

## NORCAL Softball

### **ZERO TOLERANCE OF NEGATIVE INTERACTIONS DURING SOFTBALL GAMES**

Our goals and belief are that all participants: players, coaches, umpires, spectators, league and NORCAL organizers enjoy the experience of watching our teams practice, train and play the game of softball.

For the most part we all have had positive experiences this year.

The NORCAL Softball Association finds itself concerned regarding the negative interactions which have occurred during tournaments and/or games this year. NORCAL is specifically concerned regarding spectators' propensity to get involved in game management and umpiring.

**NORCAL is instituting a ZERO TOLERANCE stance of non-management spectators and team management during games in tournaments and next year's fall ball games.**

Umpires and Tournament Directors will have full discretion to eject any offenders from the premises.

**All ejections during tournaments for bad and unacceptable behavior will be for the duration of the tournament. (this decision includes team management)**

Umpires will be instructed to warn team representatives of spectator issues. The second warning will result in a manager/coach ejection from the tournament. Umpires do not need to warn spectators or on field personnel directly regarding bad behavior.

Please have parents cheer for your team and players in a positive manner.

Spectators are not to engage with Umpires or tournament directors at any time regarding game management or umpire calls and decisions.

Spectators from opposing teams should maintain good relations and not engage in behaviors that will incite strong emotions or invoke bad behavior between teams. Use of profanity or abusive behavior at other spectators, umpires, other coaches and tournament directors will result in ejection.

Spectators are not official representatives and are not to engage with Tournament Directors about on field issues aside from informing Directors that an Umpire has requested to talk with the Director.

Players, Coaches and on field team management are not to promote a negative atmosphere towards Umpires or tournament staff and/or opposing team players or staff. Team management is responsible for team spectators' behaviors. **Ejections of team management could risk game Forfeiture.**

Engaging with opposing players in a negative manner or in an attempt to intimidate will not be tolerated. It is best to "stay in your own dugout" paying attention to your players.

Teams should use proper on field protocol while working with Umpires to resolve and understand rules and rulings.

Our goal is for everyone to enjoy their time at the games and have a good experience.

