2018

Mon-Yough

Girls

Softball

Rulebook

Mon-Yough Girls Softball

2018 Contacts

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| 2017 MYGSL Executive Board |
| President: | Josh Bagnell  | 412-848-7329 | Joshb7711@gmail.com |
| Vice President:  | Deb Evans | 412-287-8247 | dayzduks@msn.com |
| Treasurer: | Mark Panicucci | 724-787-2364 | panicucci@comcast.net |
| Secretary: | Jamie Cimba | 412-523-2353 | Jamers1015@comcast.net |

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| 2018 Umpire Contacts |
| Umpire in Chiefs:  |  |  |
| Harry Rutherford | 412/559-5763 |
| Umpire Schedulers:  | John D’Angelo | 412/596-4123 |
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| --- |
| 2018 Umpire Fees |
| 6/8U Instructional | $35  |
| Fast-pitch (single umpire; 10, 12, & 15U) | $50 |
| Fast-pitch (two umpires; 16 & 18U) | $30/umpire |
| Slow-pitch (single umpire; all ages) | $30 |

Mon-Yough Girls Softball League

By-Laws

Believing it to be our duty to aid in the development of good character, fair sportsmanship, and to build leadership qualities in our youth, and that our exertions to that end can best be directed and accomplished by organized and purposeful effort, we, therefore accept and subscribe to the organization of the Mon-Yough Girls Softball League. Our major purpose is the selection of proper leaders and the adoption of the selection of proper leaders and the adoption of the fairest rules, and of properly directing our efforts to give our communities a successful and efficient organization for the training and development of softball players.

We therefore, adopt the following By-laws and Rules and by accepting membership in the Mon-Yough Girls Softball League, you accept these By-Laws and Rules adopted by the organization.

Article I

Name

This organization shall be designated and known as The Mon-Yough Girls Softball League (“MYGSL”).

Definitions:

MYGSL: An organization operating exclusively for the athletic development of the youth of the member, organizations and promotion of the highest caliber of softball that can be provided.

League Board: Governing body of the league. It consists of four elected officers, one commissioner from each member association, as well as the Umpire in Chief (“UIC”) and Deputy Umpire in Chief (“DUIC”) for the league

Executive Board: The Executive Board will consist of the four elected officers. The Executive Board will mediate and rule on the resolution concerning all MYGSL disputes.

Article II

Members

All organizations must be voted in at an official MYGSL meeting by a majority vote of the League Board. All member associations must provide their own accident and liability insurance.

Act 33/34 clearances and background check must be obtained thru RegisterASA.com for all coaches with managerial responsibility.

Clearances are good for 5 years and an ASA registration card will be sent upon completion of the clearances as well as the on-line coaches’ examination. This card must be kept on your person while on the field and may be requested to be presented by umpires, league officials or opposing coaches before or during a game. Any coach in violation of not carrying his/her card will have 7 days to present it to an Executive Board member, UIC or DUIC, or be prohibited from coaching. The ASA card must be presented at the Mandatory April Meeting before Managers will receive their schedules. Any derogatory remarks from the clearances will prohibit that person from all managerial and coaching activities, unless an exception has been approved by the Executive Board

It will be the responsibility of the member associations to insure that all coaches (including those without managerial responsibilities) are properly cleared to coach. The MYGSL considers this an association matter and recommends that associations require proper clearances for all coaches.

Probationary (P) members are team representatives who are playing in the MYGSL for the first time, or have left MYGSL for any reason and have returned. They may not hold office, vote, or make motions. They may express their opinions at meetings. After one season they may obtain membership status by a majority vote of the voting membership. As a condition of the probationary period, the association must send representation to a minimum of 75% of the league meetings to be eligible to be voted on as a league member.

If any association has not entered a team into the league for two consecutive Spring seasons, the association must re-apply for membership and will be subject to probationary status.

Commencing in 2017, all associations must send representation to at least 50% of the league meetings to maintain league voting privileges. Continued lack of attendance by any particular association may lead to expulsion of the league at the discretion of the League Board.

