

# WEST GEORGIA NIGHTMARE FASTPITCH

## PARENT AGREEMENT

### 2026-2027 SEASON

## Welcome

Welcome to the Nightmare family! By accepting a roster spot with West Georgia Nightmare, your family is joining more than a travel softball organization. You are becoming part of a family built on hard work, accountability, joy, human connection, and a genuine love for our athletes. Our mission is to develop confident, hardworking young women while creating a positive, competitive environment where athletes can grow on and off the field. These expectations protect our athletes, coaches, families, and the culture we have worked hard to build.

## Our Story and Coach Alex's Legacy

Nightmare began with one team and grew because of the relationships formed among our athletes, coaches, and families. Coach Alex was an important part of that story. He believed in loving people well, celebrating the little things, bringing joy to the field, and making every athlete feel seen and supported.

After losing Alex, continuing Nightmare became about more than softball. Make Alex Proud is our promise to carry his heart forward. It means competing with heart, treating people with kindness, supporting one another, finding joy even in hard moments, and leaving every person and every field better than we found them. It is not measured only by wins and losses. It is measured by the people our athletes become.

## Commitment

Travel softball requires commitment from both athletes and families. Athletes are expected to prioritize scheduled practices, games, tournaments, and mandatory team events. We understand that family events, illness, school obligations, vacations, and unexpected situations happen. Communicate conflicts as early as possible. Frequent absences, late arrivals, or missed events without communication may affect playing time, roles, and future opportunities.

## Financial Expectations and Transparency

Annual organization fee: \$100 per athlete.

Estimated uniform costs: 8U approximately \$65. 10U through 18U typically \$300 to \$350, depending on vendor pricing and what the athlete already owns.

Tournament fees are charged at the following flat rate based on the tournament entry fee:

| Tournament Cost | Player Fee       |
|-----------------|------------------|
| \$400 or less   | \$70 per athlete |
| \$401 to \$500  | \$80 per athlete |
| \$501 to \$600  | \$90 per athlete |

Tournament costs above \$600 will follow the same scale and will be communicated in advance. Families only pay tournament fees for events their athlete attends.

Payment plans are available. Families who communicate will be worked with whenever possible. Failure to pay, make arrangements, or communicate may result in an athlete being withheld from practices, games, or tournaments, suspended from team activities, or removed from the organization.

## Multi Sport Athletes

---

West Georgia Nightmare supports athletes who participate in multiple sports. Playing other sports can help build athleticism, confidence, and leadership. However, accepting a Nightmare roster spot means accepting a commitment to your teammates. Nightmare should not consistently take a back seat to another activity. When conflicts occur, notify the Head Coach as early as possible so expectations can be discussed before the schedule becomes a problem.

## School Ball, Travel Ball, and Recreation Ball

---

School softball comes first. Outside of school season, West Georgia Nightmare becomes the athlete's primary softball commitment. Recreation softball is encouraged for additional development, but Nightmare takes priority whenever a recreation schedule conflicts with a Nightmare practice, game, tournament, or mandatory team event.

## Guest Playing Policy

---

**Once you commit to West Georgia Nightmare, your teammates are counting on you. Missing a Nightmare practice, game, tournament, or mandatory team event to participate with another softball organization is not permitted and may result in immediate removal from West Georgia Nightmare.**

Guest playing may be allowed only when it does not conflict with any Nightmare commitment and when the athlete's Head Coach has been informed in advance.

## Communication and the 24 Hour Rule

---

Concerns should be handled privately and respectfully. Unless the matter involves safety, medical needs, an emergency, or finances, families must wait at least 24 hours after a practice or game before contacting a coach about a concern.

- Contact the athlete's Head Coach first.
- If the concern cannot be resolved, contact Coach Bill.
- Do not confront coaches before, during, or immediately after practices or games.
- Do not use team chats, social media, or other parents to address a private concern.
- Keep communication respectful, direct, and focused on solutions.

## Athlete Self Advocacy for 12U and Older

---

Beginning at 12U, athletes are expected to speak directly with their Head Coach about playing time, positions, development, goals, questions, and feedback before a parent intervenes. Parents may join the conversation after the athlete has taken the first step. This policy does not apply to emergencies, safety concerns, medical concerns, bullying, or financial matters.

## Playing Time

---

Equal playing time is not guaranteed. Coaches make lineup and position decisions based on attendance, effort, attitude, coachability, preparation, performance, sportsmanship, team needs, and the situation of the game. Pool play may be used to develop athletes and evaluate roles. Bracket play may be managed differently based on what gives the team the best opportunity to compete.

Parents should encourage their athlete to control what she can control: preparation, effort, attitude, communication, and response to coaching. Playing time concerns must follow the communication policy and, for athletes 12U and older, the self advocacy policy.

## Parent Expectations

Parents play a major role in creating the positive culture that makes West Georgia Nightmare special. Every family is expected to support not only its own athlete, but every athlete wearing the Nightmare jersey.

- Encourage your athlete through both success and adversity.
- Allow coaches to coach. Instruction during practices and games must come from the coaching staff.
- Do not coach from the stands, behind the backstop, outside the dugout, or through the dugout fence.
- Do not enter, sit beside, or linger around the dugout unless a coach specifically asks for help.
- Food, drinks, medication, and necessary items may be brought to an athlete, but the parent should deliver the item and then return to the spectator area.
- Athletes are expected to pack, carry, organize, and be responsible for their own equipment. Parents should guide younger athletes, not do every task for them.
- Respect coaches, athletes, opponents, officials, tournament staff, and other families.
- Keep criticism, lineup opinions, and negative conversations away from athletes and team spaces.
- Follow the 24 hour rule and address concerns privately.

**The best gift you can give your athlete is the opportunity to become independent, accountable, and confident. Sometimes that means allowing her to solve problems, communicate with coaches, and take responsibility for her own preparation.**

## Social Media and Public Representation

Families must represent West Georgia Nightmare positively online and in public. Do not post or share negative comments about athletes, coaches, parents, opponents, officials, tournament directors, or the organization. Do not use social media to address private disagreements. Screenshots and shared messages can damage athletes, relationships, and the organization long after a post is deleted.

Nightmare may use team photos and videos for organizational promotion unless a parent provides a written request to opt out.

## Consequences

These expectations are conditions of participation, not suggestions. Behavior that repeatedly harms athletes, coaches, team operations, or the culture of West Georgia Nightmare may result in a coach-parent meeting, restrictions around team spaces, suspension from practices or tournaments, reduced opportunities for the athlete, or removal from the organization. Serious conduct may result in immediate action without progressive warnings.

## Our Commitment

Nightmare coaches commit to providing a safe and positive environment, continuing our education, communicating honestly, treating athletes and families with respect, holding athletes accountable, and protecting the culture that makes Nightmare special. We will make decisions based on the development and best interests of the athletes and the team.

## Parent Agreement

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and understand the West Georgia Nightmare Parent Agreement. I agree to uphold these expectations and understand that failure to do so may affect my family's participation in the organization.

Parent or Guardian Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Athlete Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_