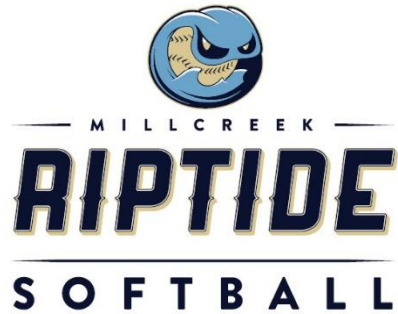


Tournament Weekend Routine & Team Policies



UNIFORMS:

It will be posted the day prior as to which shirt we are wearing based on weather. I expect each girl to bring both shirts with them, so we have a back-up. For cold days or mornings, I suggest a white Under Armour style long sleeve to wear under the shirt.

WEATHER & CANCELATIONS:

As much as we love to hear from you, please don't text or post to the app the morning leading up to the game to see if we are playing or not. WE PROMISE, THE SECOND WE KNOW, YOU WILL KNOW! There are rules that the tournament needs to refund for cancellations, so we will play in rain and questionable weather.

ARRIVAL:

Please have your daughter **ON THE FIELD** at the designated time stated on the app for each game. They should be ready to go, dressed, cleats, sunscreen, glove on and warming up at the time listed. As an example, if I state 45 minutes before the 1st game, please get there around an hour to make sure they're on the field 45 minutes before.

FUEL THEM:

I'm not a nutritionist or a picture of health, but I do know a kid can't play all day and perform at a high level on soda and donuts. That kind of sugar is only good for a quick boost. The kids crash, become dehydrated and cannot focus with that much junk in them. So PLEASE make sure they are eating something substantial before & between games. Send them with plenty of water or flavored water and only use sugary Gatorade sparingly.

DURING THE GAME:

No parents are to be in the dugout or lingering around the dugout during the game. Same thing goes with behind the backstop when your daughter is batting. Feel free to coach your child BEFORE the game and AFTER the game. Please NEVER try to coach them DURING the game – that's what coaches are there to do! These kids already must hear it from three different coaches on the field and in the dugout. We'll instruct them, make adjustments, tell them what they are doing right and wrong. Too many voices telling them what to do is counterproductive and can be overwhelming during a game. The best thing for a parent to do, especially at this age, is to cheer and give positive reinforcement during the game. Building confidence for these kids is paramount in their development – in softball particularly.

The girls must stay in the dugout during games. Send them in with their waters. If they have an emergency and need to come see you, we will send them out. Please make sure they get immediately back to the dugout. Our games are quick and we can't be looking for girls.

GENERAL CODE OF CONDUCT:

Please be an example to these kids on how to behave during a youth softball game. We've all seen the worst out of OTHER coaches and parents at tournaments and games. We expect our program and families to be better than that. Please do not heckle, question or berate the UMPIRES OR OTHER COACHES. We can be tossed from the whole tournament or at least won't get the next close call. Leave the communication with the umps and other coaches to us.

LINEUPS, PLAYING TIME & GAME RULES:

At practice, scrimmages and rec games, we get to see our girls in plenty of different positions and scenarios all with balanced playing time. In tournaments we play to win, particularly on Sundays when its' win or go home. The coaching staff will put together the best lineups tailored for specific games and scenarios to win.

Please keep in mind that every tournament has different rules pertaining to things like: game length, continuous batting order, substitutions, etc. These will all be factors when putting lineups together. That said, we will not be like other programs where kids will NEVER see the field for an entire weekend or season or only play 1 inning a game. That's not why we are here and we will do our best to spread-out playing time and positions.

POST GAME:

We will take the girls out to the outfield or to another area outside the fence IMMEDIATELY AFTER the game for a 5 to 10 minute wrap up. This is part of the game and takes priority over just about anything else. Feel free to pack up and get ready, but please do not try to pull your daughter right after a game unless you have a situation or emergency that is conveyed to the coach. Allow the coaches space to talk to the girls and do not hover around.

PLEASE do not talk to any coaches about WHERE or HOW MUCH YOUR DAUGHTER PLAYED or any other complaint you may have at that time. Emotions can run very high (or low) after a game for all parties involved and that's not the time for the discussion. If you have a concern, wait a day or two & contact one of the coaches when emotions are removed from the equation.

Conversely, talk to everyone about how the TEAM did rather than talking about your own daughter and what they did or didn't do and stay positive. It makes for a much better situation and tournament weekend.