



# Northeast Venom's Fastpitch Travel Softball Registration Form

Tryout Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Player Information – (Use back of form if more space is needed)**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Age as of **12/31/15**: \_\_\_\_\_

Player's Birthday: (mm/dd/yy) \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ School Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Father: \_\_\_\_\_ Mother: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Other Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Other Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Email 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Softball Experience -  Travel  Select  Rec:  
(Please list organization(s)/location/position/age level/coach) \_\_\_\_\_

Take Lessons? -  Yes  No  
(Please list school/Trainer and for what position(s)): \_\_\_\_\_

Have you played any other travel sports?  
(Please list and indicate current/future involvement) \_\_\_\_\_

What other sports or school interests do you have? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any physical or medical limitations? (Please explain) \_\_\_\_\_

<b><u>Player Throws:</u></b> <input type="checkbox"/> Left <input type="checkbox"/> Right	<b><u>Player Hits:</u></b> <input type="checkbox"/> Left <input type="checkbox"/> Right	<b><u>Positions Desired</u></b> (Pick 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Pitcher <input type="checkbox"/> Catcher <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <sup>st</sup> Base <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Base <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Base	<input type="checkbox"/> Short Stop <input type="checkbox"/> Left Field <input type="checkbox"/> Center Field <input type="checkbox"/> Right Field	<b><u>Other Positions Played</u></b> (Check all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> Pitcher <input type="checkbox"/> Catcher <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <sup>st</sup> Base <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Base <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Base	<input type="checkbox"/> Short Stop <input type="checkbox"/> Left Field <input type="checkbox"/> Center Field <input type="checkbox"/> Right Field
<b><u>Special Skills:</u></b> _____					

<b><u>Volunteer Function</u></b>	<b><u>Name of Volunteer</u></b>	<b><u>Volunteer Function</u></b>	<b><u>Name of Volunteer</u></b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Coaching Staff	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Score Keeper/Stats	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Business Manager	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Travel Coordinator	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Field Set-up	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Pictures/Publicity	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> First Aid	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Uniform Coordinator	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Fund Raising	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Website Manager	_____

**RELEASE STATEMENT**

We, the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the registrant, agree that the registrant and we will abide by the rules and the Code of Conduct of the Venom's Fastpitch Softball Travel Softball Team. We give our approval for the registrant's participation in all tryout activities. We assume all risks and hazards incidental to the conduct of the activities and recognize the possibility of injury to the registrant.

NOTE: Completion of this form and participation in tryouts does not guarantee the registrant a position on the team. Player selection is a competitive process and invitation to join the Venom's Travel Softball Team will be made based upon player skill performance, as evaluated by the coaching staff. This form is only for the use of the Venom's Travel Softball coaching staff. If parents/guardians wish to add any other data, please use the back of the form. ALSO, it is important to mention that the Venom's Fastpitch Softball organization is a highly competitive program and growing rapidly. We do require the full cooperation and support of all players and parents. We stress positive outlook and aim to create a positive attitude with all of our teams.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date**                      \_\_\_\_\_ **Parent/Guardian Name (Print)**                      \_\_\_\_\_ **Parent/Guardian Signature**

**Staff Use Only – Do not write in this box when filling out this form.**

10u 12u 14u NE SE EX Play Up BC Rec'v \_\_\_\_\_ Field ASP \_\_\_\_\_ Bat ASP \_\_\_\_\_ Ovr ASP \_\_\_\_\_ Pit ASP \_\_\_\_\_ Cat ASP



## Northeast Venom Fastpitch Schedule of Fees

### Fees & Expenses

In an effort to keep our costs low to our player's parents we have decided to run this organization a little differently than other local travel softball organizations. Normally it costs in upwards of \$500 per year per player to play on a travel team. We at Venom want to try to do things a little differently. We are going to collect a small fee of \$125 for each player and raise the rest **as a team** through various fundraising activities throughout the off-season. Should your player be selected to become a member of the Venom 12u team, the \$125 fee is required **no more than 10 days after** notification from the Head Coach.