Article III

Executive Board/League Board

The Executive Board of this league shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The League Board shall consist of these officers, one commissioner from each of the member associations, the UIC and DUIC for the league

Article IV

Duties of the Executive Officers

In addition to their responsibility in mediating and resolving MYGSL disputes;

President:

The president shall preside at all meetings and keep order therein, and perform all other duties incumbent to said office. Shall set the agenda, but have no vote on any motions that arise unless the vote is a tie then the president shall be the tie-breaker. The president may call special meetings whenever it is deemed necessary or upon the request of no less than two members. The president will also notify all members to the time and subject matter of said special meetings.

Vice-President:

The Vice President shall replace the President if he/she is unavailable to fulfill their duties.

Secretary:

The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of all members, call the roll and keep full minutes of the proceedings of each meeting. He/she shall notify the membership of any special meetings called by the President at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Treasurer:

The treasurer shall receive all monies belonging to the league. He/she shall keep an accurate account of the money received. He/she shall report finances at each meeting and furnish a written report of each monthly transaction to the Secretary.

Article V

Duties of the League Board

The League Board as defined above shall act as the rules committee and make all decisions with respect to the rules, regulations, and discrepancies concerning league matters. The League Board will govern all business transactions, including financial responsibilities concerning the league during the year.

Article VI

Finances

League fees will only be enough to cover the league expenses. The current league fees are $205.00 per team. $80.00 of that is a refundable forfeit deposit.

All monies to be raised or spent must be approved by the Executive Board.

No money prizes will be awarded.

Article VII

Nominations & Elections

All candidates must be active members of a member association.

All elected officers shall serve a term of two years. President and Secretary elected on the even number years and Vice President and Treasurer elected on the odd numbered years.

The President shall accept nominations for offices at the regularly scheduled meeting held in October provided there is a quorum present at the meeting. Nominations will be closed at the November meeting, prior to the casting of votes. Unopposed candidates will be elected without a vote. Elected officers shall assume their duties at the regularly scheduled meeting in January.

Any vacancies occurring in an elected office shall be filled by a nomination and subsequent immediate election at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

The President will be permitted to seek re-election. If he does not, the previous

year’s Vice-President will be nominated as President.

The general membership is any person affiliated with a member association and any other person affiliated with the league accepting and subscribing to the organization of the MYGSL for its purposeful direction and accepted by the League Board. The general membership is invited to attend any open meeting and be recognized at the discretion of the Executive Board.

Article VII

Meetings

Official MYGSL meeting will be held on the second Wednesday of each month. One meeting a month will be mandatory, except in months when if it pleases the Executive Board, a suspension of business will be permitted, provided no urgent league business must be addressed.

Executive Board members must not miss two consecutive scheduled general meetings in order to maintain their eligibility for Board membership.

Article IX

Quorums

Each meeting will be governed by a voting body as previously limited and defined that when duly assembled is competent to transact business. This body will be known as the quorum.

Each membership association of the league will be entitled one vote.

A quorum will consist of a majority of the member association. Each member, or representative, must be present at the general meeting to cast recording votes.

A quorum must be present to conduct a meeting of the league.

If a quorum is not present for two consecutive league meetings, the Executive Board may conduct business for the league.

Article X

Order of business

1. Calling of meeting to order.
2. Establishment of a quorum.
3. Secretaries report of last meetings minutes.
4. Treasurer’s report.
5. Special committee/Commissioner’s report.
6. Old/unfinished business.
7. New business.
8. Adjournment.

Article XI

Amendments

Any proposed additions, alterations, or amendments to these by-laws will be submitted in writing at a regularly scheduled monthly meeting. These changes must be read at three meetings prior to being voted on by the League Board. The changes will either be accepted or rejected by a majority vote by the League Board.

Changes to the playing rules will be submitted at the regular scheduled October or November monthly meeting. These must be read twice before being voted on.

In the event that a rule change or by-law change are of such immediate a pressing concern to the welfare of the league in general as determined by a majority of the League Board, then an immediate special meeting may be called by the President to vote on such pressing issues.

