



DANDENONG SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

Representative Team Parents & Players Information

Dandenong thanks you for your assistance to ensure a successful representative softball experience for you and your child.

Dandenong Representative Teams have a long-standing history of competitiveness, sportsmanship and success; one which we hope you will promote and continue.

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Representative Team Parents Information

- Ensure that the medical authority form is completed for your child and emergency contact information provided to the Manager. Advise the Manager of any special requirements.
- Ensure that the Code of Conduct form is completed and signed by you and your child.
- Ensure your child has the correct uniform by a date as advised by your Manager.
- Ensure that your child complies with behaviour and dress requirements when involved with Dandenong Representative Teams.
- Ensure that all players and parents behave in a responsible manner and respect each other, the opposition team and other parents.
- Ensure that any problems are reported or discussed with the Manager or Executive Committee member and resolved as soon as possible.
- Ensure your child always has 2 drink bottles and snacks as required for training sessions and tournaments.
- All players require their own personal supply of tape for injuries and their own minor first aid kit that includes Band-Aids, antiseptic cream, saline solution etc.
- Inform the Coach and Manager if your child has an injury of any kind, along with any particular rehabilitation information.
- Players are expected to attend training sessions. If your child is unable to attend please advise the Manager as soon as possible. Failure to attend multiple training sessions places a player's position in the team and game time at risk.

Tournaments

State Championships

The U15, U17, U19 and Open State Championship teams participate in the Victorian State Championships which are hosted by Victorian associations each year. There may be travel involved if a country association hosts. Details will be available from the Manager.

Waverley Easter Tournament - Under 13/15/17/19

Dandenong encourages our Representative Teams to participate in the Easter Tournament at Waverley. However participation is not compulsory. Games are played Good Friday – Easter Monday. Parents will be required to assist with some duties over the course of the weekend. Your Manager will provide more information.

Representative Player Information

Congratulations on being selected to represent Dandenong Softball Association for the forthcoming tournaments. Hopefully this year we will see another group of players that will represent Dandenong with pride and distinction.

We have a busy time ahead of us with lots to do and organise before we actually start playing. You will be given more detail as and when required, and in the meantime, your attention is drawn to the following information and standards expected of every player representing Dandenong Softball Association.

Commitment

- All players are expected to attend training sessions. If you are unable to attend it is your responsibility to advise your Manager as soon as possible. Failure to attend multiple training sessions places your position in the team and game time at risk.
- Be punctual for training and game times.
- Always exhibit good sportsmanship.

Expected Participation

State Championships

For All State Championship teams, players will be selected to ensure the strongest Dandenong team participates. This may include picking up players outside of the Association group. There is no expectation of Coaches providing equal game time for all players and the aim is for Dandenong to be as successful as possible at the tournament.

Waverley Easter Tournament - Under 13/15/17/19

The Tournament is held at Jells Park. Team Coaches are instructed to provide (as much as is possible), equal game time for all players during the preliminary rounds. If a team participates in the finals; success should be the ultimate aim and at times equivalent game time for all players may not be possible.

Player Levy

A player levy will be charged for each State Championship team they are selected in. This will cover bench item requirements as well as Team Entry Levy to State Championships and any out-of-pocket expenses incurred during the tournament.

Training

Training Sessions will be advised by Team Coaches. Please note that if you are unable to attend any of the training sessions you must let the Manager know beforehand.

Training sessions start at the nominated time. You are expected to arrive at the grounds early enough to ensure you are ready to begin training at the nominated time.

Parents, please ensure your child is on time. The coaching staff will endeavour to finish the training sessions on time so that you are not kept waiting.

Appropriate training clothing is required, please come attired to training dressed as if you would be paying a game. You must always wear a hat (visors available for senior players) and have at least 2 drink bottles.

Club or State affiliated clothing is not to be worn at training sessions or tournaments.

Uniforms

When representing Dandenong Softball Association players are required to wear the complete correct uniform.

The Dandenong Uniform is to be worn at State Championships only.

