

# **BURLINGTON BLAST CODE OF CONDUCT**

The purpose of this code is to establish guidelines and expectations for all who are involved in our program. This code extends beyond the players, to the coaches, parents and guests who attend practices, games and official functions.

BURLINGTON BLAST'S goal is to provide a positive and safe environment for the players wherein the coaches and parents are held to the same standards of courtesy, fairness, respect, and responsibility that we require of the players. We must lead by example if we are to expect the players to represent themselves, their families, their team and their organization in ways in which we can be proud.

## **BURLINGTON BLAST TEAM POLICIES**

1. Everyone associated with this team; including parents, siblings, grandparents, etc. are bound by the associated league softball rules of decorum and etiquette. Our teams have a ZERO TOLERANCE policy. Any behavior deemed unacceptable by that athlete's family or friends will cause the athlete to be dismissed from the team.
2. "Side-line coaching" by parents and family members will not be tolerated. This is a confusing distraction and usually goes against the play called by the coaches. It undermines a coach's authority in front of the team. One warning will be issued, and any other occurrences will be dealt with proper consequences as decided by the Board of Directors, including possible expulsion from the organization.
3. Do not enter the dug-out unless a coach requests your presence. Your child/player should not leave the dug-out unless a coach has granted permission. We do not want players wandering around during games. ASA rules do not allow any adults without certification into a team dugout.
4. There are specific Code of Conduct Guidelines that we ask you to review together, and if you have any questions, talk to your head coach. These guidelines are put in place to make sure that everyone involved in playing this game is treated with respect and as a result, allowed to enjoy the game.
5. The Burlington Blast is considered a travel softball team and therefore, equal playing time is not a requirement or a promise to any player.

## **CODE FOR PLAYERS**

1. I will represent myself, my family, my team and BURLINGTON BLAST with dignity, honesty, and integrity at all times.
2. I will play with pride and intensity no matter the circumstances of the game, and will always encourage my teammates to do the same.
3. I will support my teammates and maintain a positive attitude at all times.

4. I will be courteous and respectful to my teammates, coaches and parents as well as opposing players, opposing coaches, and game officials.
5. I will not argue with game officials for any reason.
6. I will refrain from any outbursts of anger, temper, or poor sportsmanship.
7. I will never direct negative or critical cheers or comments toward anyone
8. I will not use vulgar or offensive language or gestures, regardless of the circumstances.
9. I will not become hostile, nor will I ever resort to violence toward anyone.
10. I will not sue physical or verbal intimidation to anyone.
11. I will be properly and appropriately attired for participation in the field.
12. I will be responsible for my own equipment as well as team equipment.
13. I will do no harm to any facilities or files, and I will not intentionally damage team equipment.
14. No inappropriate web blogging, Facebook, texts or Twitter postings about teammates, coaches, or Burlington Blast. Additionally, no inappropriate photos taken in Blast uniforms.
15. No alcohol, drugs, or weapons of any kind.
16. No "non-players" are allowed to stay during out-of-town tournaments without written parental consent.

#### CODE FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS

1. I will conduct myself responsibly at all practices, games and events.
2. I will be responsible for the actions of my guests.
3. I will remember that the game is about the players and only the players.
4. I will refrain from coaching my child during practices or games unless I am asked to do so by the coaching staff.
5. I will be a positive role model at all times and promote good sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy to players, coaches, game officials and other spectators.
6. I will not engage in profane, insulting, harassing, or abusive language or behavior towards anyone.
7. I will not become hostile nor will I ever resort to violence toward anyone.
8. I will not argue with game officials or other spectators for any reason.
9. I will not engage in any behavior or action that could endanger the health and well being of any player.
10. If I have concerns or problems with coaching methods or decisions, I will discuss them in a civil manner with the head coach, outside of the presence of the players. I will abide by a mandatory 24 hr cool-down period before discussing my issue.
11. If I am asked to leave the premises by game officials or coaches, I will do so immediately.
12. I understand excessive late payment is not acceptable.
13. I acknowledge excessive tardiness or unexcused absences are not acceptable.
14. Absolutely no parental consumption of alcoholic beverages will be tolerated at any Burlington Blast practices, league games or tournament games.

15. I understand that I am responsible for volunteering for concessions or other events.
16. I am responsible for payment of all league fees and uniforms costs as explained on the Blast Information Handout.

### THE CONSEQUENCES

Failure to abide by the aforementioned code of conduct may subject a player, coach, parent/guardian or guest, to one or more of the following disciplinary actions by the officers and directors of BURLINGTON BLAST:

1. A written warning from the Board of Directors.
2. A one or more game suspension during which you may not participate or be present as a player, coach, or spectator.
3. A suspension for the remainder of the season in which you may not participate, or be present as a player, coach, or spectator.
4. A permanent suspension from any future participation or involvement in the Burlington Blast Softball Program.

ALL disciplinary actions and decisions will be made by the officers and directors of BURLINGTON BLAST. There will be NO refunds of registration fees, or any other fees or portions thereof when disciplinary actions is taken. All decisions are final.