

**VOLUSIA COUNTY SENIOR SOFTBALL (“VCSS”)  
CODE OF CONDUCT**

The Volusia County Senior Softball league provides an opportunity for individuals of a similar interest to pursue and participate in a senior softball league.

**LEAGUE’S FOUR ESTABLISHED PILLARS**

This VCSS was established to be an enjoyable outlet for all who participate and the fans who come to support us. The four pillars the league was built upon:

1. Safety
2. Fun
3. Gentleman sportsmanship
4. Competition

**LEAGUE GOALS**

- To establish rules and regulations for the league officials, teams and spectators.
- To provide balanced competition via the draft.
- To provide control of play through acceptance of game rules adopted by the VCSS Board.

**LEAGUE RULES**

According to the VCSS’ rules, members of the VCSS Board will have the final say on all matters regarding the operation of the League. Further they understand that not all situations are foreseeable and personal judgement may be needed. Conditions beyond their control may result in changes or revisions of the League schedule. They will determine all rules and regulations and reserve the right to establish or suspend same. At any time deemed necessary to ensure the efficient operation of the League they will interpret all rules and regulations deemed necessary to ensure a smooth and consistent program in keeping with the standards of fair play. Members of the VCSS Board have the responsibility and final say on all decisions and rulings. The Managers may petition in writing to protest a ruling by the VCSS Board.

**RULE CHANGES**

League playing rules will remain in effect for the entire season unless they are found to be ineffective or create a safety hazard to any player. All changes must be presented and approved by the VCSS Board.

**UMPIRES**

It is very difficult and expensive to get umpires. Unethical action by managers and players may cause umpires to leave officiating and consequently leave a shortage of umpires. It is unacceptable for anyone associated with the league to attempt to influence or object to an umpire decision in a disrespectful manner. Team members and especially managers have the responsibility to make certain that this does not occur. During the game, the attitude of players

and managers toward the umpire shall be controlled and undemonstrative. To openly criticize umpires in a hostile manner or to indicate dissatisfaction with their decision in a hostile manner does nothing but incite other players and spectators and bring discredit to the manager, his team and the league. Unsportsmanlike conduct is contrary to the basic principles of the Volusia County Senior Softball League and a violation of our player Code of Conduct and will not be tolerated. Violation of the Code of Conduct could result in suspension or expulsion from the league.

### **PLAYER CODE OF CONDUCT**

The Player Code of Conduct has been adopted by the Volusia County Senior Softball League and will be strictly enforced. A suspension may result when these rules are violated. A suspended player or team must leave the playing area. Adherence to the Code of Conduct, and as it relates to bodily contact and abusive language, is required by all league members. This Code of Conduct applies to players, managers and spectators.

**ALCOHOL/DRUGS:** Alcohol and Drugs will not be permitted on the playing field or in the dugout or bench areas.

**MINIMUM PENALTY:** First violation a warning will be issued.

**MAXIMIM PENALTY:** Second violation will result in ejection

**VERBAL ABUSE:** No player shall be guilty of hostile objectionable demonstrations of an umpire's decision, not abide by the umpire's decision, or abusively and verbally attack another player, umpire, or spectator. Only the manager may discuss decisions made by the umpire.

**MINIMUM PENALTY:** First violation a warning will be issued.

**MAXIMIM PENALTY:** Second violation will result in ejection and possible expulsion from the league.

**ROUGH TACTICS:** No player shall be guilty of using unnecessary rough tactics during the game against an opposing player. The Player is to be immediately ejected and remain suspended until the VCSS reviews the situation.

**MINIMUM PENALTY:** Placed on probation for the remainder of the season.

**MAXIMIM PENALTY:** Suspension for the remainder of the season.

**ALCOHOL/DRUGS (IMPAIRMENT):** No player shall appear on the field in an impaired condition. The Player is to be immediately ejected and remain suspended until the VCSS Board reviews the situation.

**MINIMUM PENALTY:** Suspended for two games and placed on probation the rest of the season.

**MAXIMIM PENALTY:** Suspension for the remainder of the season.

**PHYSICAL ATTACK:** No player shall at any time physically lay a hand upon, shove, expectorate, strike, or threaten any official, player or spectator. The player is to be immediately ejected and remain suspended until the VCSS Board reviews the matter.

**MINIMUM PENALTY:** Placed on probation for the remainder of the season.

**MAXIMIM PENALTY:** Suspension for life and/or assault charges filed.

**LANGUAGE:** All players will control their language to eliminate profanity in the dugouts, stands, and on the playing field.

**INDEBTEDNESS:** Any player or manager that incurs indebtedness to the Volusia County Senior Softball League and does not correct this matter within the prescribed amount of time will be suspended from all activities until the problem is resolved.

**SPECIAL NOTES**

- A. Any player who violates the Code of Conduct while on probation will have his penalty doubled.
- B. Any player ejected from a game must leave the field immediately (out of sight and sound). Failure to do so will result in a two-game suspension.
- C. Appeals of any violation must be made in writing to the VCSS Board who will decide the matter.
- D. All violations of the Code of Conduct should be noted in the scorebook and/or score card by the umpire. The umpire should contact the league President as to what occurred.
- E. The VCSS Board shall have the power and full discretion to impose penalties for all violations of the Code of Conduct. In any violation not included in said code, the penalty shall be at the discretion of the VCSS Board.

I agree to accept and adhere to the VCSS Code of Conduct as a condition to participate as a manager and/or player in the League. I understand that my failure to abide by VCSS rules and Code of Conduct could result in disciplinary action by League Officers. The Code of Conduct will remain effective as long as I am a participant in VCSS' league.

BY VOLUNTARILY SIGNING THIS AGREEMENT, I AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE RULES, CODE OF CONDUCT, OF VCSS AND THE RECREATIONAL DEPARTMENT WHO MANAGES THE FIELDS WE PLAY ON.

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Signature

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Date