As mentioned above, the fees will be approximately \$125 for each player. Each team manager has the right to enter the tournaments of their choice and therefore the costs could vary. However, the \$125 is a pretty solid number. This fee, along with fundraising activities includes the following:

- Registration with the appropriate Softball organizations – ASA, USSSA, etc...
- Insurance for our players through Bollinger's.
- Use of an indoor training facility during the winter months of the year.(Nov., Dec., Jan., Feb.)
- Use of an outdoor field during the "good weather" months.
- Entry Fees for up to 4 Approved Multi-Day Tournaments during the 2016 Spring/Summer Season
- Entry Fees to 4-8 Approved Single Day or Multi-Day Tournaments during the 2016 Fall Season.
- Practice and training equipment.
- Safety and First Aid Kits
- Newsletter postage, website maintenance, copying costs, administrative costs, and a multitude of other expenses that go along with running a Travel League.

It is the player's responsibility to provide the following: Fielding gloves, fielding facemasks, a personal bat, batting gloves, sliders, and cleats.

Should your team qualify for a state, regional, or national tournament, those fees are not included in the registration fee. Additional Fundraising or additional contributions by the team will be necessary in order to cover all costs associated with additional state tournament fees, regional tournament fees, and national tournament fees, as well as any traveling costs and expenses (transportation, lodging, and meals.)

As far as the fees go, a parent/child may get sponsors to help defray their costs of their registration. We have sponsor forms that are to be used in these instances. Should a player obtain a sponsor to help defray their registration fees, 80% of the sponsorship monies will go towards the player's registration fees. The other 20% will be put in the team fund.

As the season progresses, it may be necessary to participate in additional fundraising opportunities – and that will be taken up on an as-needed basis.

At the end of the season, it is your obligation to return the helmet, belt, wrist coach arm bands, and full uniform (minus socks) in decent condition that was given to your player through the Venom organization. These items will be used in subsequent years to keep our costs low to members of the following year's teams.

I understand and agree to all of the above items.

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_





# Venom Softball Vision

Become the premier fast pitch softball organization in the area; on and off the field.

## Venom Mission Statement

Venom Fastpitch Softball is a family friendly organization that is dedicated to the all-around success of our student-athletes. While our goals include the pursuit of excellence on the softball field, our priority is to instill the importance of academics and the ideals of good sportsmanship, personal accountability, teamwork, and community awareness.

## General Expectations

The goal of Venom Fastpitch Softball is to provide an opportunity for young women to play fast pitch softball in an atmosphere that encourages and promotes teamwork, friendly competition, amicable relationships, good sportsmanship, and community. The organization expects coaches, players, parents, and fans to exhibit courtesy and proper decorum at all times. All of our coaches and dugout personnel have obtained and passed A.S.A. background checks to ensure the safety of our young players. At least one coach per team has obtained ACE Coaching Certification.

Venom Fastpitch Softball teams will strive to play softball at a highly competitive level. During the softball season, every player is expected to place Venom Fastpitch Softball as their #1 sports priority. While the player is not prohibited from participating in non-Venom softball activities, those activities must be secondary to Venom Fastpitch activities. This includes playing for local recreational softball teams during the Venom season. The exception to this rule is High School Softball. High School Softball always takes priority.

The Venom Spring season is defined as April 1<sup>st</sup> – End of National Tournaments (Approx. mid-August). The Venom Fall Season is until the end of October. Venom teams will practice and participate in fall tournaments until the end of October. Venom Teams will also practice indoors through the winter; however, this is considered “Off-season.” Players are encouraged to play other sports, and will not be penalized if they miss Venom activities during the offseason to often but let’s not make it a habit. In general, each team will play in 6-12 tournaments each year, including fall tournaments, but not including national tournaments that the team may qualify for. If a coach would like to play in more tournaments, that coach is responsible for meeting with the team parents to gain agreement. That coach is also responsible for raising the additional money to pay tournament fees whether through fundraising activities or sponsorships.

## Northeast Venom Fastpitch Softball Travel Policy

Most of the tournaments that Venom teams participate in are within 1-1 ½ hours’ drive; however most are an hour or less away. If a tournament is more than 1 ½ hours away, the Head Coach will discuss with the team parents in advance, to inform them of the teams intent to travel. Overnight stays may be required for some regular season tournaments.

