

## **BAY RIVER RUMBLE PARENT DOs AND DON'Ts**

**DO** get your daughter(s) to practice on time. If you cannot get them to practice on time, please make transportation arrangements. Most parents understand the busy schedules of athletic families and are willing to lend a ride. If your player will be late or absent for any reason, let the Manager know as early as possible.

**DO** pick your daughter(s) up from practice on time. Coaches are not permitted to leave a child alone at the field. Please respect his time as well and be prompt.

**DO** get involved. The coaches often would appreciate someone to shag balls or run bases. At the end of practice, offer to rake the infield or gather and put away equipment. If you have a specific skill or see an opportunity where you can help the organization, let your Manager or someone on the Executive Board know. Volunteers are always greatly appreciated.

**DO** cheer for the team.

**DO** participate in team events and fundraisers. Not only do fundraisers help reduce the out-of-pocket expenses, but they also build a camaraderie among the team and parents. Team and organizational events can be a large undertaking. Be sure to find out who is in charge and offer your help. Every amount of assistance is appreciated.

**DO** encourage practice at home. Everything a player needs to be successful cannot happen during a two-hour team practice. Commitment off the field is just as important. Make practice a part of your personal time together, too. Ask the coach if you need a piece of equipment to work on at home – chances are there is a spare one you can borrow.

**DO** make friends with the families on the sideline. You'll spend a lot of time here watching your daughters play a game they love. Make it an enjoyable social experience for yourself, too.

**DO** remember that the Manager and Coaches are volunteers and have the girls' interests at heart. They selflessly offer hours of their time each week to put a competitive team on the field. Please always remember to treat them with respect and gratitude.

**DON'T** cheer against the other team. They are kids who are also out there working hard on the field, just like yours. Always display sportsmanship and set a good example for the girls.

**DON'T** yell at the umpires. This will never help our team, but it will always hurt us. Trust the coaches to know the game and how to handle disagreements with the umpires.

**DON'T** coach from the sideline. It creates confusion and discontent. Allow the coaches to do their job.

**DON'T** yell at your own child during practice or games. Not only will this embarrass the player and potentially upset her for the rest of the practice/game, but the other girls in the dugout will also be affected. Oftentimes players are put in situations by the coaches to teach a new skill or strategy. A poor performance may be expected and should not be criticized. Other unacceptable behavior should be handled by the coaches, in a manner they know to be most effective. Again, allow them to do their job.

**DON'T** suggest changes to the coaching staff about the line-up, play time, or coaching strategies. These are decisions made by the coaching staff based on demonstrated skills and abilities during practices and live games. It is acceptable to encourage your daughter to speak one-on-one with the coach and ask how she can earn playing time/position. Allow them to speak for themselves now and learn how to be their own advocate and resolve issues themselves in a positive manner.

**DON'T** approach the Manager or Coach immediately after a game/tournament with questions or complaints. Emotions are often still high and words can be taken out of context. If important, wait a day or so before having the conversation. This will allow for a more calm and productive discussion.

**DON'T** forget to have fun. This is one of the most important times of your daughter's life. Help make it a great experience by joining us to provide a positive and rewarding environment for her to grow.

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*Parent Signature and Date*