

MARINA PONY BASEBALL/SOFTBALL 2010 LEAGUE RULES & REGULATIONS

Baseball will be governed by the rules and regulations of Pony Baseball Washington, Pennsylvania, except as altered by the Local Rules defined herein.

Girl's Softball will be governed by the rules and regulations of Pony Baseball Washington, Pennsylvania and A.S.A., except as altered by the Local Rules defined herein.

Rules Priorities for all Leagues

Baseball- for all intents and purposes, Local Rules shall have first priority; Second priority shall be the rules and regulations of Pony Baseball, Washington Pennsylvania. In the event of conflict, Third priority shall be given to the rules and regulations as specified in the most recent edition of the Official Rules, published by the Sporting News.

Girls Softball- for all intents and purposes, Local Rules shall have first priority; Second priority shall be the most recent Official A.S.A. rules and regulations (inter-league) and Pony Baseball, Washington Pennsylvania (post-season).

No other rules or regulations will be enforced without the action of the Board of Directors, where upon an amendment to this document will be distributed.

The Marina Pony Baseball/Softball Board of Directors approved this Document on the **11th day of November of 2010.**

Amendments

Members of the Board of Directors will be notified of any proposed changes to these rules ten (10) days prior to the meeting that the changes will be voted on. A 2/3 vote of the Board of Directors shall be required to pass any such amendments. No amendments to these rules and regulations will be permitted after the Opening Day of the new season.

LEAGUE RULES COMMITTEE:

CHAIR: Mike Graham

MEMBERS: Steve Aday, Sam Holback, Jeanie Johnson, Gerry Genovese, Stacey Diaz, Martin Hernandez, Erica Barrera, Terri Lender, Les Hanamaikai, Mike Hinds, Bertha Barajas, Kat Ruiz, Drianna Waibel, Joey Sampoalo

MPBS LEAGUE RULES

The following MPBS League Rules apply to all divisions of both baseball and softball, except where specifically noted. MPBS Game Rules are described in a separate document, dependent on baseball and softball inter-league agreements and regulated by the Game Rules Committee, which includes each Division Representative, Baseball/Softball Directors, and the President.

I TOBACCO/ALCOHOL:

- A. The use of alcohol or tobacco in any form by players or adult leaders in the dugout, in the bleachers, on the playing field, or at any team/league function shall not be permitted.
- B. Managers and coaches will not leave the dugouts or playing field during a game to intake tobacco.

II SUSPENSIONS:

- A. Any ejection by the umpire from a game will be an automatic minimum one (1) game suspension. Severity of the ejection can warrant additional game suspensions or dismissal. The offending person is to be advised formally that he/she has been suspended from all league activities for a specific number of games or days. The offending person if a player must be present at the next scheduled game in full uniform and remain in the dugout as an ineligible player. Should the offending player miss the next scheduled game(s), the suspension will continue until the suspension has been fulfilled. If the suspended person is a manager or coach they will not be allowed to attend the next scheduled game(s), unless they remain in the stands as a spectator; coaching from the stands will result in further suspension.
- B. Should any person be suspended during the season, the offending person could be barred from participating on any and all all-star teams. The severity of the infraction will determine the severity of the punishment; the Game Rules Committee, with approval of the Board of Directors, will determine the ruling.

III DISCIPLINARY RULES FOR ALL TEAMS:

- A. All teams will be provided MPBS general disciplinary team rules particular to each division.
- B. Any disciplinary actions not listed on the teams written rules can only be taken against player/players after approval by the Board of Directors; only team managers may request changes to the MPBS general disciplinary team rules for their team.
- C. Disciplinary rules will be used to enforce MPBS participation rules.

IV APPEALS PROCESS FOR PLAYERS, MANAGERS, COACHES & LEAGUE VOLUNTEERS:

- A. A Player, Manager, Coach or League Volunteer associated with this league may make an appeal to a disciplinary action. The Appeals Committee will consist of the League President and all members of the Game Rules Committee. If a member of the Appeals Committee is in any way involved or associated with the person making the appeal he/she will remove himself from the appeals process.
- B. An appeal must be filed in writing to the President or the appropriate Director within 48 hours of the original disciplinary action.
- C. There will be a \$25.00 appeal fee put up by the individual(s) filing the appeal, if the individual(s) win their appeal the \$25.00 appeal fee will be returned to them. If appeal is lost then the fee is kept by the league and deposited into the general fund.
- D. Individuals that have been banned by the league may ask in writing to be reinstated back into the league on a yearly basis. The filing period for this process will be from November 1st to December 1st of each year.

