



# **Coaching Softball**

# **Course Objectives:**

- Understand the proper mechanics of throwing
- Identify stages of the throwing motion
- Recognize the proper body position to receive a throw
- Understand the mechanics of hitting and bunting
- Identify key elements of the swing including measures, phases and positions
- Understand the fundamentals of base running, leads, and sliding
- Understand the traits and responsibilities of all positions
- Recognize the starting positions and footwork for all players
- Identify key skills of pitchers and catchers
- Identify defensive responsibilities for all positions
- Understand how to properly execute defense tactics
- · Learn communication methods to use for defensive plays
- Understand how to execute defensive drill work for all positions
- Recognize drill work for offensive training
- Identify key skills to evaluate during tryouts

## Unit 1: Basic Skills

- Introduction
- Throwing
- Catching

### **Unit 2: Offensive Skills**

- Hitting
- Bunting
- Base Running
- Sliding

## **Unit 3: Position Play**

- Infield Play
- Outfield Play
- Pitching
- Catching

### **Unit 4: Team Defense**

- Defense Overview
- Cutoffs
- Bunt Defense
- 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Defense

- Pickoffs and Steals
- Rundowns
- Pop-up Communication

# Unit 5: Developing a Practice Plan

- Warm-up
- Throwing Warm-up
- Defense Drills
- Offense Drills

# **Unit 6: Coaching Tips**

- Signals and Signs
- Base Coaching
- Tryouts
- Conclusion

Resources: Offensive Checklist; Outfield Checklist; Playbook of Defensive Situations; Defensive Checklist; Defensive Checklist by Position; Interview with Coach Mike Candrea