

# **Cleveland MIST Softball Rules**

## **Player Registration/Team Rosters**

All players must register with a Government ID before taking the field. Players must register by 9:00 AM on Saturday, September 1st, in order to be eligible for the remainder of the tournament. No team roster shall exceed 15 players. Rosters must be submitted by August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

## **Player Lineups**

Teams must begin and finish with 10 players to avoid forfeit. Teams may bat up to 12, using 2 extra hitters. Indicate EH on the line up sheet.

## **Game Time**

Game Time will be considered as Forfeit Time. Both managers must be ready with a completed line-up sheet 5 minutes prior to game time for coin toss when called by the umpire. Exceptions can be made at the site and/or tournament director's discretion.

## **Home Team**

Home team will be determined by coin toss during round robin, elimination games, and "IF" games. For the winner's bracket and championship games (if not an "IF" game), the higher seeded team shall be the home team.

## **Scorekeeper**

Home team is the official scorekeeper. Scores should be confirmed at each half inning with the home plate umpire. It is each manager's responsibility to initial & confirm the umpire's scorecard and a winning team is indicated at the conclusion of every game. Once leaving the field the umpires' scorecard shall be official.

## **Play**

### **Pool Play:**

Start with 1-1 count with a time limit of 7 innings or 45 minutes, whichever comes first (no new inning after 45 minutes). Courtesy foul permitted. ASA run rule is in effect.

### **Double Elimination and Semi-Final Games:**

Start with 1-1 count with a time limit of 7 innings or 55 minutes, whichever comes first (no new inning after 55 minutes). Courtesy foul permitted. ASA run rule is in effect.

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## Softball Rules

All Championship and IF Games:

Start with 1-1 count. No time limit will be enforced. No courtesy foul permitted. ASA run rule will still apply.

### ASA Run Rule

- 20 runs ahead after 3 innings or 2 1/2 if the home team is ahead
- 15 runs ahead after 4 innings or 3 1/2 if the home team is ahead
- 10 runs ahead after 5 innings or 4 1/2 if the home team is ahead

### Double Elimination Bracket Play

Each team's seeding based on the following priority by Wins-Losses-Ties: 3-0-0, 2-0-1, 2-1-0, 1-1-1, 0-0-3, 1-2-0, 0-1-2, 0-2-1, and 0-3-0. Teams with the same record will be seeded based on run differential in pool play games.

### Tie Games

Pool play games may end in a tie.

For all other games, except for championship and IF games, a ONE PITCH rule shall be applied:

Each batter gets ONE PITCH:

- 1) Foul ball - Caught or dropped = OUT
- 2) Strike - Swing or Called = OUT
- 3) Ball = Batter is awarded a walk
- 4) Fair Batted Ball = Outcome of play

The last batter of the previous inning shall be placed on 2nd base.

Championship and IF games

- If a game is tied after 7 innings, the last batted out from the previous inning shall be placed on second base for all subsequent innings.
- No other rules shall be enforced.

### Bases

If there are two bags at first base, the ASA double bag rule is in effect.

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### Home Runs (Over the fence)

- Open Division “C”: A one-for-one rule is in effect. After the first home run is hit, the opposing team may hit a home run. After both teams have hit a home run, each team may hit another. This cycle may reset and continue as many times as necessary throughout the game, as long as each team hits a home run. If another home run is hit by the team that began the cycle before the other team hits a home run, there will be a recorded out and runner(s) will return to previous base. This will continue throughout the game.
- Open Division “D”: no home runs, a recorded out.
- For all divisions below Division “D1”: If a fair batted ball hits the fence on the fly, it is a recorded out. Baserunners may not advance. This rule does not apply to Shady Lane Field #5, as its right and left field fences are shorter than the others.
- \*NOTE: When an eligible home run is hit, the batter and all runners must touch at least one base and immediately return to the dugout to speed up play.

### Courtesy Runners

One courtesy runner per inning is allowed and shall be the last recorded out. In the event there are no outs in the first inning when this occurs, the last batter in the lineup will be the courtesy runner. This courtesy runner must be in place before the next pitch. If one comes off the bench to pinch run (as opposed to a courtesy runner), one is considered a substitute and subject to the rules regarding substitution.

### Bats

Only ASA approved bats will be allowed for use. All bats are subject to inspection prior to each game, at the discretion of the umpire or tournament committee. Umpires will be using the current ASA non-approved bat list for bat review.

### Illegal Bats

Any illegal bat discovered during play will be confiscated and returned at the end of the tournament and recorded on the line up sheet. Any play that occurred while using an illegal bat will result in an out and all runners return to their previous base. Challenges must be made prior to the next pitch. Any bat accused of being altered shall immediately be brought to the attention of the Tournament Director/Site Director who shall confer with the UIC for further action if any is to be taken.

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## **Uniforms**

Each player must wear a “team jersey” which must be similar in color, style, and must have a unique player number as described by ASA rules. No bandannas, non-uniform decorations or tied cloth is allowed on head, neck or body. Exceptions may be granted on a case-by-case basis and at the discretion of the umpire.

## **All Exposed Jewelry and Loose Accessories**

Must Be Removed: This includes, but not limited to, all exposed body and facial piercing, rings, necklaces (of any kind / style), bracelets, wrist watches, earrings, pagers, cell phones, tobacco tins, unsecured sunglasses atop of ball caps. Medical alert bracelets must be taped to body. Non-removable jewelry must be concealed with athletic tape or Band-Aid type of material. This is for player safety reasons to avoid being snagged, ripped out and other safety related reasons.

## **Open Team Eligibility**

This is not a “rated” tournament. However, we ask that you strongly consider the division in which you place your team. The MIST committee reserves the right to move teams from one division to another if it is determined that a team is registered for the wrong division.

## **Protests**

Any protests must be brought to the attention of the umpire prior to the last pitch of the game. A \$200 (cash) protest fee shall be presented along with a protest form available from the field reps prior to the last pitch. The Tournament director, Field representative and site UIC will make up the protest committee. Any concerns during games should be brought to the attention of the Tournament director, Field representative, or site UIC. Together, the 3 will make a final ruling.

## **Player and Manager Ejections**

ASA accordance: A player or manager may be removed from the game by the umpire, usually for an unsportsmanlike act or conduct. A flagrant act will require the player or manager to leave the grounds for the remainder of the game. A team may NOT continue to play shorthanded. If no substitutes are available the game is a forfeit. If the umpire and/or designated tournament official(s) deems the unsportsmanlike act or conduct as malicious, an individual OR full-team suspension COULD result for the remainder of the tournament. In such event, the

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results of all previous games played shall be valid; an in-progress game and all games afterwards shall be forfeits. Let's have fun and be good sports!

### **Fan Ejection Penalty**

A fan shall be removed from current game only. Tournament officials reserve the right eject the fan for the remainder of tournament play if offense is deemed to be threatening in nature to another player, umpire, spectator, tournament staff, park patron, animals, or morally offensive.

### **Tournament Integrity**

The competitive integrity of all tournament play is paramount. All participants must adhere to the spirit and letter of the rules. MIST Cleveland 2018 committee reserves the right to remove participants for any action that is illegal, harassing, threatening, unethical, and detrimental to the success of the event or constitutes cheating at the sole discretion of Tournament Officials. Participants are reminded we are here for Friends, Fun and Softball.

ASA Rule 4 Section 2 Americans with Disability Act rule applies (explained as needed by the UIC).