V SCOREKEEPER FUNCTIONS

- A. A scorekeeper supplied by the home team will keep score. The home team will forfeit if they cannot provide a scorekeeper. The scorekeeper will record the score, outs, and batters per inning, substitutions, and the number of innings played by each player. Managers will notify the official scorekeeper of the changes as they occur.
- B. Official scorekeeper may remain either in the official score booth or in the officially designated area. Score Keepers cannot be in the dugout or on the field during game.
- C. The official scorekeeper should notify the manager concerned if an ineligible player or an improper batter is about to be used in the game, but failure of the scorekeeper to do so has no effect upon the rules.
- D. The scorekeeper's function is to inform the head umpire of any failure to comply with the mandatory playing rules as outlined for each division.
- E. An official score book will be kept at each of the fields that we use in Marina. The official score book will be kept in the equipment lockers.
- F. The official scorebook will determine all protests that are submitted.

VI PROTEST OF RULE INTERPRETATION BY THE UMPIRE

- A. The protest of a judgment decision will not be considered.

Marina Pony Baseball Softball 2010 League Rules and Regulations

- B. The manager must inform the home plate umpire that the game is being played under protest BEFORE the next pitched ball following the play with the rule in question.
- C. The home plate umpire will notify the scorekeeper to note in the official score book that a protest has been made with the following information, person making the protest, rule being protested, the inning protest is made, which batter is hitting, with ball & strike count and number of outs.
- D. The manager who is protesting or filing a protest must cite the rule in question in a written statement of protest to the division representative within forty-eight (48) hours of the game in question.
- E. The head umpire of the game in question must inform the league scheduler of the circumstances surrounding the protest and the rule in question within four (4) hours of the game in question.
- F. The Protest Committee shall consist of the President, Division Director, Division Representative, and Members. If a member of this protest committee is involved in the protest in any way, he/she will disqualify him/herself from the scenario.
- G. There will be a \$25.00 protest fee put up by the manager filing the protest. If, in the opinion of the protest committee, the protest is valid, then the \$25.00 fee will be returned to the manager.
- H. In all protested games, the decision of the Protest Committee is final.

VII FIELD PREPARATION:

- A. All MPBS teams per game will be responsible for the field prep and putting away all equipment.
- B. All MPBS Managers and their team players are responsible for clearing all trash from the field and dugouts after each game.
- C. Home team will occupy the third base dugout.
- D. No food is permitted on the playing field or in the dugouts while the game is in progress.

VIII SELECTION OF REGULAR SEASON MANAGERS

- A. All persons interested in Managing baseball or softball teams during the regular season must apply using an approved application, either paper or online.

Marina Pony Baseball Softball 2010 League Rules and Regulations

- B. All applicants for Manager will be initially ranked based on the following criteria:
- (1) Good standing (no formal disciplinary action during last year as Manager)?
 - (2) Wants to coach own child?
 - (3) Previously managed in MPBS?
 - (4) Previously managed in desired division?
 - (5) Available to make games and practices?
- C. After screening candidates using the above criteria, managers shall be appointed by the President, League Director, and Division Representative (with equal voting rights).
- D. The Board of Directors shall approve appointed managers; appointed managers shall be approved by a majority vote of those present.
- E. All baseball managers and one (1) working coach must be N.Y.S.C.A. certified. All softball managers and one (1) working coach must be A.S.A or N.Y.S.C.A. certified. The league will pay for these certification (and renewal) fees.
- F. A certified manager or coach must be on the field at all practices or games.
- G. The Board of Directors highly recommends that each manager have at least one working coach. A working coach is defined as coach who is in attendance at practices and games at least fifty percent of the time.
- H. Each team is allowed two (2) members of the coaching staff on the field during the playing period. The manager and coach are to remain in the dugout except when acting as a base coach. **Exception: Pinto and Shetland Divisions.**
- I. The managers of both teams shall be the sole judges as to whether a game shall be started because of unsuitable conditions or unfit playing fields. If they disagree, then the Home plate umpire shall have the final decision. Once the game has started the Home Plate umpire has sole authority as to whether a game should be stopped or continued.
- J. A manager cannot drop a player from his/her team without the written consent of the League President, League Director and Division Representative.
- K. A manager shall be required to notify the league representative in writing of any player who has missed two (2) consecutive unexcused games so that the appropriate action may be taken.
- L. Every manager and coach will complete a league volunteer application form and sign the MPBS Zero-Tolerance Policy. Both of these documents will be retained in the official league records.
- M. Any violation of the MPBS Zero-Tolerance Policy, MPBS Constitution or Rules and Regulations may result in the manager or coach in question being brought before a hearing of the Executive Committee. This hearing should take place as soon as possible after the

Marina Pony Baseball Softball 2010 League Rules and Regulations

alleged violation and may result in the manager or coach receiving a penalty as severe as being relieved of his/her duties. Any formal complaints made in writing to the President shall also be forwarded to the Executive Committee for a hearing. The following is the MPBS disciplinary policy:

