



2020-2021 Lakeshore Storm Softball, LLC Coaching Contract

- Remember that you are the coach and you must keep a coach to player relationship and do not become "friends" with the athletes.
- For your protection, when at a practice, games, tournaments or team outings, NEVER be left alone with just one player (even if your child is present). The second to last player to be picked up, please ask them to stay with you until the last player is picked up.
- Always encourage the buddy system with a teammate whenever they are leaving your sight at practices, tournaments or team outings (including hotel stays). Ideally keeping the athletes in groups of at least 3 is best.
- All written communication (email, text messaging, Facebook, etc.) should be made with the parents and **NOT** with the players (you may include the player in on the message but the message is to the parent. At the 16u – 23u level, GroupMe texting is ok with athletes only (entire team communication).
- When creating distribution lists, the only distribution list for your team should be your parent email addresses (players may be added). Coaches should **NOT** be emailing, text messaging, Facebooking, twittering or instant messaging their players individually. When communicating information about practices, games, tournaments, etc., ALL written communication should go through the parents and **NOT** just the players and **ALSO** be placed on your Storm team website page.
- Please do not call your players personally or ask your players to call you. When telephone calls are necessary, call and speak with the parents and if you ask them if you can talk with their son/daughter, that then is fine because they have given you permission at the time of the call.
- Whenever there is a potential problem between a player/parent and a coach and written communication has been sent to you expressing the concern, do not reply with an answer to the email. First, think about the email for a 24-hour period and then reply with a quick response of something such as, "thank you for emailing me your concerns, let's select a time that we can discuss this in person and get to a resolution". When and **IF** this happens, it is imperative that Deb Sleeman is Cc: in on the return email and that you follow up with her on the resolution. Otherwise this could backfire on you if they contact Deb...
- Keep all communication clean. You never know who might read your emails or overhear a conversation and what one says, can and often is misunderstood and the last thing that any of us wants or needs to do is explain what was said.
- When using the Storm Center for indoor practices, all equipment must be returned to the proper place when your practice concludes.
- No equipment is to leave the Storm Center unless prior permission is granted by Deb Sleeman.
- If you are not going to use your scheduled practice time at the Storm Center, a 48-hour notice must be given to Deb Sleeman.
- Each coach agrees to a background check being performed on them and their coaching is subject to the results of the check.
- All teams are expected to wear approved Lakeshore Storm uniforms in any round robin or tournament play. Approved uniforms consist of club administered uniforms. Shorts are not allowed and teams cannot create their own jersey shirt for games.
- All coaches understand that Lakeshore Storm Softball, Inc. is a club and not made up of individual teams. All teams are expected to support and encourage each other at practices and at games and that we always are focused on building our club from within. When a sub is needed by a team, the Storm coach is asked to ask another age group player within our club rather than going to an outside person whenever possible. However, first you need to contact the coach for that team and make sure that they do not have any conflicts and they are ok with them playing for you as a substitute.
- If an injury to a player occurs and they are under a physician's care, before returning to play, the player needs approval from their Dr. or their parent must sign off releasing Lakeshore Storm and the coach of ALL liability...NO EXCEPTIONS.

I have read and understand the Coaches Responsibility and will follow the contract for the protection of myself, my players, and Lakeshore Storm Softball, Inc. and all coaches agree to a background check.

_____	X	_____	_____
Coaches Name Printed	Coaches Named Signed	Age Group	Date
_____	_____	_____	_____
Coaches Full Legal Name	D.O.B.	BG Check Cleared.	Approved