When two or more amendments are submitted, they will be voted on separately.

Article XII

Rules of order

All questions not otherwise decided for in these by-laws shall be decided by Robert’s rule of order (latest edition).

Section I

General Playing Rules (All Divisions)

Player Eligibility

1.1 Membership associations must enter their entire registered membership into each age division for which they must submit rosters for inclusion into the league.

1.2 For associations entering more than one team in any particular age division, these associations must form their teams by an association draft for all new players entered into the age division. No selected or stacked teams will be permitted in the league, and the only exception is that a team that played together the previous season may be kept together, so long as any additional players added to the team are done so in compliance with the first half of this rule . Violating teams will forfeit all scheduled games and any right to league awards.

1.3 It is required that all association submitting team to the league for Spring play will hold an open registration. No selected or stacked teams will be permitted into the league. Violating teams will forfeit all scheduled games and any right to league awards.

1.4 All teams submitted to the league for Spring play must be, at minimum, comprised of 80% or more of the players within the community/school district. All exceptions must be brought to the Executive Board for approval.

1.5 This league will consist of seven age divisions of (19 slow/18 fast), 16, 15, 12, 10, 8 & under and 6 & under. Players must not turn 20/19,17,15,13,11, 9 or 7 prior to December 31st 2016 to be eligible for that division. 19 year olds are only eligible to play slow-pitch in this league, while fast-pitch division maximum age remains at 18 years.

Any team with rostered 19 year olds must show proof of additional insurance to receive schedules.

1.6 In order to receive their league schedule, team managers must furnish 6 team rosters to the Executive Board and sign the Coaches Code of Conduct at the April general meeting. Additions, and or changes to league rosters will be accepted until the first scheduled league game of that age division, by a league officer. No changes to league rosters will be accepted after the first scheduled league game of that age division unless approved by a member of the Executive Board, with email notification to the association commissioners.

1.7 No player will be permitted to play in a lower age or playing division. Teams found to be violating this rule risk forfeiture of games played with ineligible player(s) at minimum as well as possible suspension from the league at the discretion of the Executive Board.

1.8 To prevent forfeits, non-rostered players (pull-ups) may only be brought up from a lower division from the team’s own association, provided the pull-up player’s team does not have a scheduled game and that the pull-up player is rostered to a team within the association that plays in the MYGSL. Players who play up are at the discretion of the member associations based on player ability, and the only limitation imposed by the league will be that any player rostered to an 8U team may not be able to play up more than one age group (10U). Any pull-up will be considered a regular team member and will comply with the mandatory playing rules, except they may not start in place of a regular rostered player. When a pull-up player is the 12th player or more present at game time, the pull-up player cannot play.

1.9 A team may only pull a player up for unlimited games in any given season. The name(s) of player(s) pulled up must be turned into the league along with the weekly scores The team playing with pull-up must inform the opposing coach of the name(s) of the pull-up player(s) and it is the home team’s responsibility to turn that information into the league (regardless of which team has the pull-up player(s)).

1.10 There will be no double rostering of players in the league. For example, if a 10U player’s association chooses to roster such player as a 12U, the 10U player cannot play within the 10U division. (see Section I, 1.5, play down rule).

1.11 Any rostered player who arrives after game time may be allowed to play at the Manager’s discretion.

1.12 All teams are required to pay a $80.00 Forfeit fee (deposit), which will be refunded if no games are forfeited. The fee will be charged if teams do not adhere to rule Section I, 2.7. If you forfeit 4 days before the game you will not be penalized with the forfeit fee. If you forfeit a game less then 4 days before your fund will be charged the full amount to cover the cost of the umpire or umpires. After the second forfeit, your team is then placed under suspension until the fund is replenished to the $80.00 level. When under suspension, all games are considered a forfeit until the fund is replenished. All games will count in the standing as a 7 to 0 win for the team who did not forfeit. If a team in any association forfeits 3 or more games in a season, that teams association will be placed on one year probation. In the probationary year if any team in that association forfeits 3 or more games that association will be fined $500.00 and placed on additional one year probation. If any team in that association forfeits 3 or more game in that probationary year that association will no longer be allowed to play in this league. No association on probation may host a tournament or be able to cast a vote for their association at the monthly league meetings. Home team managers should notify the President and Secretary immediately of any forfeit.

