

## **Added before the start of 2023 Season**

**Added 5/29/23**

**Added 8/4/23**

## **PCAA Malden Modified Softball League Rules** **(2023)**

(Excludes Windmill, Slingshot, and other Fast Pitch motions)

### 2023 Softball Teams:

- Angels, Bombers, PCals, Criollos, White Sox, Patrick's Bar, Dirtbags, Sachems

### Minimum League Age:

- Players MUST BE High School Age or Older (includes both genders)

### Game Times:

- Mondays and Tuesdays:
  - First game begins at 6:45pm (Automatic Forfeit Time is 7:00pm)
    - No inning can start after 8:20pm
  - Second game begins at 8:30pm (Automatic Forfeit Time is 8:45pm)
  - 15-minute Grace Period for each game

### League Softballs

- League will provide softballs in the job box for every team to use with the league logo attached

### Game Rules:

- All teams are allowed to field 10 players total
- You can bat as many Extra Hitters (EH) as you want
- If you have a player who is being hit for, this must be communicated to the League Scorekeeper before the game starts. This can not be done after the game starts. Inside of Gamechanger App, it recognizes the person who is being hit for as the Flex position. The person who hits is called the Designated Player (DP), not a DH.
- Every player on every team is required to have jersey numbers (no duplicate numbers)
- During the regular season, no players from other teams in the league will be allowed to fill-in.
- If late to a game, players are allowed to be added to the end of teams batting order upon arrival. Players can not be added after the team has batted once around. However, they can be used as a substitute instead.
  - When this takes place, umpire, league scorekeeper and opposing managers are required to be notified.

- If a player in the batting lineup leaves while a game is still being played for a reason (without replacement) then that spot in the batting order is an OUT.
- No bunting is allowed
  - An attempt to bunt will result as an Automatic Strike
  - A successful bunt (defined as bunting a pitched softball in fair play or foul territory) will result in an Out
- A hit batter is awarded first base (HBP)

#### Ground Rules:

- Butland Field:
  - Any fair ball that is hit into the soccer nets in Right Field (RF) will ruled a Ground-Rule Double.
  - Any fair ball that bounces onto the concrete in between the power box and soccer nets will be ruled a Ground-Rule Triple.
  - Any fair ball that bounces onto the concrete to the left side of the power box will be ruled a homerun.
  - If a ball hits the power box, it will be ruled a Ground-Rule Triple.
  - If a ball hits any object on the concrete in Right Field and bounces back into the field of play, it will be ruled a Ground-Rule Triple.
  - If the ball stays on the grass to either side of the power box, the ball is playable.
  - Any fair ball that is hit onto the concrete in Center Field (CF) or Right Field (RF) in the air will ruled a Home Run (HR).
  - Any fair ball that travels into the soccer nets in Left Field (LF) will be ruled a Home Run (HR).
- Ippolito Field:
  - Any ball that travels into the soccer nets in Left Field (LF) or any unplayable area will be ruled a Home Run (HR).
- Both Fields:
  - Both fields have trees in foul territory, therefore any ball that hits a tree on the fly will be ruled a foul ball.

#### Base Runners:

- A runner cannot advance a base on a wild pitch or passed ball
- Stealing bases is illegal
- Runner may be forced out at any base if unable to return before throw arrives

#### "Courtesy Runners":

- Once a runner reaches base, the LAST OUT can run for that player

- If the last out can not run for the player who reaches base, it will continue to go backwards to the previous outs.
- If possible, Courtesy Runners should be discussed with both managers and umpire(s) prior to start of a game

#### Umpire Information:

- Umpire(s) and Manager(s) must go over and agree to, ground rules before game including “courtesy runner” expectations
- Umpire cost will \$30 per team per game
- Scorekeeper cost is \$20 per team per game
- FAILURE TO PAY UMPIRE WILL RESULT IN A FORFEIT
- All regular season and playoff games will have 1 umpire. The Championship will have 2 umpires for each game.