Each player is required to travel with their own family, unless permission and notice is provided to the Head Coach in advance. One of our team goals is to qualify for a National Tournament. These tournaments are likely to be held outside of the Northeast Pennsylvania area, and may require extended overnight travel. Before entering a National tournament outside the area, the Head Coach will inform the parents and remind everyone the team’s intent to travel as required. In all cases, families are responsible for their own travel expenses.

I understand and agree to all of the above items.

Parent’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_





# The Northeast Venom Softball Player Code of Conduct

By being a part of the Northeast Venom Fastpitch Softball organization, high expectations will be placed on you. The coaching staff will hold every athlete to a high standard and will expect all team members to conduct themselves in a responsible manner. Behavior that is deemed disruptive and detrimental to the team can bring consequences ranging from diminished playing time to dismissal from the team. The following items are in place to make you a better person and promote the image of our softball program.

- Always be on time for all softball related activities. Please be courteous enough to call if you cannot attend or will be late.
- Practice at “Game Pace.” You are expected to treat practice just like a game. Practice is the time to learn and improve. We will not coach poor attitudes, we cannot coach effort, and effort comes from the player - on the inside.
- Always support your teammates on and off the field. We have stepped between the lines and the season has started. We are in this together.
- Be Coachable. Listen to your coaches’ instructions. Ask questions if you are not sure. Be willing to try new positions and new techniques. Be willing to do whatever your team needs you to do.
- Accept your role on the team. If you do not like it, work harder to change it. Playing time is earned in practice and on the field.
- Do not transfer blame or make excuses. It is not acceptable. Learn from your mistakes and get better.
- Do not question the Coaches during a game, ever. We will meet 1-on-1, in a productive manner to clear up any misunderstandings. Coaches do make mistakes.
- Disrespect for coaches, parents, teammates, and umpires will not be tolerated.
- Always lead by example on and off the field.
- Be the good example and set the standard high for future Venom Players to follow.
- Injuries will be taken seriously. It is important that players and parents have open and honest communications with coaches regarding injuries. Playing with soreness and slight pain is part of sports; however playing injured is not. Health of the player is paramount. If you are injured, you are required to visit your doctor. A doctor’s note will be required, and the doctor’s orders will be followed by the coach. Injured players are still required to attend practices and games.

I understand and agree to all of the above items.

**Player’s Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_





# Northeast Venom Fastpitch Parents Code of Ethics

Please initial on the lines below that you have read, understand, and agree with the following statements.

\_\_\_\_\_ Photo Release: I authorize Northeast Venom to photograph and publish photographs of my child in the newspaper, softball publications, and our website.

\_\_\_\_\_ Parental Code of Ethics: I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care, and encouragement for my child participating in youth sports by following this Code of Ethics Pledge.

- I will provide a legible and legitimate copy of my player's Birth Certificate for verification purposes.
- I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, and officials at every game, practice or other youth sports event.
- I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my child ahead of a personal desire to win.
- I will make sure my daughter is on time to all team activities. Always know, if you as parents cannot get your daughter to an event, we are a team and someone may be able to help you.
- I will insist that my child play in a safe and healthy environment.
- I will support coaches and officials working with my child, in order to encourage a positive and enjoyable experience for all.
- I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free of drugs, tobacco and alcohol, and will refrain from their use at all youth sports events.
- I will remember that the game is for youths – not adults.
- I will do my very best to make youth sports fun for my child.
- I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans, and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed or ability.
- I promise to help my child enjoy the youth sports experience by doing whatever I can, and such as being a respectful fan, assisting with coaching, or providing transportation.
- I promise to not interfere with the players or the coaching staff during scheduled practice times or during games and tournaments.
- I will abide by the 24 hour rule: If I have a discrepancy concerning my child or the team, instead of addressing the issue in a hostile manner, I will wait to have the situation "cool down" for a period of not less than 24 hours.
- I pledge to "honor the game." I understand the importance of setting a good example for my child. No matter what others may do, I will show respect for all involved in the game including coaches, players, opponents, opposing fans, and officials. I understand that officials make mistakes. If the official makes a "bad" call against my team, I will Honor the Game and be silent!

Northeast Venom cannot guarantee the division, team, or coach your child will play for.

I understand and agree to all of the above items.