1.13 All teams must be in uniform by the first scheduled game. A uniform will consist of at least a jersey of matching color and design with a visible individual number. Coaches do not have to be in uniform. If unable to comply with this rule, a purchase order showing that uniforms have been ordered must be presented.

1.14 A player, coach or umpire who is bleeding, or has blood on his/her uniform or clothing, shall be prohibited from participating further in the game until appropriate treatment is administered and the damaged uniform is changed. If medical treatment is administered in a reasonable length of time, determined by the umpire, the individual will not have to leave the game. Uniform violations will not be enforced if a uniform is changed due to the blood ruling.

1.15 No player may be rostered in two different associations regardless of age group. Teams found to be violating this rule risk forfeiture of games played with ineligible player(s) at minimum as well as possible suspension from the league.

1.16 18 and under players attending college may participate on 18 and under teams within MYGSL.

1.17 Any team submitted into the league for the Spring season must have a minimum of 9 players and a maximum of 20 players on the roster. All exceptions will be brought to the Executive Board for approval.

League Scheduling

Regular Season

2.1 Regular season league schedules will be distributed at the April general meeting. The date, time and place for this meeting will be set no later than the March general meeting.

2.2 Each age division will have a mandatory scheduling meeting at least 10 days prior to the April general meeting. Dates and times for these meeting will be established at the March general meeting.

2.3 Each association is responsible for sending a representative to each age division meeting that they are fielding a team for the Spring season (preferably the manager), at which time the members will confer and set their own schedule with the other member associations based on team and field availability.

2.4 A member of the Executive Board must be present at each age division meeting, and will inform the member associations of the scheduling requirements and possible division splits. The Executive Board member in attendance will then be responsible for taking the master schedule from the meeting and delivering it to the League President in advance of the April general meeting.

2.5 No games will be cancelled, except for rain or wet grounds due to prior rain. All other cancellations will have to be brought to the Executive Board for consideration. A change in a school activity must be brought to the Executive Board 7 days prior to the scheduled game date in question (exception made for rescheduling of High School or Middle School softball games). Failure to comply will result in forfeiture by the home team.

2.6 It will be the responsibility of the home team to reschedule games. After 2 unsuccessful attempts to reschedule any game, league officers will reschedule the game in question. The first attempt to reschedule a game must be made within two weeks from the cancellation. Rainout and rescheduled games must be reported to the League President, League Secretary, and the appropriate Umpire Scheduler.

2.7 The home team will arrange for the rescheduling of the umpires.

2.8 The home team will notify the league President and Secretary of any schedule changes by email.

2.9 The MYGSL season ends 2 days prior to scheduled playoffs dates for the respective divisions.

 Post Season

2.10 Play-off structure and dates for the play-offs will be determined at the March general meeting.

2.11 Once the play-off dates and structure are established, the league will not consider no play date requests for the play-offs, with the exception of the Belle Vernon (or other) Community Kennywood Days. Such dates that may conflict with the play-offs must be communicated to the league at the March general meeting.

2.12 Play-off games will not be scheduled on Friday through Sunday for the 10U-18/19U age groups, in consideration for the number of travel ball players in the league. In the case of a make-up play-off game due to a rain-out, and if both impacted coaches agree, play-off games may be played on Friday, Saturday or Sunday.

Playing fields

3.1 The home team must make a copy of these playing rules available for inspection by umpires at each field where the Mon-Yough Girls Softball League games are played.

3.2 All fields must be lined with foul lines, batter’s boxes, and pitching rubbers/lines by the home team. (Pitching lines must be no longer than 2 feet)

3.3 The home team will get their choice of dugouts and /or benches.

3.4 Ground rules will be discussed with managers and umpires before the start of each game.

3.5 The home team manager will be solely responsible for deciding whether or not the playing field is in a safe and satisfactory condition to permit the game to be played. This decision must be made prior to the throwing of the first pitch of the game. After the first pitch, the game is under control of the umpire.

