

# Mission Minor Softball Association

## 2008 Revised

### Local House Rule

1. The Canadian Amateur Softball Association is governed by the current "Official Rulebook" which is to be used by all Umpires and Coaches representing MMSA.
2. The Softball BC Constitution and Operating Handbook is strictly for Provincial Championships draws and tournaments.
3. To Increase Player Participation
  - a) Equal playing time is required by ALL Players on ALL House Teams. Infield and outfield rotation is recommended. Absenteeism does not count as time sat out.
  - b) In all age categories, ALL players are to be included in the batting order. Late arrivals to the start of the game are to be put on the bottom of the batting line up.
  - c) Unlimited substitution is permitted.
4. Both coaches must telephone or e-mail the game results to their coordinator within 24 hours (before 9:00 pm if by telephone). In the event of a "tie" both coaches must telephone the results.
5. Home Team Coach is responsible for bases, home plate, plate umpire, game balls, plus "marking the Infield". Calcium carbonate (Lime) is in the equipment boxes - do not purchase your own. Home Plate Umpires must wear masks. (Note: umpires will be supplied in certain age groups) Visiting Team Coach is responsible for base umpire.
6. Helmets must be worn dugout to dugout. First infraction - both teams will be warned, second infraction and thereafter - a team out will be called. All runs count unless it is the third out.
7. Home team coaches and players are responsible for cleaning all debris prior to leaving the field. This includes raking the baselines, home plate, and pitcher's mound.
8. Rained out games must be rescheduled within one week. Dates and diamonds must be booked through your coordinator. No rained out game can be cancelled before 2 hours prior to game time. Home coach (Squirt & up divisions) is required to phone the U.I.C. to cancel umpires, and, coaches in all divisions are to contact their coordinator.
9. There is to be no chewing of any substances by the players during the game. No metal or plastic spikes or shoes with detachable cleats are allowed in any division of minor softball. Pins and jewelry may not be worn at any time. Girls or boys taping of earrings is not allowed. Friendship bands of any material are considered jewelry. Medic Alert bracelets and necklaces are not considered jewelry and are the only exception.
10. Do not play out Tie Games. Should a playoff game be called before completion, it will be resumed at the point at which it was stopped.

11. Equipment:
- Do not abuse equipment (i.e. throw down helmets, hit the backstop with bats, etc.).
  - For replacement of damaged equipment, please contact Equipment Manager.
  - A player or coach warming up a pitcher must wear a mask.
  - Chest protectors are worn with the narrow side on the throwing arm.
  - Players in the on deck circle must wear a helmet.
  - **Carry a hammer for putting in base spikes, do not use a bat.**
  - Bats are not to be inserted in or placed up against the backstop.
  - All bats issued by the league are legal for house league games (exception: damaged or taped bats).
  - Protective gear must be worn on the field at all times.
  - Chin straps must be done up.
12. Teams may play with 8 players but will not have an automatic out every time the 9th player in the batting order comes up.
- For Squirt and up divisions, 7 players is a forfeit. 24 hours advance notice is required to reschedule the game if it is known that your team will have only 7 players, avoiding the forfeit. If during the game, for any reason there are 7 or fewer players, the game is forfeited.
  - Pick-ups are allowed in House to bring the team roster up to a maximum of 9 players for League games only. The pick-up must be approved by both the coordinator and the pick-up's coach. The pick-up must be from a lower "C" division and is not allowed to pitch. The pick-up must wear their own team uniform, not the uniform of the team which is picking them up. Pick-ups are Not allowed for closing weekends or District #8 playdowns. If a team uses an illegal pick up, the game is a forfeit.
  - Pickups are allowed for other tournaments and Provincials.
  - If a game is not rained out and a team can field 8 or more players, and a coach cancels a game without the coordinator's agreement, the game is a forfeit.
13. In Squirt and under divisions, the batter is out on the 3rd strike regardless if the ball is caught or dropped, and the ball remains alive. In Squirt and above divisions the infield fly rule is in effect.
14. Innings to be played to count as a completed game:
- In the event of a timed game, the game will be deemed ***complete at time***.
- Peewee and up..... 7 innings (in case of inclement weather or darkness, 5 innings).  
 Squirt..... 6 innings (in case of inclement weather or darkness, 4 innings).

