

Giants Softball Expectations:

Practice:

1. Each softball player is expected to have their own glove and cleats plus any other equipment they need. All of these things should be labeled with full name.
2. Every softball player will use the girls' locker room facility and have clothes "on hand" for indoor and outdoor practice. No exceptions! We will assign lockers once you have a lock.
3. You are given/told the practice schedule in advance; therefore you should always be on time and even early to begin stretching on your own. If you expect lateness, pre-arrange with your coach.
4. Practice time is start time with the coach's daily plan; have cleats/shoes on, hair up, and glove ready to go.
5. Be prepared to work hard daily. We will perform many drills. The goal is to practice and improve the basics so that in a game, the responses are automatic. Practice is the time to work things out, not in a game.
6. You will be assigned equipment to carry to practice and games. Pick it up before practice and return the gear to its proper place after practice. Never leave behind any equipment, whether it is yours to carry or not.
7. Help motivate your fellow teammates. Do not accept any less of what is expected in a game situation. You are individually responsible for hard work and the success of your team.
8. Treat your coaches and teammates with respect. When you are spoken to about playing techniques, attitude, or behavior, it is because we want to see an improvement. It is not a personal attack. Listen, process, and then if information needs to be shared, do so properly.
9. Be a hustler always! Hustle after softballs that get away, or when picking up before/after a drill. Time efficiency is important, let's not waste time on reminding people to hustle.
10. Be positive! Encourage others to go harder and keep their head in practices and not other school activities etc.

Games:

1. Always check and make sure you have all necessary parts of your uniform and equipment to be prepared for games.
2. Always be on time to the field for home games (3:40 PM) and to the bus for away games. If you are late to the bus, we will leave without you!
3. When we are at home, the fans and parents must stay in the bleachers and not near the bench (unless there is an emergency). Your focus is to warm-up and be prepared to play in the game.
4. For away games, have uniform on before getting on the bus, and before we get off the bus, you should have shirt tucked in, cleats on, and whatever you need for the game, so we can immediately begin warm-ups.
5. Other equipment, like bats, ball bags, water, etc., will be assigned to you. You will be responsible for these things to bring to the games. We are ALL responsible for never leaving equipment behind because someone forgot. We are a team and we all use and need the equipment.
6. We have very limited time during the games to meet as a team and talk about the defense/offense. Always hustle on and off the field to huddles and vice versa. This is the time to talk about what needs to be improved/changed.
7. Be in the game mentally and physically. Do not be distracted by people you know, do not know, a call made by the umpire, or even a mistake you made. Fix the problem quickly and move on to the next play.
8. Always cheer on a great play!

Bus behavior and rules:

1. All athletes are required to ride the bus to and from away games. If it is necessary to receive a ride from a parent, the Athletic office must receive notification 24 hours prior to the day in a written note stating reason, date, and time of departure. Take to Matt Castle or Colleen Boilini in the Athletic Office. We will allow this to happen only once a season.
2. Athletes will sit in their seats and not move on the bus from seat to seat for safety. Also, athletes will keep personal equipment bags out of aisles in case of an emergency.
3. We will use an "inside voice" on the bus and not scream or sing loudly; except for the Highland Park Loyalty Song. A loud level of noise is distracting to the bus driver and becomes a safety hazard.

School:

1. School is the reason you are allowed to participate on any athletic team. We expect a lot of time, effort, and hard work from you so plan a study schedule and do not fall behind. Do not procrastinate and take advantage of any free periods.
2. If you are not doing well in a class, let us know as soon as possible, we will help or find you help.
3. If you are "too sick" to be involved in physical education, then you are also "too sick" to practice or play in a game. (We do get reports from teachers frequently).
4. Remember you represent our Softball program at all times. We are proud of our program and our teams, so many people are invested in our success. Be a leader! Do your best.