

Billerica Softball Association
PO Box 124
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To Whom It May Concern,

Are you looking to support the type of student who will take a task, break the mold and complete it better than you imagined with a smile on her face? Naomi Boldebuck is your person. I have had the pleasure of coaching Naomi in softball for the past nine years on an intense year round competitive travel team, employing her as a junior umpire, and overseeing volunteer work. Naomi is an absolute game-changer and because of her, her teammates have experienced many tournament championships and league titles. She is an exceptional athlete with no-quit endless aggressiveness and intensity that reflect deep knowledge and an absolute love of the game. She is a force to be reckoned with wherever she is on the field - she can dominate the pitcher's plate, snag screaming balls at 3B, dive around the outfield robbing hits, drop a bunt, steal a base, and then smack a game winning homerun - all the while smiling and having fun. She somehow gets better and stronger as the long games, long days go on, and the pressure increases. Her effort is endless and consistent.

As Naomi grew into high school, it became clear that she was turning her natural curiosity into an interest in engineering. I have enjoyed speaking with her about her classes, thoughts and reactions and answering her astute questions about my experiences in the field. She always strives to apply her knowledge on the field wondering about the aerodynamics of softball spin and force. There is a wonderful dichotomy to Naomi. She is as silly as she is smart and as relaxed as she is intense. Although she is among the most focused athletes I have coached, she balances it with an enjoyable disposition. I have observed her on the pitching plate for Championship games, at bat with two outs and a tying run on third and serving a volleyball playoff game point (parents joke and say 'she has ice in her veins'). Then she cartwheels off the field in joy of victory. She plays the exact same whether up by 10 runs, tied or down by 10 runs – intense, steady, all-out. She is smart on the field and in the classroom.

Naomi is truly the kind of person any team member, coach, teacher or boss would be privileged to have as part of their team. Her immense talent aside, she is a collaborative, curious, kind, respectful, coachable, even-keeled, committed and determined person who is always seeking to get even better. She leads by example and can be trusted to both independently complete tasks as well as lead and support teammates and a role model for younger players (hence being voted Captain in her two sports). She is upbeat and positive, , respectful, and is a good teammate and friend who is respected and trusted. She makes the people around her better and is a sparkplug who energizes our team.

Over the past few years, I have observed Naomi juggle an intense academic course load heavy in STEM courses, choose to give up her study period to work more collaboratively with a teacher on enrichment projects, guide three high school sports teams deep into state playoffs and manage commitments to sports club teams and school clubs. I have been impressed with her time management and prioritization. I cannot say enough about her and I know my fellow coaches, her teammates, our team parents and our opponents would all say the same. Naomi is a special person and it is with utmost confidence that I recommend her for your scholarship. I would be happy to speak further about her or answer any further questions.

Respectfully,

Mike Donati

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