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_





## Social Networking Policy

Web sites and social media are powerful communications tools that have a significant impact on organizational and individual reputations. Because they blur the lines between personal voice and institutional voice, the Venom Fastpitch organization has crafted the following policy to help clarify how best to enhance and protect personal and organizational reputations when posting content on our web site and participating in social media.

The [www.NortheastVenom.com](http://www.NortheastVenom.com) website will be maintained by the NEV Webmaster. The webmaster will develop and enforce a set of guidelines that ensure consistent, effective and appropriate use of the web site, as both an informational and communications platform. These guidelines will be presented and approved by the board. The web site is the external face of the organization, and the implementation and enforcement of these guidelines are an important element of our mission as an organization. Social media are defined as media designed to be disseminated through social interaction, created using highly accessible publishing techniques. Examples include but are not limited to LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, and MySpace.

Both in individual and organizational roles, Venom members need to follow the same behavioral standards online as they would in real life. The same laws, expectations, and guidelines for interacting with our student athletes, parents, sponsors, media, and other softball organizations apply online as in the real world. Venom members are responsible for anything they post to social media sites. The Venom web site and social media guidelines include the following:

- Protect confidential and private information: Do not post confidential or private information about Venom Fastpitch, players - including self, parents or coaches.
- Don't use Venom Fastpitch logos. Do not use Venom Fastpitch's name to promote a product or cause, without prior written permission from the Venom Board.
- Think twice before posting: Privacy does not exist in the world of social media. Consider what could happen if a post becomes widely known and how that may reflect both on the poster and the Venom organization.
- Strive for accuracy: Get the facts straight before posting them on social media. Review content for grammatical and spelling errors. This is especially important if posting on behalf of the Venom organization in any capacity.
- Be respectful: Understand that content contributed to a social media site could encourage comments or discussion of opposing ideas. Responses should be considered carefully in light of how they would reflect on the poster and/or the Venom organization.
- Remember your audience: Be aware that a presence in the social media world is or easily can be made available to the public at large. This includes prospective Venom players, current players, other softball organizations, high school coaches, etc.
- Photography: Photographs posted on social media sites easily can be shared by visitors. Before posting photography to social media sites, please consider the appropriateness of those photos.
- Be aware, be careful. If you have any questions or concerns, contact your coach or a Venom board member before posting anything on social media. Some good advice to consider: "If you even have the slightest question or doubt that what you write or post may be a problem, or of concern to one person who sees it... then don't." --- Anonymous

I understand and agree to all of the above items.

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_







## 2016 Venom Organization Expectations

As mentioned in the Schedule of Fees, we would like to try to keep our out-of-pocket expenses low to each and every member of our organization. One thing we will be doing different this year as opposed to last season is the fundraising. On certain fundraisers, we will be having a “buy-out” option. This will come up as needed. We all need to do our fair share to make our organization grow.

During practice times, we need to encourage our players to play just as if they were playing a game. We have to practice like we are playing – giving our 100% effort each and every play. The same holds true for practice. During the winter months of indoor practice, we will be practicing once a week up until the first week of January, 2016. Obviously things come up that make it difficult for everyone to attend every practice, but we need to make an honest effort to get to practice. After the start of 2016, we will be going twice a week because the season is close at hand at that time. This is when attendance will be needed. It is very difficult to have a team if only a few come to practice. We can only get better as a team if we practice as a team.

Something new for 2016 will be bat selection. During our tournaments, only composite bats will be in the dugout. Aluminum bats are ok for soft-tossing heavy balls, or hitting the dimpled balls off of a pitching machine, but for game time – our players will be using composite bats. No need to run out and buy them now, as some of our existing players do have extra to use during practice and at our tournaments.

Being that 2016 is our second year as an organization, we are going to be more competitive in the 2016 season. Nearly all of our players coming back are from our last year’s team, which means they are growing together. With that being said, practices will be more intense this winter, and the learning curve a bit steeper.

Any players looking to be a pitcher or catcher on next year’s team – being that these are specialty positions, it will be important to get as much practice or lessons in from an experienced pitching or catching coach. We need our pitching and catching staff to be on the top of their game next year, and the only way to do that is to practice hard, individually – not during team practices.

