

MCSL League Rules & Exceptions to Standard NSA/ASA Rulebook Summer 2011

MCSL Web Site: <http://www.manassaschurchsoftball.org>

| Getting Started | | |
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| 1. | DH Start Times | Week Nights, Normally: 2 DH / Field: 6:30 and 8:40 PM; 1 DH / Field: 7:00 PM Saturdays: per schedule. |
| 2. | DH Duration, Week Nights Only | 2 DH / field scheduled: 2 hrs to play 2 games; game 1: no new inning after 55 min. 1 DH Scheduled / Field: No new inning after 55 min. Clock starts at scheduled game time. Coaches and umpires are jointly responsible for time management. |
| 3. | Game Finish Times, 2 DH / Field (Week Nights Only) | Hard stop 8:30 PM (early DH); 10:40 (late DH). Score reverts to last completed inning if game stopped in the middle of the final inning. |
| 4. | DH Duration, Weekends | No new inning after 60 min. game 1 or game 2. No hard stop. Ties not played out. |
| 5. | Lights Out, all Nights | We must clear fields, lights out no later than 10:45pm. |
| 6. | Grace Period | 10 min. ALL doubleheaders, 1 st game only. Must play with 8 if at field. Grace time comes out of time available to play game. |
| 7. | One pitch | Use one pitch umpire's discretion or both coaches agree. Intent is to help reach legal game (5 innings) not necessarily full 7 innings. |
| 8. | Forfeits | If 1 st game forfeited, 45 min grace for game 2. Game 2 may start early and any extra time gained may be used to complete game 2. |
| 9. | No umpire | Teams may start/play without. Ump picks up when arrives. |
| 10. | Valley View, Ben Lomond 3 Rain Line / Cancellations | Valley View: 703-792-3294; Ben Lomond 3: 703-792-3281 After 3pm; From 3 - 6:30pm, umpire or league official may cancel at field. |
| 11. | Lightning / Weather Delays | Umpire waits 20 min. for lightning to clear. Delay(s) part of 1 hr game time. Ump/league official may decide to postpone game vs wait if delay becomes too long to finish games on time. |

| Lineups and Uniforms | | |
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| 12. | Lineup # Players to Start | May start and play with 8, no penalty in batting lineup #9, #10 spots. |
| 13. | Loaning Player(s) | May borrow player(s) from other team(s) to fill lineup. Church players only. |
| 14. | Adding Players after Start of Game | Start short, may add up to 10 defensive players. Add unlimited EHs after game starts until 1 st batter in lineup (top of the order) bats 2 nd time. Additions must go at bottom of the batting order. |
| 15. | Uniforms | Matching shirts, matching color and style, commercial numbers, Umpire enforced. |
| 16. | Metal Cleats | Not allowed; no metal cleats, metal spikes, metal tips, or any exposed metal. |
| 17. | Hats | Optional. Worn properly. |

| Game Play Rules and Regulations | | |
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| 18. | Home team 1 st game | Flip coin if double header, reverse home game 2 or per schedule single games. |
| 19. | Balls and Strikes | Start with 1-1 count. Play with a courtesy foul. |
| 20. | Infield Player Limits | No more than 6 fielders may touch infield dirt at time of ball being hit. Result: dead ball. Batter awarded 1 st base, runners advance if forced. |
| 21. | Base Stealing | Base stealing not allowed. |
| 22. | Home Run Limits | Divisions 1-2: 5; Div 3-4: 4; Div 5-6: 3; then 1-up. Division 7: 2 then 1-up. No 1-up in bottom 7th or bottom last inning when declared by umpire. |
| 23. | Excess Home Runs | Dead Ball Outs. Runners do not advance. |
| 24. | Running out Home Runs | HRs not run out. Simply clear the bases. |
| 25. | Runner hit with batted ball | Runner off base in fair territory, hit w/ batted ball: out in all cases. |
| 26. | Courtesy Runner Rule | Teams may use courtesy runner up to 3 times per game. Runner shall be "last player to make a recorded out" regardless of gender. Or team may pinch run player not in lineup = official substitution. |
| 27. | 1-Pitch Rule | Umpire or both coaches' agreement may institute 1-pitch rule to complete legal game (5 innings) due to time or darkness limits. |
| 28. | Game Mercy Rule | 15 runs after 4 innings or 10 runs after 5 innings (or 4 ½ if home team is ahead) |
| 29. | Flip – Flop Rule | If game is out of hand and near the 1hr limit, near 5 th inning, umpire/coach should recommend team ahead to stay in field and the team behind bats 2 consecutive innings. |
| 30. | Slide Rule (Interference) | A runner may not interfere with a fielder's ability to make or receive a thrown ball. |