3.6 It will be the responsibility of the home team to cancel any game and to notify the umpires and the opposing coach of the cancellation at least 60 minutes prior to game time.

Pitching

\*Refer to Slow-Pitch and Fast-Pitch Division Rules

Game Rules

4.1 Regulation games will be 7 innings in all divisions except the 10 & under, 8 & under and 6 & under divisions. 10 & under will be 6 innings and 8 & under and 6 & under will be 5 innings.

 4.2 In case of rain, or called because of darkness, a regulation game will be at least 4 1/2 innings long if the home team is winning, and 5 completed innings if the visiting team is winning. (Exception: 6/8U divisions)

4.3 1 Hour & 50 Minute time limit (Finish the inning) will be imposed for all divisions. If the game is tied after a regulation game each team will be

awarded 1 point in the standings. If the game is tied and called due to darkness (safety) before the time limit in an incomplete inning, the game must be continued. The game will be completed on a mutually agreed upon date and picked up

where it left off with the same players in the line-up. If a team is unable

to field the same line up, sub an unused player, or apply the re-entry rule, that

team will forfeit the game.

Exception will be the play-offs. If a game is tied at the end of regulation, each inning thereafter will begin in accordance with the International Tie Breaker Rules (each team starts with their last batted out from the previous inning on second base), and the game will be played until a winner is determined. For 8U, this will be the sixth inning, 10U will be the seventh inning, and all other divisions with begin ITB in the eighth inning. NOTE: For 8U and 10U, each extra inning will be uncapped in terms of the number of runs that can be scored by each team (the same as the final regulation inning).

4.4 In case of rain, if the game is not a regulation game, the game will be suspended and resumed at the point which it was suspended on a mutually agreed upon date and played until it become regulation game.

4.5 10 & Under divisions only; the maximum runs per inning is 5. Exception will be that the sixth and final inning will be unlimited runs. There is no catch up rule for 10u. All other divisions: Game ending rules will be per ASA rulebook for both fast and slow pitch.

 Slow Pitch Fast Pitch

 20 runs after 3 innings 15 runs after 3 innings

 15 runs after 4 innings 12 runs after 4 innings

 10 runs after 5 innings 8 runs after 5 innings

4.6 The home team will ensure that the visiting team has at least 15 minutes of warm up time on the playing field prior to the scheduled start time of the game. No originally scheduled game can start before 6:00 pm on a weeknight. Games must be scheduled to allot for regulation game time. No game will be ended prior to the time limit to accommodate a subsequently scheduled game.

4.7 The MYGSL requires that no games be played without a certified ASA umpire. An ASA umpire who has a daughter playing on a team may not umpire a league game or tournament in that same age division.

4.8 All player changes must be reported to the umpire and opposing scorekeeper at the time they occur. Per ASA regulations, scorekeepers are required to record both first and last name as well as number for every player. In the case of a disputed rule violation, scorebooks may be reviewed.

4.9 All teams may start a game with 1 position short without penalty. All teams can finish the game with 2 positions short without penalty unless there is an ejection. The team who has a player ejected must forfeit the game.

4.10 10 & under (both fast and slow divisions) will use a no run walked in rule. No run can be scored resulting from a walk. A run can only score as a result of a hit or an award of a base due to over throw, and the ball entering dead ball areas. (both slow and fast pitch), hit by a pitch, (fast pitch) or an illegal pitch (fast pitch). On the 4th ball, the coach whose team is batting will have 3 regulation pitches from within the circle and flat for the batter to hit. If the ball is not hit into fair territory, the batter is out.

Conduct and Penalties

 5.0 NO TOBACCO OR ALCOHOL WILL BE PERMITTED ON THE FIELD AT ANY TIME!

5.1 No derogatory remarks may be made by any person on the playing field or in the stands.

5.2 Umpires have the right to eject any manager, coach, player or fan for any abusive language or harassment.

5.3 If a manager or coach is ejected from a game, their case will be reviewed, and if determined by the Executive Board to be a serious incident, additional suspensions may be awarded. All reviews must take place within 7 days of the reported incident.