- (1) All disciplinary action may be appealed within 48 hours of the decision; appeals must be made to the Executive Committee.
- (2) In the event of such a hearing involving a player, or other person, under the age of 18, that person's parents shall be invited to attend.
- (3) The following formal disciplinary actions will be matched to the severity of the offense.
 - i. Warning. The offending person is to be advised, in writing, of the offense, and further advised that repetition of the offense shall result in a more severe penalty.
 - ii. Suspension. The offending person is to be advised in writing that he or she has been suspended from all league activity for a specific number of games, or days.
 - iii. Dismissal. The offending person is to be advised in writing that he or she has been dismissed from the league for the remainder of the current year.
 - iv. Barred. The offending person is to be advised in writing that he or she has been barred from present and future participation in the league, permanently, or for a specific number of years.
- (4) Suspended, dismissed, or barred individuals are not eligible for reimbursement and will be held responsible for any damages resulting from their actions.

IX SELECTION OF REGULAR SEASON PLAYERS

- A. Drafts shall occur in all baseball and softball divisions.
- B. No player will be permitted to participate in a baseball or softball division for older players. Only exceptions are 6 year olds that have already played at least one (1) season in MPBS Shetland, who may move to MPBS Pinto or Pre-Rookie with approval of the league representative.
- C. Prior to drafts, a tryout session shall be conducted in the presence of all approved league managers/coaches for the Mustang, Bronco, Pony, Rookie, Minors, and Majors divisions. Every candidate should run, throw, bat and field.
- D. Prior to the beginning of the tryout session the league representative shall supply a list of all player candidates to all league managers and coaches for that division.
- E. Each manager (and a coach) has the option to draft his/her son/daughter in the first (and second) round; exceptions are when the son/daughter has participated in the tryout and ALL opposing managers agree on a subsequent round that the player must be drafted.

Marina Pony Baseball Softball 2010 League Rules and Regulations

- F. If parents request the brother/sister (on the same team) option, the manager must draft the siblings sequentially, unless ALL opposing managers unanimously agree that the player may be selected in a later round to be determined at the draft proceedings.
- G. In the event a manager does not desire to utilize his manager option, the player candidate will be considered in the regular draft and becomes fair game for selection.
- H. Draft procedures:

- (1) To start the season each team in the league will consist of the minimum number of players as specified below:

<u>Division</u>	<u>Minimum players</u>	<u>Maximum players</u>
Shetland	8	12
Pinto/Pre-Rookies	9	12
Mustang/Rookies	11	13
Bronco/Minors	11	13
Pony/Majors	11	13
Colt	11	18

- (2) At no time shall the roster include more than eight (8) players of:

Shetland	League age 6
Pinto/Pre-Rookies	League age 8
Mustang/Rookies	League age 10
Bronco/Minors	League age 12
Pony/Majors	League age 14
Colt	League age 16

- (3) Age for league purposes means “league age” which is that age attained by a Baseball player prior to May 1st of the season in question and for Softball January 1 of the season in question.
- (4) The selection order shall be determined by random draw of manager’s names.
- (5) All candidates for the draft with the exception of the “No Shows” will be listed onto a board for the draft proceedings.
- (6) Players in oldest age group will be selected first, followed by players in the second age group. When the division is Shetland or Pinto, one gender will be selected in the age group first, followed by the other, in order to provide an equal age and gender distribution.
- (7) A player that has signed up to play but is a “No Show” at tryouts will be put into a hat for selection during the draft. A manager at any time during the draft proceedings may take a “Chance” and draw from the hat during their selection period instead of selecting a player from the board. All “No Show” players must be drawn from the hat during their respective age group.

Marina Pony Baseball Softball 2010 League Rules and Regulations

(8) No trading of players will take place at any time without the approval of the League President, Division Director and or the Executive Board of Marina Pony Baseball/Softball.

- I. **Late signups:** A late signup is any player who fails to signup prior to drafts, but does signup prior to the end of opening day.
- J. A late sign-up will only be accepted if room is available in the division in which the prospective player is eligible to play; at least one team in the division must be below the maximum roster size.
- K. A league representative will draw late sign-ups out of a hat and assign the players to the teams with the fewest number of players until all players have been drawn, or the maximum roster size has been reached for each team in the division. When possible, late-signup drafts will be conducted only after multiple late signups have been collected.
- L. Once the maximum number of players per team is reached a player pool will be started for each league. Any team under the minimum roster size may draw players from the player pool as indicated under the late sign-ups procedures.
- M. Travel-ball players may participate in MPBS as long as they meet all requires described in these rules.

X PLAYER PARTICIPATION

- A. In Shetland division, all players must bat and field every inning
- B. 1) In all other baseball and softball divisions, every player must play defense two (2) innings AND get one (1) at-bat.

