

## **BHGS Coach Information & Responsibilities**

As coach you have an important role as leader of your team and team staff. Not only are you the leader for your team, but you will be a role model and responsible for making the season a fun one for the girls on your team. This can be a very rewarding experience, but you will need lots of patience and understanding. Coaching girls is not the same as coaching boys. They can be just as tough and intense, but they can also be much more sensitive. Stay positive, we do not tolerate coaches that yell at their players in this league. Be an advocate of good sportsmanship. We are not only teaching softball, but teaching how to be a good person. You will be their teacher, so take advantage of the coaching clinics the league has available for you to attend. These will give you the correct technique to teach your players, and how to teach it to them. A successful coach will have girls that return to play next year and love the game of softball.

### **WORK WITH YOUR ASST COACHES AND MANAGER**

Your manager will be communicating to the team regarding league and team updates. They will find volunteers for the banner, visors decorations, set up the snack shack schedule, snack schedule, etc. If you want to send out team reminders about practices or games, decide who will do this. It is best to have one person doing the communicating so there is no confusion to the families. The manager also has the job of helping the girls in the dugout. Ask your manager often about the girls and any problems or requests they are hearing from the girls. Sometimes the girls are more comfortable talking with a female.

Assistant coaches are there to help you run your practices and games. Make sure you listen to their input regarding practice plans and ideas about game strategies.

### **PRACTICES AND GAMES**

- Come prepared to practice. Have a practice plan before you come to practice. Include your asst. coach and manager in your practices ( parents too). It's easier to teach to smaller groups. Have several stations, and rotate to teach many skills at one practice. This is less boring for the girls too. \* tip for 6u and 8u, have your parents warm up throwing with their daughter at the beginning of practice. This will get them involved, and hopefully throwing at home too.
- Sharing a practice field. If you are the home team (listed first) you will have the infield first. You will need to bring out the bases and pitching rubber (8U & 10U). Halfway through the practice you will switch to the outfield with the team you are sharing the field with. The away team will return the equipment to the equipment room.
- Time to arrive for a game. Make sure your players know how early to arrive to a game for warm up. Warm up is allowed in the middle of the field if a game is still being played on your assigned field.
- Field Prep - Home team is responsible for setting up the fields. This means watering and dragging the fields if necessary, bringing out the bases, pitching rubber (8u and 10U),

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lining the fields and batter's box, hanging the helmet bags, and bat racks in each dug out. Away team needs to put all the equipment away. Each team is scheduled for an even amount of home and away games. Additional information on field prep can be found on the BHGS.net website under the coach/manager corner.

- Plan your lineup before you get to the game. 10U and older will require a lineup card to be given to the scorekeeper and umpire.
- Be a fair coach and let girls rotate positions. If you have girls sitting out, rotate them in so all girls play an equal amount of time.
- Make sure all girls are picked up before you leave a game or practice.
- Treat each girl like your own.

### **EMILY COYNE SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD**

If you know of a girl on your team or division that you feel should be recognized as the sportsman of the year, please complete the form to nominate that player. The player selected from each division will have her name engraved on the Emily Coyne Sportsman of the Year plaque, hanging in the snack shack. She will also be recognized and presented a gift card at closing ceremonies, and listed in the yearbook and web site.

### **ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

- ACE Certification - All Coaches and Managers are required to be ACE certified prior to the first practice. This is a mandatory insurance requirement for the league. Additional information on the ACE certification can be found on the Coach/Manager Corner on BHGS.net.
- Manager/Coach Clinics - Attend all coaching clinics (required). These are paid for by BHGS at no cost to you and delivered by Cutting Edge Softball. Dates and times of the clinics will be communicated by the league.
- Hit A Thon - Help your team with the Hit A Thon. Each team staff member is asked to help line the girls up, ensure every girl hits, and measure the distance their players hit. The division reps will also be at the field to help as needed.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Additional information can be found on BHGS.net

- Rain Status – available on the Rain status tab of the site. Updated prior to practices and games.
- Coaching links, forms, and information for coaches and managers can be found on the site under the coach/manager corner.
- League contacts can be found under the Board section.