5.4 No players, coaches, or fans may say anything once the pitcher has started her motion, except defensive players may encourage their pitcher, and offensive players may encourage their batters . One warning will be given for any violation. A second violation will result in a strike or a ball being awarded depending upon who commits the violation.

5.5 Any player intentionally throwing equipment in anger will at the discretion of the umpire be warned or ejected. The second team violation will result in both the player and manager being ejected. There will be no warnings given to managers and coaches.

5.6 No coach may assist a base runner in any manner. If this occurs, the runner is out. The Executive Board must approve special circumstances.

5.7 Sliding is permitted, and encouraged, but is not mandatory. Anyone intentionally bowling over a player will be ejected and an out will be recorded for that player.

5.8 The league will not permit jewelry to be worn at any time. Refusal to remove jewelry will result in player ejection. Exception: Starter earring posts must be taped thoroughly covering the entire ear lobe and post.

5.9 All managers are required to submit the score of their games from the previous week by that Sunday to Stacie and Shona by E-mail ( Preferred), or by phone. Failure to do so may result in the forfeiture of unreported games.All un-played contests will result in forfeiture by the HOME Team. League standings will be reported at league meetings and on the league web site.

5.10 All reported incidents alleging verbal abuse of a junior umpire will be brought before the Executive Board immediately and will be ruled upon accordingly in consultation with the impacted junior umpire, UIC, and both head coaches involved in the incident. THE LEAGUE HAS A ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY AS IT REALTES TO INCIDENTS INVOLVING INTIMIDATION OR ABUSE OF OUR JUNIOR UMPIRES.

Protests

6.1 Protests must be made in accordance with the official ASA guide and playing rules. A protest fee of $25.00 must accompany all league protests. In the event the protesting team wins, the fee will be refunded. In the event that the protest is lost, the fee will remain in the league treasury.

6.2 All protests will be heard by the Executive Board and the league umpire in chief. Only those Executive Board members whose association is not involved in the protest shall be eligible to vote on the protest.

6.3 A representative from each association effected by the protest and the umpire officiating the game shall be entitled to present their positions at the protest Hearing.

6.4 All protests must be submitted to a league officer within 48 hours.

Awards

7.1 Division standings will be determined by the following point system:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Wins | 2 points |
| Ties | 1 point |
| Losses | 0 points |

7.2 League awards will be determined by the league’s regular season and playoff structure and dates of the playoffs will be determined at the March general meeting. Regular season awards will be distributed according to the number of teams entered into each age division and based on the teams standing within the division. Single or multiple division(s) - 6 teams…2 awards, 7-8 teams…3 awards, 9 or more teams…4 awards. When there is more than one division per age group, regular season awards will be given per division within the age group.

Exception: 8 & Under all teams who do not receive trophies will receive participation medals.

7.3 All trophies will be standardized.

7.4 Playoff awards will be for 1st and 2nd place only, no consolation game for 3rd and 4th place will be played or trophied .

7.5 In the case of a tie within a division for the determination of regular season awards and/or play-off seeding, the tie will be broken as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1st Tiebreaker | Head to head record |
| 2nd Tiebreaker | Wins |
| 3rd Tiebreaker | Runs against |
| 4th Tiebreaker | Runs for |
| 5th Tiebreaker | Coin toss |

7.6 In the case of a tie across divisions for play-off seeding purposes (due to the fact that the divisions may have played a disproportionate numbers of games), the tie will be broken as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1st Tiebreaker | Percentage of points earned during the season |
| 2nd Tiebreaker | Average Runs Against |
| 3rd Tiebreaker | Average Runs For |
| 4th Tiebreaker | Coin toss |

\*\* in the event of equal percentages, we will round to the nearest 1000th (3 decimals) before moving onto the next tiebreaker.

League Functions

8.1 Only member associations having all teams of their associations participating in the Mon-Yough Girls Softball League will be eligible to host league functions. League functions will be hosted on a rotating basis.

