



GAME DAY BEST PRACTICES FOR PARENTS

Everyone must pay attention to their behaviors at the field. If your daughter is on the path to college as a part of your softball experience, it's also important to note that college coaches are watching.

Follow these FIVE tips to being a great parent and a great fan!

1

BE ON TIME AND PREPARED

Establish a family philosophy and culture that "early is on time" when arriving at team events. College coaches will ask youth coaches, "do the parents value being on time?" Have everything you need and be mentally prepared to be a great fan. Have a quiet period immediately after the game and wait for the player to initiate discussion about the outcome or her performance.

2

BE A FAN

It's game day for you, too! Your positive verbal support enhances your daughter's overall quality experience, and her performance. She is listening to you for cues and college coaches are listening for positive support as opposed to demeaning comments about umpires, coaches and the other team. Be respectful of coaches, umpires, and tournament officials. Have great bleacher behavior and help other parents to do so, too!

3

BE AWARE

Be mindful of how your words and actions impact your daughter. Strive to be a positive influence on game day. Your supportive talk will be noticed by those around you, including college coaches who are watching and evaluating your team, daughter and family.

4

EXECUTE FAILURE MANAGEMENT

If you fall short as a fan at the field, own your mistakes and move on. Your accountability teaches your daughter how to develop failure recovery skills. She will take note when you are strong enough to own up to shortcomings.

5

POST GAME CONVERSATION

Allow your daughter and coaches a quiet period, which enables their emotions to recalibrate after heated competition. Let your daughter take the lead after the game and on the car ride home. Use the phrase, "I love to watch you play!"