Throughout the off-season we will be having scheduled parent meetings. These meetings are to be used to bring up any issues that arise, go over upcoming fundraisers, schedule our tournaments for the season, and anything else that may come up that we all need to discuss as a group. If you don’t attend, you can’t be heard – and we would like to hear from all angles and opinions on where to take our organization to make it grow.

Playing time on seeding days during tournaments will be fair and distributed equally, meaning all girls will play the field and bat in the lineup. Sundays are the days to win. Sunday fielding play time and the starting batting lineup will be determined from the play on Saturday as well as practice performance/attendance and the amount of effort put forth.

I am on board with all of the above items.

Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_





# **Northeast Venom Girls Softball Travel Team**

## **Letter of Commitment**

### **Purpose:**

Northeast Venom Girls Softball League wants to ensure that players and parents are fully aware of the expectations of Northeast Venom's Travel team because there is a greater commitment in Travel as compared to the recreational season. As such it was felt to be in the best interest of all involved that a Letter of Commitment be drawn up to which all parties show acknowledgement of these policies, rules, and regulations.

### **As a Player, I agree to the following terms:**

1. I acknowledge that participation in Northeast Venom's travel softball is competitive. Players are not guaranteed equal playing time and playing time is at the discretion of the manager.
2. Because of the higher competitive nature of travel teams, I am required to make a full commitment to attending practices, games, and tournaments. Absence for any reason may result in my reduced playing time.
3. Any conduct detrimental to the team or individuals on the team and/or violation of Venom rules will present the coach no options but to enforce disciplinary actions available to him/her. These disciplinary actions can include reduced playing time, ineligibility for games, or even removal from the team.
4. I agree to apply the concepts, drills, and skills I am taught and give 100% in practice and games. I will accept constructive criticism from coaches in a positive way and demonstrate a positive attitude and respect towards teammates, coaches, opponents, and spectators.
5. I will show respect for game officials and their decisions. The officials of any contest are impartial arbitrators who are trained and who perform to the best of their ability. Mistakes by all those involved in the contest are a part of the game. I agree not to rationalize poor or unsuccessful performance or behavior by placing responsibility on an official. I will take total responsibility for my own behavior. I will apply the rule of good sportsmanship and accept, respect, and abide by the decisions made by the officials at all times. I commit to making good sportsmanship a top priority and model winning with class and tolerating defeat with dignity.
6. I understand I represent Northeast Venom, my team and my coaches. I will enhance our reputation and character with my conduct on and off the field. I will respect the equipment and facilities where I practice and play games, whether in Northeast Venom or outside of Northeast Venom.
7. I have agreed to play solely for the Northeast Venom 12u Green Fastpitch Softball Team for the period October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 through September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Playing with any other travel team during this time is prohibited unless previously acknowledged by the coaching staff.







**As a Parent, I agree to the following terms:**

1. I acknowledge that participation in Northeast Venom's travel softball is competitive. Players are not guaranteed equal playing time and playing time is at the discretion of the manager.
2. I agree to make all reasonable efforts to ensure my child fulfills her commitment as a player.
3. I will show respect for game officials and their decisions. The officials of any contest are impartial arbitrators who are trained and who perform to the best of their ability. Mistakes by all those involved in the contest are a part of the game. I agree not to rationalize poor or unsuccessful performance or behavior by placing responsibility on an official. I will take total responsibility for my own behavior. I will apply the rule of good sportsmanship and accept, respect, and abide by the decisions made by the officials at all times. I commit to making good sportsmanship a top priority and model winning with class and tolerating defeat with dignity.
4. I understand and accept that my role with the team is not that of a coach, unless the team manager and I come to that understanding. I understand and respect the differences between parental roles and coaching roles and agree to uphold the authority of officials and coaches who are working with my child and will assist them when possible and use good judgment if I disagree with them. I will inform the coaches of issues and conflicts as soon as they arise.
5. I have agreed to have my child play solely for the Northeast Venom 12u Green Fastpitch Softball Team for the period October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 through September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Playing with any other travel team during this time is prohibited unless previously acknowledged by the coaching staff.

I, as a **player**, understand and accept these conditions for playing on a Northeast Venom Girls Softball Travel Team.

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Player's Signature

Date

I, as a **parent**, understand and accept these conditions for my child playing on a Northeast Venom Girls Softball Travel Team.

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Parent's Signature

Date