8.2 The league's season opening tournament and any other league sponsor tournament will be hosted by a league member on a rotating basis in the form of a double elimination tournament to be held on dates announced by the Executive Board. All teams are encouraged to participate. The host association may charge a small entry fee to cover the cost of the umpires, game balls, and trophies only.

8.3 (a) Organizations must participate in tournaments with at least 1/3rd of their teams (average between all hosted tournaments) or they will not be permitted to host a tournament when their turn comes around. Hosting organizations must keep and report to the league at the meeting following the tournament the name and number of organizations participating.

 8.3 (b) Associations must attend 50% of the monthly MYGSL meetings for the previous 3 years or they will not be allowed to host a MYGSL event. This rule is grandfathered for 2007, 2008, and 2009. Attendance will be recorded and kept as of the March 2010 meeting. Within the first 3 years until 2013 an association with documented “bad attendance” who is being considered for tournament will be voted on by the Executive Board.

8.4 League Tournaments: Host associations will submit to the league in March for the preseason tournament and in April for the mid-season tournament a draft and a tournament format to include:

1. Date, time, and location of draft.
2. Any fees that will be charged.
3. Number of balls if required.
4. Starting date and time.
5. Field location.
6. Tournament Director's name and phone number.
7. Facilities and concessions if available.
8. Any awards that may be given.

All league tournaments will be governed by league rules, and deviations must be approved by the League Board. It will be the host association’s responsibility to notify the league officers and the umpire in chief of any day or time changes that may become necessary after the draft. A league officer or their appointed representative must be present at the time of the draft and subsequent tournament.

8.5 Any unused funds will be used for All-Star Team tournament fees provided that the all-star team is represented by at least 3 member associations with a minimum of 2 girls from each member association. Application for said tournament fees must be submitted on a form provided by the league with a roster of league member players two weeks prior to the tournament date. Forms must be given to a league officer or commissioner for review. The league will award the money on a first come first serve basis and will enforce the two-week deadline and has the right to deny request if the criteria is not met. There will be a limit of 2 requests per rostered team. Definitions of rostered teams by the ASA will used to ensure that as many coaches as possible are given the chance to enter tournaments.

Equipment

9.1 The official softball for the Mon-Yough Girls Softball League shall be any ball approved by the ASA as reported in the Official ASA guide and playing rules.

9.2 Each home team must provide one new game ball and one other ball in good condition for each game.

9.3 Batting helmets with properly tightened chinstraps must be worn by Junior Olympic Players while batting, running the bases, standing in the on deck circle, and while acting as a base coach. Base runners will be called out for intentionally discarding their batting helmets.

9.4 Only official softball bats may be used, with the exception of Titanium bats which may not be used. No bat larger than 34" in length or heavier than 36oz may be used. No plugged, altered or cone shaped bats will be permitted. Exception, the 6,8, 10, and 12 and under divisions may use little league bats provided they are smaller than 32" in length and meet softball dimension requirements.

9.5 No metal spikes will be permitted in any divisions.

Section II

Instructional Division (6 & 8U) Special Rules

1. Section I: General Playing Rules (All Divisions) will apply unless otherwise noted.

Playing Fields

1.1 Base distances are 55 feet. A double first base must be used.

1.2 Half way lines (27-1/2 feet) must be marked between 1st and 2nd, 2nd and 3rd, 3rd and Home plate. A baseline will be run from the middle of first base to second base and from second to third to define the infield.

1.3 There must be a line run 10 feet behind the bases, this will designate the outfield playing area, and no player may cross the line until the ball is hit.

1.4 Team coaches may be use on defense to give instructions, but they must be behind the 10-foot line. No more that 3 defensive coaches are permitted in the playing area at any one time.

1.5 All other rules in Section III, General Rules apply.

1.6 A thrown bat will result in a warning to both teams, second occurance will result in the player being out.

1.7 8u players may not lead off a base, she may not leave the base until the ball is hit. First time will result in a warning to both teams the next instance will result in an out.

