**MADISON RIDGELAND YOUTH CLUB (MRYC) GIRLS SOFTBALL**

**COACHES CODE OF ETHICS**

The function of a softball coach is to educate players through participation in a recreational softball program. Each player should be treated as though she were the coaches' own child and her welfare should be of primary importance. Fellow coaches, players, officials, parents and spectators must be treated with the same respect and dignity. Accordingly, the following guidelines for coaches have been adopted by the MRYC Girls Softball Board of Directors.

* I will place the emotional and physical well being of my players ahead of a personal desire to win.
* I will use appropriate language in appropriate tones when interacting with all players, league and/or game officials, parents and spectators.
* I will do my best to provide a safe playing situation for all players, ensuring that players are provided with adequate adult supervision while under the coach’s care.
* I will lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all players, and by demonstrating that it is our basic moral code to treat others as we would like to be treated.
* I will provide a sports environment for my team that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol. I will be alcohol and drug free and refrain from using tobacco products at all team practices and games.
* I will be knowledgeable in the rules of softball and I will teach these rules to my players. I will abide by and be supportive of all applicable ASA and MRYC league rules, regulations and policies as well as the spirit of those rules.
* I will use coaching techniques appropriate for each of the skills that I teach, reducing the risk of injury to both my own players and their opponents. I will discourage illegal contact or intentional dangerous play.
* I will exercise my authority and influence to control the behavior of the fans and spectators.
* I will exhibit gracious acceptance of defeat or victory and remember that I am a youth softball coach and that the game is for the players and not the adults.

**I UNDERSTAND THAT FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS CODE OF ETHICS, MRYC POLICIES, AND/OR MRYC BYLAWS AND PLAYING RULES MAY RESULT IN WRITTEN WARNINGS, REPRIMANDS, SUSPENSIONS, AND/OR REMOVAL FROM PRACTICES, GAMES, AND/OR THE LEAGUE ITSELF.**  **I HEREBY PLEDGE TO FULFILL MY OBLIGATION AS A MADISON RIDGELAND YOUTH CLUB GIRLS SOFTBALL COACH BY FOLLOWING THIS CODE OF ETHICS.**

 Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Coaches Signature)