

CITY OF THORNTON

Girls Softball Coach Job Description

SUMMARY: This is a volunteer position responsible for planning, organizing, implementing and supervising teams at practices and games in the City of Thornton Girls Softball Program. Season runs from the beginning of May through the end of July (three months) with practices twice per week (either 5-6:30 or 6:30-8 p.m.), an 8-10 game league schedule and single elimination tournament. Current age divisions (age on June 1st) are 4-5 (tee ball), 6-7 (coach-pitch), 8-9 (player pitch), 10-11, 12-13 and 14-17. All applicants must successfully pass a background check and concussion recognition training annually.

Essential Functions:

1. Plans and implements effective practices with an emphasis on fundamentals and having fun!
2. Selects and supervises assistant coaches to help manage the team.
3. Communicates rules, team policies, practice and game information to participants and parents.
4. Enforces all rules and team policies with their players, parents and coaches. Models good sportsmanship at all times and demands the same from everyone associated with the team.
5. Ensures all possible safety measures are observed. Identifies and reports any hazards or problems to the League Director. Calls 911 in the event of emergencies. Follows the guidelines for lightning safety as set forth by the League Director.
6. Exhibits good customer service skills and sportsmanship when interacting with other coaches, participants, parents, fans, staff and umpires.
7. Attends trainings and meetings as requested by the League Director.
8. **Coaches and assistants should not transport participants (other than their own children) to and from practices and games.**
9. **Communication with players, whether via direct contact, email, texts, Facebook, etc. should never be to an individual player, but rather to the group (including the parents).**

10. Coaches are responsible for mandatory reporting of any suspected child abuse or neglect. For more information visit: <http://co4kids.org/>

Knowledge & Abilities: Coaches must have a good understanding of the game of fast pitch softball, but more importantly an ability to teach the fundamental skills necessary to be successful at each appropriate age level. Mixing up practices and drills will keep participants more interested in learning the game. Success for most teams will be measured by the amount of fun that everyone has, not the number of games won! Coaches should proactively learn the rules and policies of the league before attempting to teach these to others and when in doubt, contact the League Director. Good communication skills with both girls and parents is essential. Prior coaching experience might be helpful, but a great attitude and love for the game can be just as valuable!

Physical and Mental Requirements: Volunteer Coaches work outdoors in a variety of weather conditions (sun, rain, heat, cold, wind, etc.) and must be prepared to handle the quickly changing weather of Colorado. Coaches will set up equipment for practices and demonstrate various drills and skills while teaching softball. Coaches must also possess the ability to remain calm and clear thinking in a variety of stressful situations at practices and games. It is required that coaches demonstrate exceptional leadership qualities and adhere to the following Code of Ethics:

I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of any personal desire to win.

I will remember to treat each player as an individual, remembering the large spread of emotional and physical development for the same age group.

I will do my very best to provide a safe play situation for my players.

I promise to review and practice the necessary first aid principles needed to treat injuries of my players.

I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all my players.

I will lead, by example, in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all my players.

I will insure that I am knowledgeable in the rules of each sport that I coach, and I will teach these rules to my players.

I will use those coaching techniques appropriate for each of the skills that I teach.

I will remember that I am a youth coach, and that the game is for children and not adults.

By electronically applying for this volunteer position, I am acknowledging that I have read and understand the policies listed above and agree to follow them to the best of my ability.