



**Southwest Youth Athletics  
Association**

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**Parent Contract**

The following is a contract that we are requiring all parents to sign upon joining any Southwest Youth Athletics Team. Please understand that this is simply so that there are clear expectations for all — team moms and coaches will also have their own contracts.

The main objective here is for the entire team — team moms, parents and coaches— to be on the same page. We're in this together!

I support my child's commitment to become a member of one of the Southwest Youth Athletics Associations teams. My family is an extension of our associations family, and as a result I understand I am expected to do my best to commit to associations rules and regulations.

- 1. I commit to always showing a positive image.** This means no using, or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol or using tobacco products while being associated with this program, including games, practices and meetings.
- 2. I commit to making sure my child arrives to games and practices on time.** This means often arriving 15 minutes early so that my child has enough time to get situated prior to joining our practice or pre-game preparations.
- 3. I will be sure that my child is properly equipped, sun-protected, hydrated and fueled for practices and games.** This includes proper uniforms, equipment and snacks and drinks when applicable.
- 4. I will show respect for the referees/umpires.** They will often make the wrong call, but the job of the referee/umpire is not an easy one. Voicing my displeasure will not improve the situation.
- 5. I will follow the rules for parent viewing areas during games and allow coaches to coach.** While this is not easy, I know that providing potentially conflicting messages during a game can be confusing to my child and my presence at the sidelines/bench/dugout may contribute negatively to their ability to focus.
- 6. I will be a role model for my child regarding good sportsmanship, teamwork and self-worth.** These things start with the adults, and the players will behave accordingly. We will take pride in how we carry ourselves and treat others.
- 7. I am responsible for the behavior of all family members at games and practices.** Others may attend games to cheer on my child, and I need to be sure that they also handle themselves according to these rules.
- 8. I will provide encouragement and support for my child.** My child needs to hear my positive encouragement throughout the game.
- 9. I will provide encouragement and support for all players on the team.** As a team, it's important to provide the same support for my child's teammates. We're in this together!
- 10. I will respect the opposing team, coaches and fans.** They are the same as us in many ways, but they simply wear different uniforms. Appreciation for their performance and respect for their abilities will contribute to a positive game environment.
- 11. I understand that winning is important to the team, but the primary objective is promoting an environment of growth and learning.** They will win. They will lose. They

will make mistakes. One of the most important things will be what they learn from success and failure.

- 12. I will get to know the team values and reinforce them with my child.** I will read through those expectations with my child and serve as a reminder when they aren't being met.
- 13. I will support the coach's message.** While I will not agree with the coach at all times, I also understand that contradicting the coach's message is counterproductive.
- 14. I will help my child embrace his role, no matter what it is.** I may not agree with where my child plays or their position, but it is important that I help my child embrace and master that role for the best possible experience.
- 15. I will help nurture a positive environment on and off the field/court.** I will do my best to keep a positive tone as I realize my reactions impact the team.
- 16. I will refrain from public complaints about coaching and other players with parents or on social media.** While I will not always agree with how the team is being coached, I know that these reactions do not help.
- 17. I will schedule a time with the coach to calmly and constructively discuss concerns rather than during, immediately before or after a practice or game.** Instead of complaining publicly, I will be part of the solution by scheduling a private time to discuss my concerns. If you are not happy with the outcome of this discussion you then may escalate your concerns or issues to one of the board members or directors.
- 18. I will offer my help as a volunteer to leverage my skills, where possible.** The success of this team is run on the contributions of volunteers, and I want to contribute whatever I can to help.
- 19. I will respect the challenges the coaches face and time commitment they make.** I know that coaching isn't easy. It's a significant contribution of time and energy, often with the side effect of stress.
- 20. I will make payments for team fees as scheduled.** The team is not a bank, and several large payments are due on a scheduled basis for tournaments, uniforms, practice facilities and more.
- 21. I will participate in all fundraising activities.** Each team determines their own fundraisers to raise money for additional apparel and banquets. At the start of each fundraiser the coach or team mom will notify all parents of the minimum requirement, you are expected to met that minimum. If you do not wish to participate in the fundraiser the coach will also offer a cash amount that you can donate instead. When apparel is bought for the team and the banquet it benefits all of the kids on the team it is not fair to make a handful of parents raise the majority of the fundraising money.

I will do everything within my control to make this a positive experience for my child, other players, families and coaches. I will do my part to contribute to this organization! I will always do my best to follow these rules. While I am not expected to be perfect and we will all have our weak moments, the main thing is that I will make a consistent effort to help nurture a positive environment for all.

However, I will not consistently neglect or ignore these rules. Depending on the severity and frequency of my infractions, I understand that my actions may impact the standing of my child on this team. I understand these rules, and I will do my best to always represent this team and my child in a positive manner.

\_\_\_\_\_ PARENT SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE