

Metro Girls Softball League

Umpire 2024 MGSL Rule Sheet rev #3 (3/21/2024)

Umpire Fees

Costs – 2024 rates are:

10U - A & B - \$74/2 each team – One umpire behind the plate – Any umpire in the circle \$64/2 – 2-hour time limit *

12U - \$62 – each umpire - two-umpire crew – 1 hour 45-minute time limit *

14U – Sr - \$62 each umpire – two-umpire crew (no time limit)

Exhausted roster / Emergency - Any Single plate umpire - \$82 - Any single circle umpire \$64

(*) two-hour time limit - No new Inning **Note: the inning is over at the instant the third out occurs.**

Discounted pre ordered double-header (total two game fee) (80 Minute time limit)

10U - A & B - \$116 – One man behind the plate - \$96 any umpire in the circle

12U – Sr - \$97 - each umpire - two-man crew

All discounted doubleheaders - No new inning after 1 hr. 20 min from the first pitch, scheduled start times no more than 2 hours apart. One team must play in both games.

Game Rules

The PONY 2024 rule book is the default rule book

Specific age division rules (Official game scheduled at 7 innings - Timed games are not governed by innings played)

MGSL Superseded Rules & Clarifications

- **10U - All divisions:** No drop third 3rd strike ♦ 2-hour time limit (no new inning) ♦ Ties Count ♦ Pitching distance 35 ft ♦ **Mercy Rule 8 after 5 innings and 6 run limit** per ½ inning (excluding last inning),
♦ **10U B and Rookie Divisions only:** No stealing home
- **12U - Mercy Rule 8 after 5 innings** ♦ Ties count ♦ **1 hour 45-minute time limit** ♦ Pitching distance is 40 ft.
- **14U & Older - Mercy Rule 8 after 5 innings** ♦ Ties count ♦ Pitching distance is 43 ft. ♦
♦ There is no time limit for 14U and older in the 2024 MGSL season

All Age Divisions

- **Pitching** – the MGSL will adopt the “Step back – Start back” pitching rule, per NYS HS new 2022 rule, leaping is legal
- **“Mercy plus 5”:** The MGSL strongly suggests that teams make every effort to abide by the Mercy + 5 rule. Final score should not exceed 13 run (8 + 5) differential. Multiple occurrences of reporting a run differential of greater than 13 is a sportsmanship issue, which may be a violation of the MGSL Code of Conduct (COC). Violations of the COC may be subject to disciplinary action by the MGSL Board.
- **Not enough players:** All age divisions –The MGSL highly encourages that games be played. If there are 16 or more players on site, the game(s) should be played. The Division Coordinator (D/C) needs to be notified if any team plays short-handed or borrows players on game-day from the opposing team.
- **Less than 9 players:** A team may start with 8 players if no others are available. Players arriving late shall be placed at the end of the batting order. Only players on site shall be listed on the lineup card. A team may finish with 8 players for any reason, including ejection.

Player **arriving late with 9 or more players already playing (game started)**– if “batting the bench” add player to the line-up at the end. All other scenarios the player is a sub.

MGSL Superseded Rules & Clarifications Continued:

- **Forfeits / Umpires:** When a forfeit is called and the game is not played, make no payments to the umpire(s). The MGSL will make payment to all umpire(s). If a forfeit is called and a game is played, the umpires are paid the full fee by the coaches at the game site.
- **Breaking ties:** Ties count, however, if time and weather allow, the game should continue using ITB in the 8th inning until the tie is broken, time has elapsed, or weather/darkness **can** prevent further play.
- **Courtesy Runners:** Are only for the **Pitcher and Catcher**. If you bat the bench you use the last out. Otherwise, you **MUST** use a player not in the game (i.e. not in the batting line up).
- **Automatic Outs:** - No automatic outs shall be recorded. If a player leaves the game for any reason (injury, illness, ejection, grandparent’s birthday, etc.). Including injury during play – such as sliding into a base, etc. and a valid substitute is not available, an out **SHALL NOT** be recorded. A base could be abandoned without penalty. An absent player may return
- **Eligible Bats:** See PONY Rule #3 Equipment Sec. 1
- **Banned bats:** AKA Non-approved - The game is stopped, and the umpire will then note the alleged banned bat in both scorebooks. The bat is removed from play. Resume the game. Contact the D/C after the game. See USA/ASA Softball non-approved bat list http://usa.asasoftball.com/e/build_batlist_one_page.asp