Players will need to purchase their own pants and socks which are available from K2.

Junior Female Teams: - U15 & U17 wear black pants with black & white stirrup socks. Mr ALESSANDRO BERARDI / 500008375833 / Mrs ALLIRA JANE BERARDI The uniform top will be provided by the Dandenong Association and will require a plain black undershirt to be worn under the top provided.

Junior Male Teams: - U15 & U17 wear black pants with plain black socks. The uniform top will be provided by the Dandenong Association and will require a plain black undershirt.

All U19 & Open Teams wear black pants and 'Dandenong Yellow' tops. Male players will require a black undershirt and black socks, Female players will require a white undershirt and black & white stirrup socks.

Hats and/or Visors will be provided by the association at a cost of \$15 per Hat at \$10 per Visor.

Association Hoodies will be available for purchase. Association Supporter Hoodies will also be available.

PLEASE DO NOT APPROACH COACHES OR OFFICIALS DIRECTLY - REMEMBER, WE ARE ALL VOLUNTEERS

Feedback/Complaints

Any feedback or complaints against fellow players and/or coaches and officials should be directed to the Dandenong Association Executive Committee via email to enquiries@dandenongsoftball.com

Rules of Conduct - Players and Officials

- All officials and players of teams should understand that whilst representing the Dandenong Softball Association their conduct shall reflect upon all members of the Dandenong Association, as such; all coaches and players shall abide by the Rules of the Association. At all times, the team(s) will uphold Dandenong's tradition of good behaviour and sportsmanship.
- Courtesy is always to be extended to other teams and, in particular, the host association. All other associations and the local community will be shown every courtesy and consideration.
- The Manager shall have complete control of the team and has the duty to uphold and enforce Dandenong Association policies and procedures applicable to Dandenong Softball Association Representative Teams.
- When training, on the field or in match play the control of the team will be the responsibility of the team Coach who shall be responsible for team programs, training and game management.
- The Dandenong Softball Association endorses the Australian Sport Code of Conduct for Coaches, Players, Parents and Spectators. Accordingly, all are encouraged to abide by this code.
- Players, Coaches and other team officials shall not make offensive, disparaging or insulting remarks or acts to or about opposing players, officials, umpires or spectators that could be considered unsportsmanlike.
- There will be no smoking or consumption of alcohol by team personnel in the bench area. Senior members of Dandenong Softball Association Representative Teams will not consume alcohol until after play for the day has been completed and will not wear the Dandenong Softball Association uniform when consuming alcohol.
- Underage drinking by any Dandenong Softball Association team member will not be tolerated.
- Members of Dandenong Softball Association Representative Teams will not smoke while wearing the Dandenong Softball Association uniform or during game time.
- The use of drugs by any Dandenong Softball Association Representative Team member other than those prescribed by a medical practitioner for medicinal purposes is prohibited.
- It is the responsibility of the player or parent of a junior player to ensure that medicines (over the counter and medically prescribed), do not appear on the WADA banned substances list.
- Any illness or injury is to be reported to the Manager. Any medicines being used by a team member should be advised to the Manager.
- All players must remain on the bench in full uniform until the game is over. If someone has to leave the bench area, permission from the Manager must be obtained and will only be granted in extenuating circumstances. No person other than team members and officials will be permitted in the bench area.
- Displays of bad temper such as throwing bats, kicking helmets etc are considered unsportsmanlike and may result in ejection from the game.
- All team members must wear full playing uniform including an agreed bench uniform for team officials whilst on the diamond or in the bench area. Uniforms are to be kept neat and clean and are to be worn correctly.
- Bad language will not be tolerated.
- Players shall not make unreasonable requests for permission to absent themselves from the team while attending the competition venue, nor shall they expect permission to be granted for them to invite outside persons to join the team at their accommodation.
- Any player who deliberately attempts to undermine the authority of the Manager or any other team official, or upsets the harmony in a team shall be liable to a penalty such as standing down from a game or games or being sent home or any other penalty deemed appropriate at the time.
- Each team member is at all times responsible for personal costs incurred.
- All team members shall attend the closing ceremonies and the Grand Final in accordance with Softball Victoria or host Association rules.

- Any damage costs, cleaning or other charges incurred by a Dandenong Softball Association team will be charged to the team as a whole unless clearly attributable to a specific person or persons.
- Any problems that may arise should be reported to a Dandenong Softball Association Executive Committee member.
- Never ridicule or yell at your teammates for making a mistake or losing a competition.

Social Media

For Dandenong Softball Association members, staff and representatives using social media, such use:

- Must not contain, or link to, libellous, defamatory or harassing content. This also applies to the use of illustrations or nicknames.
- Must not comment on, or publish, information that is confidential or in any way sensitive to Dandenong Softball Association, its affiliates, partners or sponsors.
- Must not bring the organisation or softball into disrepute.
- Furthermore, Dandenong Softball Association members, staff and representatives may not use the Dandenong Softball Association brand to endorse or promote any product, opinion, cause or political candidate; and it must be clear to all readers that any and all opinion shared are those of the individual, and do not represent or reflect the views of Dandenong Softball Association.
- The web is not anonymous. Dandenong members, staff and representatives should assume that everything they write could be traced back to them.
- Due to the unique nature of Softball in Australia, the boundaries between a member's profession, volunteer time and social life can often be blurred. It is therefore essential that members make a clear distinction between what they do in a professional capacity and what they do, think or say in their capacity as a volunteer for Dandenong Softball Association. Dandenong Softball Association considers all members as its representatives; as such, it is essential that members make a clear distinction between what they do in a professional capacity, and what they do, think or say in their capacity as a volunteer for Dandenong Softball Association.
- It is important that Dandenong Softball Association members appreciate the web as a permanent record of online actions and opinions.
- When using the Internet for professional or personal pursuits, all members must respect the Dandenong Softball Association brand and follow the guidelines in place to ensure Dandenong Softball Association's intellectual property or its relationships with sponsors and stakeholders is not compromised.

Mobile Phones

- Are not permitted to be used whilst you are at training or playing a game.
- If you need to contact someone please let the Manager know.
- If you are caught using your mobile phone during these times it will be confiscated by the Manager and returned to you at the end of the training session or the end of the day's play.
- Inappropriate or abusive calls or text messages to other players/officials will not be tolerated under any circumstances and any player/parent found to be in breach of this rule shall be liable to a penalty such as the player standing down from a game or games or being sent home or any other penalty deemed appropriate at the time by the Dandenong Softball Association Executive.

Rules of Conduct – Parents and Spectators

- Children play softball for fun. Accept mistakes as part of their learning process. Remember they are playing for their fun, not yours.
- Applaud good play from both teams and encourage your child to accept that their best and honest effort is just as important as victory.
- Encourage the players and coaches to always play the game within the rules and spirit of the game.
- To help assist your understanding, learn the rules.
- Never ridicule, abuse or yell at ANY player or official for making a mistake which may change the result of a game.
- Offensive language or behaviour from parents and spectators is not acceptable under any circumstances.
- Recognise the value and importance of the volunteers assisting. They give their time and effort to provide a safe and fun environment for your child. If you are able, your assistance is always welcome and appreciated.
- Softball is a fun game. Accept that each player will spend time on the bench and have a particular role within the team.
- Not all players aspire to be, or are champions, so if they don't want to play, then don't force them.
- If you disagree with an official or coach, raise the issue with the Dandenong Softball Association Executive Committee and attempt to resolve the matter amicably.

There is nothing worse than the ugly parent

Dandenong Softball Association reserves the right to remove any parent or spectator causing undue interruption or offense

Players and Parents Acceptance of this Manual

Please complete this page and return to your Manager

I agree to abide by the contents of this document as stated when involved as a member of a Dandenong Softball Association Representative Team.

Players Name: _____

Signed: _____

Co-Signed: _____
(Parent or Guardian – If Player is Under 19)

Date: _____



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