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| | | Runner has the responsibility to avoid contact if he is upright and decides not to slide. If out, the runner must slide or veer out of the fielder's way. |
| 31. | Collision with Catcher | A runner may not bowl over catcher for any reason. Result: runner is out. If flagrant, runner may be subject to ejection, at umpire's discretion. |
| 32. | Pitching Arc | Minimum: 6' - Maximum: 12' arc. Umpire will call "illegal" pitches out of this range |
| 33. | Reporting of Scores | Coach reports scores of games won on website. www.softballtech.com/mcsl Score reports must include lights on / lights off times as applicable. |
| Equipment: NSA or ASA Softballs; ASA Bats | | |
| 34. | Softballs | Hit your own, ASA 44COR/375 or NSA 44/400. Throw in new ball: any time. Women have option to hit 11" softball. |
| 35. | Softball Markings | ASA or NSA stamp, COR/compression must be clearly visible or umpire will discard. |
| 36. | Softballs: Batting Team Throws in Wrong COR or compression | Umpires are to handle all softballs put into play. Defense (pitcher) responsible for knowing what ball is delivered. But, if a batter hits illegal softball: play stands, ball removed. Coach warned. 2 nd offense (per DH): coach ejected. 3 rd + offense: forfeit game. |
| 37. | Altered Softballs | "chilled" or "frozen" softballs used: coach ejected 2 games. Game forfeited. |
| 38. | Bats | Consult ASA approved/banned list on ASA website. www.softball.org Players responsible for knowing if a bat is legal. Using non-approved bat or banned bats = game ejection. |
| 39. | Altered Bats | Not limited to repainting, reworking, mechanically altering. Penalty: Game forfeited. Player(s) suspended minimum of 1 season. |

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| Field Info | | |
| 40 | Double First Base | Use if exists. NSA rule: If batter/runner tags white base on infield play: umpire will call runner out (not an appeal play) unless errant throw draws 1B into foul territory or throw coming from foul territory. |
| 41 | Double Home Plate | All Div 6 and Div 7 games will use a double safety home plate and commit line. Force out only. Umpire to enforce 20' commit line. |
| 42 | Base Lengths | Valley View: 70' (or as installed, frequently 65') ; |
| 43 | Extended Pitcher's Box | Pitcher may stand up to 6' behind rubber in "imaginary" box. Must conform to all other NSA pitching rules. |

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| Eligibility | | |
| 44 | Women players | Women may play in any division. |
| 45 | Minimum Age | Players must turn 15 during calendar year to be eligible. Under 18: require parental consent form turned into MCSL officer. |
| 46 | Outreach Player Eligibility | Each team may have 2 "outreach" players not currently attending church. Players must be listed as such on team's league roster, subject to all MCSL league roster requirements, before they play. These 2 players may not be affiliated with any other league or tournament team anywhere. |
| 47 | Players that Umpire | Players may NOT umpire in the Conference that they play in. |

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| Sportsmanship | | |
| 48. | General | In the event of problems during game or the field, perceived or otherwise, stop game immediately and report incident to umpire and/or League Official. |
| 49. | Sportsmanship | Arguing w/ umpires, other team, bad language not tolerated. 2 game up to permanent suspension possible pending formal review or hearing. |
| 50. | Alcohol | Not permitted on PWC or City Park grounds. 1 year ban from all parks. |
| 51. | First Ejection | Minimum 2 game suspension (in addition to game ejected from). Illegal substitution, accidental bat throwing ejections: game ejected from only. |
| 52. | Push/Hit/Threaten: Umpire, Player, League Official, or Fans | Player suspended until further notice pending League hearing. This applies to confrontations before, during, or after the game. |
| 53. | Obscene Language | None permitted. Ejection per umpire's discretion. |
| 54. | Reporting of Ejections | Umpires, coaches: report ejection to mcsl@comcast.net & w/ scores |