

2010 MOON AREA SOFTBALL FAST PITCH LEAGUE RULES

Ages 11 - Up Fast Pitch (11-14 year olds)

Umpire Coordinator: **Gary Keenan**

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NOTE: UMPIRES MUST WEAR PROTECTIVE FACE MASK AT ALL TIMES WHILE BEHIND THE PLATE.

Responsibilities of the Home Team Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Prepare the field for the game. Preparation includes positioning the bases and lining the field with base lines and batter's box. ▶ In cases where only one umpire is available, supply one umpire (positioned between first and second bases) from among the parents of his/her girls. ▶ Return bases, lime, lining equipment to lock box, and lock. ▶ Determine whether or not the game will be played. If the game is "rained-out", the manager of The home team must notify the Umpire, the concession stand and the opposing coach of the game cancellation at least 60 minutes prior to the scheduled start. ▶ In the event of rain-outs, the manager of the home team should contact the league commissioner to arrange a make-up game within 10 days of the originally scheduled game.
Layout of Field	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Pitching distance is 40 ft Pitching distance is measured from the rear corner of home plate to the pitcher's mound. ▶ 60 feet between rear corner of home plate and 1st and 3rd bases ▶ 84 feet 10 inches from back of home plate to 2nd base
Defensive Positions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 9 players, consisting of pitcher, catcher, 1st base, 2nd base, 3rd base, shortstop and 3 outfielders. Outfielders must start play on the grass.
Pitching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Pitcher shall start with both feet on the rubber (per ASA) ▶ Pitchers will be allowed to pitch an unlimited amount of innings per week. ▶ Any player playing pitcher, 1st base and 3rd base must wear protective face guards.
Ball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 12-inch (circumference) A.S.A. certified softball
Player Rotation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ This age group is to play competitive softball. No player rotation is required. However, every player must play at least 3 innings in every game with a continuous batting order (everyone bats)
Batting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Roster batting (i.e., all girls will bat) ▶ Girls showing up late to a game will be added to the end of the batting roster.
Game rules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ All A.S.A. rules apply, except where superceded by these MASL rules. ▶ Infield fly rule does apply. ▶ Play is considered dead when a player gains control of the ball and time is called. ▶ Runners will be advanced one base in the case of overthrows that go out of play.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Baserunners must remain on the base until the ball leaves the pitchers hand. The look back rule is in effect. Baserunner will be called out if she leaves the base early. ▶ Baserunner will be called out if, in the opinion of the umpire, the baserunner intentionally discards her helmet while running the bases. ▶ Base stealing is permitted. ▶ Bunting is permitted.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Game shall be started no later than 10 minutes after the scheduled start time, even if the umpire has not arrived.

Game Duration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Consist of 7 innings if time permits. All 7 innings MUST be played if there is no game scheduled to follow, and if sufficient lighting is available for safe play. Time limit is 1:45 minutes and no inning should start past 1:30 – if there is a game following. In case of a tie at the end of 7 innings or 1:30 mins. The international tie breaker will be used. ▶ Ten-run rule will be in effect beginning with the 5th inning. In other words, the game is over if a team falls behind by 10 or more runs after having batted in its half of the inning (beginning with the 5th inning).
Innings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Innings end after three outs (or the winning run scoring in the bottom half of the last inning). <u>Run limit – 6 plus rule per inning. The last inning shall consist of 3 outs, no run limit.</u> ▶ Games are considered legal after five innings of play.
Players Arriving Late	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ A player who shows up late for a game must be entered at the bottom of the batting order. A player's manager must inform the opposing manager and umpire immediately upon a player arriving late.
Players Leaving Early	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ If a player leaves a game early, she will be scratched from the batting roster (without penalty).
Forfeits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ A team forfeits the game if it cannot field at least 8 players. ▶ Refer to A.S.A. rule book for more in-depth rulings on injuries and forfeits due to an insufficient number of players.
Playoffs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ A series of playoff games will be held at the end of the regular season to determine the first- and second-place teams. ▶ Playoffs will be double-elimination format. In other words, a team will continue play until it's lost 2 games. ▶ Playoff seeds will be determined regular season standings. ▶ Trophies (or designated prizes) will be awarded to the 1st- and 2nd-place playoff finishers.
All Star Game	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ An "All Star" game will be played on the fourth of July. The manager of each team will select players to participate in this game. Girls will be placed on teams.
Protests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ If there is a discrepancy over interpretation of the game rules during the course of the game, a team's manager may register a protest with the umpire at the point of infraction. The protesting manager must note the infraction in his scorebook, have this note signed by the umpire, and then present his protest to the league commissioner. The commissioner will bring to the MASL Board of Directors for clarification and a ruling.
Manager/Coach Conduct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ If a manager or coach wants to discuss a call with an umpire, it is to be done privately. Screaming at an umpire because you are not happy with a call will not be tolerated. Managers and coaches are expected to conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner. Violations of this rule will result in a hearing before the MASL Board of Directors.
Ejections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ If a player is ejected for any reason, they are suspended for one additional game, and must come before a review board made up for the board of directors, for a review of the incident and a decision will be rendered with regards to any additional suspensions or actions. ▶ If a parent is ejected for any reason, the daughter is ejected as well and both will serve a one game suspension. Both will come before a review board made up for the board of directors, for a review of the incident and a decision will be rendered with regards to any additional suspensions or actions.