are expected to express any dissatisfaction with an umpire's call calmly and quietly with the umpire. Public displays of displeasure - before, during, or after a game - are not acceptable behavior.
7. Coaches and Managers are expected to maintain appropriate levels of behavior as an example to the players. Coaches and Managers are accountable for their behavior while engaged in any activity involving the players. Unacceptable behavior includes, but is not limited to, smoking on the field, drinking alcohol in the players' presence, swearing, uncontrolled temper, inappropriate contact with the players and rude or disrespectful treatment of the parents.
8. Coaches and Managers should never teach their players tactics or skills designed to circumvent the intent of the rules. The rules exist to protect the players and provide a common standard by which final results will be determined. Coaches and Managers should not attempt to "beat the rules" or take any unfair advantage over an opponent.
9. Whenever players exhibit unsportsmanlike behavior on their own, it is the responsibility of the coach to address that behavior and put an end to it. Coaches and Managers are responsible for the conduct of their players.
10. Coaches and Managers are responsible for the safety of all players on their team. To ensure their players' safety, Coaches and Managers should: ensure that all necessary equipment is used/worn for practices and games; ensure at least two adults are present at all team activities; remain at an activity site until all players are picked up by their parents or guardians; never release a player to anyone they do not know to be appropriately responsible; never provide a ride for a player unless another adult or their own child is present.
11. Coaches and Managers should fully support and attend all TFGSL activities including Coaches and Managers clinics, player clinics, and fundraising events.
12. Coaches and Managers shall take care of TFGSL fields and equipment. All fields and dugouts should be cleaned up after every game and practice. Coaches and Managers are encouraged to get parent and player assistance in this responsibility. Any damage to a field/facility should be reported to the Buildings, Property and Grounds Committee. All equipment shall be cleaned and returned to the Equipment Committee as soon as possible after the season ends or date give as set by TFGSL.
13. Violations of this Code of Conduct may be brought before the TFGSL Disciplinary Committee and may result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from coaching and/or managing. A coach or manager can present witnesses on his or her behalf before the Committee votes on a recommendation for removal.
14. At the end of each season, the Board may conduct a Survey to assess Coaches and Managers' teaching, communication and interpersonal skills. The results of this survey will be shared with the respective Coaches and Managers and may be used for evaluation of each coach's performance.