**Game Start Times and duration:**

**-Early games START AT - 6:15 – NO NEW INNING AFTER 7:45, GAME OVER AT 8:15**

**-Late Games start at 8:30 – NO NEW INNING AFTER 10:00, GAME OVER AT 10:15**

A Pitcher may only pitch the following maximum number of innings for League Schedule games.

Once a Pitcher has taken the position on the pitcher's rubber during the game and **pitches one or more pitches**, he or she will be **charged with an inning pitched**. The **penalty** for allowing a pitcher to go over the maximum innings is **forfeit** of game.

- Midget and Bantam..... unlimited innings.  
 Peewee..... 4 innings.  
 Squirt..... 3 innings.  
 Mite..... 3 innings.

15. All divisions will have a 5 run limit per inning. Squirt Division the 6th Inning will be open. Peeewe and up the 7th inning will be open. No other inning will be declared open. The association will not tolerate the running up of excessive scores. A 10 run Optional Mercy Rule at the discretion of the losing coach. The rule comes into effect after the completion of the minimum innings required for a game per "14" above.
16. Coaches are required to maintain proper conduct/discipline of all - including themselves. Review the Operating Rule regarding Conduct. Please ensure all players waiting for a turn at batting are placed in the designated area or sitting on benches. In addition, No Smoking will be allowed by any coaches or assistant coaches when in their designated areas (i.e. coaches boxes, dugout, etc.). This also includes all umpires.
17. Verbal abuse by spectators towards anybody on the playing field will result in forfeiture of game for the offending team. Review the Operating Rules regarding Conduct. One team warning will be issued first. If the spectator continues in that or any other game, the Coordinator and President must be given the names of the people involved for disciplinary action by the association.
18. All late registrations to be confirmed with the Coordinator first and then the Registrar prior to acceptance. See "assigning late registrants to teams" in the Operating Rule for Registration. Once a player has been assigned to a team or age classification, he/she will not be moved.
19. League Disciplinary Actions are subject to degree of offence. All offences (i.e. alcohol, drugs, foul language, fighting, smoking, or failure to comply with League rulings) will be reviewed by a Committee of the Board of Directors for determination of penalty assessment. The penalty for the first incident is a minimum one game suspension, up to a maximum of suspension for the balance of the season -without refund. See the Operating Rule for Conduct Review Committee.
20. Complaints, appeals, or inquiries must be directed in the following sequence to:
1. The team Coach.
  2. The divisional Coordinator.
  3. In writing-only to The President.
  4. In writing to the MMSA Board of Directors,
21. **FIELD MEASUREMENTS**  
Field diagram and dimensions  
Category Age Ball Pitching Baselines
- |                 |     | Boys | Girls | Boys | Girls |
|-----------------|-----|------|-------|------|-------|
| Midget 16 to 18 | 12" | 46'  | 40'   | 60'  | 60'   |
| Bantam 14 & 15  | 12" | 42'  | 40'   | 60'  | 60'   |
| Peeewe 12 & 13  | 12" | 40'  | 38'   | 60'  | 60'   |
| Squirt 10 & 11  | 11" | 35'  | 35'   | 55'  | 55'   |
22. YEAR END CITY TOURNAMENT - subject to change due to inclement weather  
- Closing Weekend will be based on league standings. All age categories teams (Squirt- Midget) will participate in Closing Weekend tournament – double or single knockout.
23. Shorts (Black) must be worn by players and may be acquired through the association.
24. All coaches must have their Team Registration Certificate (four part form) completed by all players/coaches, with their signature by May 1st. Please include the player's jersey number beside the player's name.
25. MMSA House rules as outlined above, only apply to MMSA League Schedule games, League Playoff games, and the Closing Weekend Tournament.

26. Practices are on a first come, first serve basis and re-scheduled games take priority. All games must be scheduled through the Manager.

27. **UNIFORM CARE:**

- All coaches must make a list of players and jersey numbers. This record must also be repeated on the Team Registration Certificate (four part form).
- At the end of the season, all uniforms are to be collected, washed, and then put on hangers and covered with a clear lawn bag bag. The uniforms are to returned to the Uniform Manager.
- Uniforms are to be worn to games only - not to practice or to school.