



ROLES:

Player Role:

- Strive for positivity and a positive attitude each day
- Focus on the field (not the crowd) before and during the games to achieve successful results
- Support your teammates and Coaches on and off the field in both words & actions.
- Be Loyal to the softball program – you have chosen this and are needed no matter your role
- Work hard and never give up – your role is important and hard work will result in keeping your current role or improving your role.
- Know and adhere to school and team rules
- Be prepared
- As a team, you have each other's back and will grow stronger by sharing information, supporting each other with feedback and encouragement
- Attempt to perform the skills the way you are coached.
- Know the signs and attempt to execute them in the way asked by the coach
- Communicate with the Coaches openly and honestly
- Understand what you can control:
 - Effort
 - Attitude
 - Commitment
 - Loyalty
 - How YOU manage adversity or constructive criticism from yourself or others:
 - A Great player gets out 6-7 times out of 10 - stay positive
 - Everyone will be coached on ways to improve their effort to make the team better – stay positive and work the suggestions
- Understand what you cannot control
 - Playing time
 - Umpires Calls
 - The actions and attitudes of others

Coaches Role:

- Strive for positivity and positive attitude each day
- Communicate expectations of the program with players including guidelines for lettering, practice expectations and game expectations on an ongoing basis
- Know the rules of the game and support team when necessary to discuss situations with umpires.
- Make ALL playing and strategy decisions for the TEAM's success
- Manage administrative tasks for the program including bus schedule, practice schedules, game schedules, and communication with Athletic Director, and team with updates throughout the season
- Enforce school and team rules
- Be positive, consistent, and fair with players with ultimate goal of bringing out the best in softball performance.
- Promote the program
- Support Softball Assistant coach throughout season to improve their role and communicate game and player strategy
- Make sure all athletes fill out appropriate forms prior to 1st practice, physical forms, concussion form, line up concussion testing with Athletic Director
- Work with Booster Club to request appropriate equipment
- Prepare the field for a safe playing surface

Parents' Roles

- Strive for positivity and positive attitude each day
- Cheer and be a fan of everyone on the team
- Respect others
- Set an example for your athletes by not expressing negative thoughts about the coach, the program, or teammates.
- Be supportive of your child and encourage them to remain positive and proud of their role on the team.
- Let the coaches do the coaching –please stay away from the dugout unless a coach has given permission
- Practices are critical time for coaches to work with the players and is not an appropriate place for parents unless a coach has given permission.
- Contact the coach immediately if you suspect an injury that has not been identified or would like advice how to proceed with a suspected injury.
***The school has a contract with Jamie Blum and Blum Physical Therapy. She will both evaluate a player for injury AND she will administer 2 free therapy sessions for our athletes. 712-655-4433 123 Main Street, Manning

Communication:

* Playing time and/or strategy is NEVER a topic for discussion for parents or players. These are solely the decisions of the coaches. Athletes are encouraged to show their best effort and accept their valuable role on the team.

*If a player has a question they should ask for a meeting with the coach/coaches. If the situation is not resolved, a parent may request a meeting with the coach/coaches as well. It is inappropriate for a face to face meeting to be scheduled either before or after a game.

Eligibility: We will follow both the IKM-Manning Guidelines for eligibility as well as the state guidelines for athletic participation.

Good Conduct Policy: We will follow the IKM-Manning Good Conduct Policy

Attendance: As in any activity, attendance is expected. IF there is a conflict communicate with Coach Gross ASAP. I will deal with each situation on a case by case basis.

3 Unexcused absences will result in being dropped from the team.

My Expectations:

- The player will communicate with Coach Gross IMMEDIATELY when they know there is a conflict. After you inform me in person, send me a text so if there is any confusion we can refer to that.
- If you will miss practice/game the proper protocol to follow is for the PLAYER to call Mrs. Gross on her cell phone (everyone has the number) and if no answer LEAVE A MESSAGE and then, TEXT me ASAP. This can't occur after the practice/game.
- If you are in school, you will come to practice.
- If you are injured, you still come to all practices or games unless you are under a doctor's care and it is not recommended such as with a concussion.
- All players will stay for both games and support their teammates.
- Students are to ride to and from athletic contests on school provided transportation. Students are to notify the coach with written notification in advance if they are not riding on school transportation. Parents should give the coach verbal or written permission allowing their child to ride home with themselves or other responsible adults.
- Players will execute their duties after practice and games before they leave or go talk to their friends and relatives.
- Players will be respectful to their parents.
- Players and coaches will have fun being part of the Wolves Softball Team

Practice and Game Day Dress

- Clothing should consist of clothes that allow you to participate fully, pants to slide etc. We also want to KEEP IT CLASSY. No shirts that are cut down the side so that your undergarment shows.
- We do NOT undress in an open area. Undergarment should not be visible at any time.
- On game days those playing in the first game should have their uniform on, shirt tucked in, look like you are ready to play when EXITING the bus. Set the tone for the night coming off the bus.
- If there are any issues with the uniform I need to know the day after I give uniforms so we have time to make adjustments.
- YOU are responsible for appropriately cleaning the uniform. Every night after a game you should scrub out any sliding or grass stains, apply a stain treatment, soak if necessary, wash and hang dry. No NOT dry the uniform top in the dryer. I use OXYICLEAN in the spray bottle and a 3 inch scrub brush.
- Have a visor or hat EVERYDAY at practice and games.
- Have a checklist of things you need every day.

Lettering Requirements

- Play in 1/3 of the games, all 5th year seniors will letter varsity, Coach may also letter any others that have made a significant impact on the team.

Social Media/Cell Phones

Players may only post positive comments and pictures about players, coaches, umpires, fans, and opponents. If someone posts a negative comment you may NOT comment on it nor “like” it. Keep it positive. Violating this policy will result in one or more of the following and Coach Gross will decide which step to start on depending on each situation.

- Conference with Coach Gross to discuss situation
- Apology to whomever is offended by the comment
- Loss of playing time
- Dismiss from the team

Rule of Thumb: Use Social Media to PROMOTE our team, not demote yourself. Never post when you are upset.

Radio/Newspaper Interviews: Remember when you are being interviewed that they will write what you say, good rule of thumb is to remember you are part of a

team and that everyone is needed for success, NEVER make NEGATIVE comments about anyone to someone with a microphone or video camera.

Cell Phone Use: Leave it in your bag and have it OFF, if you need to use it you may ask. Keep them out of the dugout.

I don't have a bus policy YET for phone use....this may change at any time if I feel it is needed.

NO SEEDS, if gum wrappers or gum is lying around that may go as well....pick up after yourself. Leave a positive representation of our school when playing at another location by respecting their dugout/field.

Game Day Duties (Whoever finishes the game in this spot)

Pitcher: Repair mound by raking and watering if needed, also in charge of water cooler

Catcher: Repair catchers and batter's box by raking and watering if needed, take care of YOUR catcher's bag

Infielders Rake in your area which also means raking in areas around the bases that may be low due to sliding....this is YOUR area, keep it at a high level

Outfielders: Put away Video Camera, PA System, and Scoreboard system

Non-Starters: Put away Bats, Balls, Helmets, and Turf used on dugout and edge of dugout

Park Cleanup After Games

Monday - Seniors

Tuesday - Juniors

Wednesday - 8th Graders

Thursday - Freshmen

Friday - No home games

Saturday - Freshmen