

GENERAL LEAGUE RULES ALL DIVISIONS



- 1) Team Rosters are the responsibility of the MMAA Executive; and only the MMAA Executive may adjust them.
- 2) All weekday games start at 6:30 pm. Players need to arrive at the diamonds at the time indicated on their Division rules. The Home team plays in the field first. The Home team dugout is located next to the equipment locker.
- 3) Atom, PeeWee, and Bantam players must play in at least 50% of the regular scheduled games to participate in the playoffs. Under special circumstances, the MMAA Executive may make exceptions.
- 4) Players must wear appropriate clothing. Shorts, sandals, boots, steel cleats and non-prescription sunglasses are not permitted to be worn. Players must wear running shoes (rubber cleats permitted) and long pants (below the knee). Players without appropriate clothing will not be permitted to play. Every player will be provided with a Team Sponsor T-shirt and a ball cap which are theirs to keep and wear for all games.
- 5) Pitchers in 3-Pitch, Atom, PeeWee and Bantam must wear a pitching helmet, or softball face mask AT ALL TIMES there is a Batter at the plate; including during warm-ups and practices.
- 6) Except for ball gloves, the MMAA provides all required equipment. If a player brings their own bat, it must be labeled *Official Softball Bat*, and it must be available to use by both teams, so that no team has an advantage.
- 7) Game scores are only recorded for the Atom, PeeWee and Bantam Divisions.
- 8) Excluding T-Ball, a **Game Sheet** will be completed by the Umpire. A Coach from each team must confirm that the Game Sheet is filled out correctly with the Team Names, Date and Final Score (if applicable), and must sign the Game Sheet. If there is a dispute about the Final Score it should be documented on the form. A signed form also confirms the Umpires for the game.
- 9) Umpires are used in all Divisions except T-Ball. If an Umpire does not arrive by 6:25 pm, the Home team Coach should advise an MMAA representative and alternative arrangements will be made. 3-Pitch games may proceed without an Umpire.
- 10) **The Umpires are the game officials.** They are expected to be impartial and do the best they can. All judgement calls are final. If a Coach believes that a rule has been misapplied, the Coaches may discuss with the Umpire on the interpretation of the rule in a civil manner between innings. If agreement cannot be reached, the Umpire's decision will stand, and the Coach may file an appeal with the MMAA. The disagreement should be documented on the Game Sheet. Umpires should contact the MMAA Executive if they feel that they were intimidated and/or treated inappropriately by anyone.
- 11) **Arguing with the Umpire:** Coaches, players, and spectators will not yell at and/or argue with the Umpires. If a Coach has a concern or question, they should follow the procedure outlined in General Rule 10. If a player has a concern or question, they should talk to their Coach.
 - a) If a Coach argues with the Umpire, they will be given a verbal warning. If a Coach continues to argue with the Umpire, he/she will be ejected from the game. If there is no other Coach available and no parent is willing to take over, the game will be forfeited. If the Coach continues to argue or yell from the stands, he/she may be ejected from the ballpark. If the Umpire makes this call, he/she will have the backing of the MMAA Executive.
 - b) If a player argues with the Umpire, they will be given a verbal warning. If the arguing continues, the player will be benched for the balance of the game. If this reduces the roster below the minimum required, then rules related to player numbers will be in effect, including forfeiting the game (regardless of the score or inning).
- 12) No foul language or offensive behaviour will be tolerated. General Rule 10 will be applied. In addition, game or season suspensions may be applied by the MMAA depending on the severity of the situation.
- 13) With respect to General Rules 11 or 12, if an MMAA Executive member feels that the situation is severe enough, warnings will not be issued, and penalties may be enacted immediately.
- 14) **Smoking / vaping is not permitted** at the diamonds within the inner perimeter of the racetrack or within 10 metres of the entrance gate. **DOGS** must always be leashed and under control.
- 15) Youth not playing in the scheduled game are not permitted within the playing field or in the dugout areas.
- 16) MMAA Executive members have the right to make any decisions or rule adjustments deemed necessary during the play of a game to maintain the MMAA's Mission & Philosophy. The MMAA reserves the right to amend these rules if necessary.