EXCEPTION: Player becomes injured

PENALTY: Forfeit and review by League President, League Director and Division Representative for subsequent action according to Section VIII.N.

2) In all other baseball and softball divisions, players that meet participation requirements may not sit out the first inning of a second game until all other players on the team have sat out the first inning of an equal number of games. The only players that are not eligible for this participation rule are those that: (1) violate the league's disciplinary rules as determined by the league representative; (2) have an unexcused absence from practice during the week prior to the game (travel, medical, family obligations are legitimate excuses); or (3) are not present at the field prior to the formation of the line-up 15 mins before game time.

EXCEPTION: Player becomes injured

Marina Pony Baseball Softball 2010 League Rules and Regulations

PENALTY: Forfeit and review by League President, League Director and Division Representative for subsequent action according to Section VIII.N.

- C. **Mandatory manager/coach code of ethics:** The manager and coaching staff are responsible for the players assigned to their team and they shall make sure that all players learn the skills of Baseball/Softball and good sportsmanship. They shall give all players the same chance at earning a position on the field. They will not entice a player not to show up for a practice or game. They shall follow the rules set forth in the Pony Baseball Bluebook, Pony Baseball Handbook, Official Baseball Rule Book, and ASA Rules for Softball, Marina Pony Baseball/Softball League/Game rules, and the Marina Pony Baseball/Softball Constitution and By-Laws. And they shall participate in all functions organized by the league and encourage all players and parents to participate and support the league.

XI ALL-STAR TEAM PROCEDURES

- A. The screening criteria for regular season managers (Section VII. B) shall be applied to all regular season managers per division to determine all-star managers. If managing decisions still remain after application of the screening criteria, then managers shall be appointed by the President, League Director, and Division Representatives (with equal voting rights). All-star manager candidates that did not serve as regular season managers in the respective division can only be appointed if eligible regular season managers are not available or decline to be appointed.
- B. Using an online survey form, or at a gathering of the President, League Director, Division Representative, and all regular season managers or a team representative within the league (each team is only permitted one (1) representative to attend the selection process), the following will take place:
1. Each manager nominates as many players as he/she wishes from their team to qualify for participation. All players nominated must have played in the league during the regular MPBS season for a minimum of 10 games and reside within the boundaries of Marina Pony Baseball Softball as established by Pony; exception is the Pony baseball and Majors softball divisions in which players returning from high school baseball must report to their MPBS teams immediately after the end of the high school season and must play a minimum of 1/3 scheduled games.
 2. The nominees are listed so all the managers can see the names.
 3. After all managers have finished nominating players from their own team any manager may then nominate one player (1) or more players from another team that was not nominated by the team's representative.
 4. Each representative will secretly rank ALL of the nominated players.

Marina Pony Baseball Softball 2010 League Rules and Regulations

5. The number of players selected (maximum 12 players per team) will be based on the number of teams that will be sent to tournament play.
6. The President, League Director, or Division Representative will secretly tally all votes. Players receiving the highest average ranks will be placed on the team rosters sequentially until the maximum number of players is reached per team. If players end up with a tie in average ranks, which makes the total number of players more than the approved number, a tie-breaking vote will take place with those players only. The President, League Director, and Division Representative will conduct the tie-breaking vote. At this time, the committee will determine based on the rankings if a second 12 player roster of qualified players is appropriate for a B or C team.
7. Every regular season team will be represented on the all-star teams when possible.
8. The manager of each team must notify players of their selection for all-star play within forty-eight (48) hours of receiving the all-star roster.
9. Players receiving votes during the selection process that do not make it onto a team during the process will remain on a eligible list of players to be pulled up according to their average ranks, in case a player needs to be replaced.
10. **PARTICIPATION:** All players present at a game must get two innings in the field and one at-bat.
11. A non-refundable all-star fee is required for each player participating on the all-star/tournament teams. The fee must be paid prior to the team's first practice. The amount of the fee will be based on the exact costs of the player's jersey and hat only. If fees are not paid, players will be removed and replaced by a new player. Players picked up off the eligible list to replace a player must pay the fee prior to the team's first scheduled practice. Players picked up from the eligible list after the team has already held their first practice must pay their fee prior to being allowed to practice with the team. Managing, coaching or being a board member does not exclude you from paying this fee.
12. All-star jerseys, hats, pants, and accessories will be the "standard" MPBS all-star uniform.
13. Marina Pony Baseball Softball will pay for all all-star tournaments, all home invitational tournaments, and one (1) away tournament for every all-star team.
14. All-star team managers and coaches are required to obey the rules that are in effect for the tournament in which they are participating in at the time. Failure to obey any tournament rules will be cause for removal of the manager or coach.

Marina Pony Baseball Softball 2010 League Rules and Regulations