- **Helmet w/ Face Guard:** See PONY Rule Book - Rule 3 Equipment, Sec. 11-Uniform, Item d –Helmet
- **Game Balls:** Each team shall provide **one** MGSL-issued ball. The two balls **MUST** be identical. Every effort shall be made to use the game balls provided by the MGSL
- **Double First Base: No double base = no game.** The double base shall be 15 x 30 inches, made of canvas or other suitable material, no more than five inches thick and properly secured - per 2020 PONY Rule book.
- **Line-up format:** Each team must declare a line-up format at ground rules or sooner. Teams can field no more than 9 defensive players at any time. Opposing team line-up formats may differ. Options include:
 - *Batting the Bench*= unlimited defensive changes (no subs).
 - Traditional 9 batters (with W/ or W/O subs)
 - Traditional 9 batters plus up to two Extra Players (EP) in the batting line-up. That allows free defensive changes amongst the 10 or 11 batters in the lineup per PONY rules.
 - Traditional 9 + 2 (EP) + subs
 - PONY DP/Flex
 - NSA Twin (two players in one batting slot) **Only one set of Twins per team**
 - **NO COMBINATIONS - Not ok: EP and D/P Flex per PONY rule 4 sec 5, Twins and anything else**
- **Jewelry:** 10U-14U (no jewelry). There is no penalty for being caught wearing jewelry during a game. However, it must be removed. What is determined as “jewelry” may vary by umpire. If jewelry is not removed the player is ineligible to play. 16U and Senior division at umpire discretion
- **No metal spikes** - 10U-14U. Metal spikes are permitted for all-teams / divisions 16U and older. Some facilities/parks do not permit metal spikes regardless of age.
- **Unreported sub:** No penalty, No ejection. Correct the line-up card and resume play.
- **Playoff Eligibility Rules:** Any player participating in playoffs must have attended a minimum of 50% of played games
- **Ejections** – Both players, coaches and fans can be ejected for un-sportsman-like behavior. **Ejections will result in disciplinary action at the discretion of the board. At minimum a 1 game suspension will be implemented with additional consideration of fines and/or permanent expulsion from the league**

Weather issues –cancel umpires two hours before game time to avoid a fee

Weather Related Issues

- **Play stopped in progress:** If weather becomes an issue, and 4 ½ innings have been played and the home team is ahead, the game is considered complete. Incomplete games stopped in progress are resumed at the point of interruption. A new umpire fee may be charged when a new date is selected. The D/C has the authority to approve re-start of the game from scratch.
- **Inclement weather:** Your first contact is to the umpire service. **USE THE LINKS FIRST!** Contact the correct service; Use the NFOA link (NFOA will only take cancellations using the link) **Use the WNYUA link** and call the appropriate umpire service, give the game number and location. Your second call is to the other team. If you cancel NFOA & NFUA umpires 75 minutes or more before the game the umpire does not get paid. If you cancel 74 minutes or less prior to game time the umpire will be paid by the MGSL and deducted from your escrow account. A team rep no longer needs to wait for the umpire to show.
 The Fredonia / **Chautauqua Co.** cancelation window is 1 hour. The Cattaraugus window is 2 hours.
- **When the umpire arrives, and weather becomes an issue:**
 If the game is cancelled before the first pitch is thrown: The umpire(s) shall be paid by the MGSL, **at a rate of \$25 per umpire, divided amongst and withdrawn from each team’s escrow.** If the game is cancelled after the first pitch is thrown, the umpire(s) shall be paid the full game fee on site.
 - **Note: Thunder and lightning are the same safety issue. Either instance causes a 30-minute game delay from the last occurrence.**

Umpire Contact Information

Game Day Umpire Contact Information *please contact the correct service

******Umpire service is listed on the website next to the corresponding game**

Please note - electronic cancelation links are now on the website welcome page. **CLICK** and start the form

Electronic cancelation forms - Paste these to a browser

NFOA: www.nfoagamechanges.com

WNYUA: <https://wnyua.org/CONTACT-US/CANCEL-GAME/> On the right side of home page is Coach's Corner.

The link is located below

Non-electronic cancelation forms

NFOA: Kevin O'Brien 716-228-3229 - kevinobrien73@gmail.com

Cattaraugus County: Jon Phillips - per L/S 716-200-6263 - Do not cancel via email

Chautauqua County: Chad - Per L/S 716-680-2656 - Do not cancel via email

WNYUA:

President - Norb Schmalfeld - (O) 716-320-1333

Vice President - Justin Barleben - (C) 585-764-8682

Secretary - Brady DeVore - (C) 716-462-7621

NFOA - LOCATION CHANGE (inside the 75 minutes) or NO UMPIRES – George Markey (716-770-1928)

Text number 716-912-3409