

MT. LEBANON GIRLS SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL LEAGUE RULES FAST PITCH

(Last Revised: 01/15/24)

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mt. Lebanon Girls Softball Association is a non-profit organization committed to providing girls the opportunity to play softball as an organized recreational activity and in promoting good sportsmanship in all association sponsored activities.

GAME

1. All age specific **RULES** and **CODE OF CONDUCT** will be followed as established by **MLGSA, INTER-COMMUNITY LEAGUE** and/or **TOURNAMENT** organizer.
2. All age specific **ROSTER RULES** will be followed as established by **MLGSA, INTER-COMMUNITY LEAGUE** and/or **TOURNAMENT** organizer.
3. **A TEAM WILL CONSIST** of at least twelve and no more than fifteen players with at least one adult coach who has been approved by the MLGSA board.
4. In the case of **BAD WEATHER OR POOR FIELD CONDITIONS** prior to the scheduled start time of a practice or game the head coach shall:
 - a. Notify all parents of players no earlier than two hours before the practice or game.
 - b. Notify the opposing coach no earlier than two hours before the practice or game.
 - c. Notify the **FIELD COORDINATOR** so that the game can be rescheduled.
 - d. Notify the **COORDINATOR OF UMPIRES** no earlier than two hours before the game.
5. If lightning is heard or visualized during a practice or game, the coach or umpire will immediately halt and seek safe shelter for all players. The minimum waiting time from the last lightning strike is thirty minutes before play resumes. If a subsequent lightning event occurs, the waiting time of thirty minutes will start over. In games, the umpire has final judgment on when play will resume. No coach shall interfere with that decision.
6. In competitive games at the 12U and 15U age levels, coaches have the discretion to make game time decisions related to player positions and batting order to remain competitive.

FIELD

Age specific field measurements and rules will be followed as established by MLGSA, USA Softball, Inter-Community League and/or tournament organizer.

COACHES are expected to drag and rake the infield after each practice and/or game.

EQUIPMENT

Equipment rules will be followed as established by MLGSA, USA Softball, Inter-Community League and/or tournament organizer.

Pitchers

- a. All pitchers are required to wear a softball fielder's face mask.
- b. All pitchers are required to wear a softball chest protector / heart guard.

Catchers

- a. All catchers are required to wear a softball catcher's helmet with a throat guard, shin guards and chest protector.

Batters

- a. All batters are required to wear a softball helmet with facemask meeting NOCSAE® standards.
- b. All batters are required to use a stamped ASA, ISA, NSA, USA Softball, WBSC, and USSSA Fast Pitch bat.

Base Runners

- a. All base runners are required to wear a softball helmet meeting NOCSAE® standards.

Fielders

- a. All infielders are required to wear a softball fielder's face mask.
- b. All outfielders are required to wear softball fielder's face mask until 15U.

Cleats

- a. All players are prohibited from wearing steel cleats until 15U. Athletic shoes and Molded cleats are permitted.

PLAYERS

1. All players reporting for a game will appear in the **LINE-UP** and bat in turn. A player will bat whether she is playing defensively or not at that time.
2. Each player must **PLAY AT LEAST 3 INNINGS** in the field.
3. **A PLAYER ARRIVING AFTER THE START** will be inserted as the last official batter on the line-up (including any call-ups). At 12U and older any player arriving after the last player listed on the pre-game batting order provided to the umpire and opposing team has batted or as a result of adding the batter would result in an automatic out, the player may be prevented from playing per inter-community and/or tournament rules.
4. Players are expected to wear their issued **TEAM UNIFORM**.
5. Players may be rostered on both MLGSA Slow Pitch and Fast Pitch teams simultaneously. If there is a scheduling conflict between the two leagues the player is expected to attend a game over a practice. A coach may make roster arrangements by calling up an eligible player per **MLGSA, INTER-COMMUNITY LEAGUE** and/or **TOURNAMENT** rules.
6. If a **PLAYER** is removed by a coach or umpire from a game, practice or team function for a code of conduct violation, at a minimum the **PLAYER** will serve a one game suspension for the first offense. A second offense will result in an indefinite suspension until the **PLAYER** is reinstated by the MLGSA Board. MLGSA will also enforce the established rules and disciplinary actions of inter-community leagues and/or tournaments. The removal or suspension of a **PLAYER** does not prevent a related **COACH, PLAYER or PARENT** from attending a game, practice or team function. Disciplinary actions shall be at the discretion of the MLGSA Board or its designee.

COACHES

If a **COACH** is removed from a game, practice or team function for a code of conduct violation, at a minimum the **COACH** will serve a one game suspension for the first offense. A second offense will result in an indefinite suspension until the **COACH** is reinstated by the MLGSA Board. MLGSA will also enforce the established rules and disciplinary actions of inter-community leagues and/or tournaments. The removal or suspension of a **COACH** does not prevent a related **COACH, PLAYER or PARENT** from attending a game, practice or team function. Disciplinary actions shall be at the discretion of the MLGSA Board or its designee.

PARENTS

If a **PARENT** is removed by a coach or umpire from a game, practice or team function for a code of conduct violation, at a minimum the **PARENT** will serve a one game suspension for the first offense. A second offense will result in an indefinite suspension until the **PARENT** is reinstated by the MLGSA Board. MLGSA will also enforce the established rules and disciplinary actions of inter-community leagues and/or tournaments. The removal or suspension of a **PARENT** does not prevent a related **COACH, PLAYER or PARENT** from attending a game, practice or team function. Disciplinary actions shall be at the discretion of the MLGSA Board or its designee.

RESCHEDULING

To reschedule a make-up game, email MLGSA Field Coordinator David Gloss at davegloss114@gmail.com.