#### Forfeits:

- Team MUST field nine (9) players to avoid a forfeit
- If your team forfeits, the opposing team will get credit for a game played for everyone on their roster

#### Managers:

- The team who wins a game is responsible for texting the score of the game to the Commissioner if a League Scorekeeper isn’t present.
- Paper Scorebooks are required to be submitted to the Commissioner at the conclusion of the regular season
- Managers MUST SUBMIT Team Rosters to the Commissioner no later than the start of the Regular Season
  - Team Rosters CANNOT exceed 25 players
- Managers MUST SUBMIT Final Rosters to the Commissioner no later than July 4th
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#### GameChanger Player Profile:

- Every player in the league is required to be entered into GameChanger with providing a headshot, full name, and jersey number.

#### Complete Game Definition:

- Regular season
  - All regular season games must be complete 5 innings to be defined as a complete game

- EXCEPTION: If the Home Team is winning after 4.5 innings, that team will be the Winner of that contest
- Playoffs
  - If a playoff matchup completes 5 innings and the game is stopped due to weather conditions, the game will continue on another date.
  - If a game is stopped because of light failure/curfew, the game will continue on another date.
  - If a playoff matchup DOES NOT complete 4.5 innings, the game MUST BE RESTARTED
  - EXCEPTION: If the Home Team is winning after 4.5 innings, that team will be the Winner of that contest

#### Mercy Rule:

- A “Complete game” is defined as 5 innings played
- Mercy Rule applies when there is a 15-run lead after a “complete game”
- Mercy Rule is in effect for playoffs

#### Disciplinary Protocols:

- If player is ejected from a game, it will result in a 1-game suspension for that person
- If Unsportsmanlike Conduct, Altercations, Fights, or Unnecessarily Rough Play occurs on the Linden-STEAM Academy it will be brought to a Disciplinary Committee to be evaluated by the offended teams Manager.
  - Committee for even years: Angels, Patrick’s Bar, Sachems (Alternate: Dirtbags)
  - Committee for odd years: P-Cals, Bombers, Criollos (Alternate: White Sox)

#### 2023 Playoff Format/Eligibility:

- To qualify for the playoffs, a player must have played (been credited) in 60% of the Regular Season games (13 out of the possible 21 games) and be on the team roster
  - Free agents who join a team in the Malden Modified Softball League after the season starts are required to play 9 games to be eligible for the playoffs. They can only be from the League’s Free Agent list to be eligible for this rule.
  - An appearance counts for any pitch, at bat, or pinch runner. The player needs to play in the game.
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- 1-seed and 2-seed will receive a first-round bye
  - Playoff teams who advance will be re-seeded each round
  - 1-game playoff:
    - 5-seed vs 8-seed
    - 6-seed vs 7-seed

- Round 1 (Quarter-Finals – Best of 3 Series):
  - 3-seed vs Lowest remaining seed
  - 4-seed vs Highest remaining seed
- Round 2 (Semi-Finals – Best of 3 Series)
  - 1-seed vs Lowest remaining seed
  - 2-seed vs Highest remaining seed
- Championship (Best of 5 Series)
  - Team with the Highest seeding will receive home-field advantage

#### Champions/Trophies:

- Ken MacCuish – Regular Season Commissioners Trophy (Best Regular Season Record)
- Al Locke Championship Trophy

#### Additional Rules:

- For every game, the home team is required to provide bases
  - To avoid injury, the first base bag needs to be a double base (Half White/Half Orange)
- No more than 2 players from the same team may join a roster of another team the following year.
- If a player does not pay the manager for the season. He may not play for another team in the league, until that debt is paid.

#### NOTE: ASA Rule:

- Umpire is required to call an **ILLEGAL PITCH** when appropriate and warn the offending Pitcher and Manager that two (2) additional ILLEGAL PITCHES will disqualify that player from the PITCHING POSITION.