Equipment

2.1 See General Rules, Equipment section.

2.2 The official softball to be used in the 8 & under division will be any approved ASA 11 inch softball.

Pitching

3.1 Pitching distance will be 35 feet within a circle of 16 feet diameter.

3.2 Team coaches will be utilized as pitchers but may not make any defensive plays.

3.3 A pitcher/coach will pitch to his/her own batter and must start within the 16 feet circle. In the 6 & under division the coach may start up to 5 feet in front of the circle and a pitching line must be made at this spot. The player-pitcher in the 6u division must stay within the circle.

3.4 Batters will get a maximum of 7 pitches to hit a fair ball. If not done, the batter is out.

3.5 There are no walks in this division.

Game Rules

4.1 Regulation games in this division will be 5 innings.

4.2 In case of rain, a regulation game will be at least 3-1/2 innings long if the home team is winning, and 4 complete innings if the visiting team is winning.

4.3 If the game is tied at the end of 5 innings, each team will be awarded 1 point.

4.4 This division may have as many as 11 defensive players, 5 outfielders on the field. A team must have a minimum of 8 players available for the game.

4.5 The infield fly rule does not apply.

4.6 Every player present will play a minimum of 2 innings in the field.

4.7 A player will be positioned beside the pitcher/coach for fielding but may not interfere with the delivery of the pitch and must be within the 16’ circle.

4.8 If a pitcher/coach is struck by a batted ball, the ball becomes an immediate dead ball and is considered no pitch, and all runners return to their base.

4.9 This division may use a team coach as a catcher, but if this option is used, the catcher may not make any defensive outs.

4.10 Play will stop when a fielding play is made at any base, whether an out is recorded or not.

 4.11 The position of the infielder may not be more than 3 feet in front of or behind the base, but not directly on the baseline. If the infielder interfers with the runner and the infielder had no play on the ball the runner will be awarded the base at the umpires discretion. Interference can be called if the infielder is running in the baseline to cover the base.

4.12 If a defensive player intentionally rolls or bounces the ball to a base in an attempt to make an out, the runner may be called safe at the umpire’s discretion.

4.12 Any ball handled by the outfielder becomes a dead ball, once the ball is back in the infield (across the baseline) or when a play is made at any base.

4.13 Runners will advance in accordance with the half way lines whenever a dead ball situation occurs.

4.14 There will be a 5 run per inning run rule with a 5 run catch up rule. Exception Fifth and Final inning is unlimited runs. This means that if you are the visiting team and you score 3 runs in your first at bat, the home team can score 3 runs plus 5 runs before the inning is considered over.

Conduct and Penalties

5.1 All articles of General Playing Rules will be considered to be in full force in this division. Each coach is urged to please remember:

THIS IS AN INSTRUCTIONAL DIVISION OF SOFTBALL. MAKE EVERY EFFORT FOR THE KIDS TO HAVE FUN!

5.2 NO TOBACCO OR ALCOHOL WILL BE PERMITTED ON THE FIELD AT ANYTIME!

Section III

Fast-Pitch Division

1. Current ASA playing rules will apply except when modified, amended, changed or deleted to meet MYGSL Needs. The rules found in the General Playing Rules Section also apply.

Playing Fields

1.1 All playing fields must be lined with foul lines, batters boxes, and dead ball lines.

1.2 A double first base must be used. A 3-foot running lane must extend half way from home plate to first base.

1.3 A pitching rubber (6” X 24” Maximum) will be encircled with an 8-foot radius, 16-foot diameter pitching circle.

1.4 Base distances for all age divisions are 60 feet.

Equipment

2.1 The official softball will be an ASA approved ball. It will be optic yellow, with red stitching, and raised seams. 10 & under divisions will use an 11 inch .47 core 375 compression maximum. All other divisions will use a 12 inch .47 core 375 compression maximum balls.

2.2 Home teams will supply one new game ball, and one other ball in good condition. More balls may be needed depending on the out of play area, they must be of the same type as the game ball.

2.3 Catchers are required to wear full protection gear in all age groups. Shin guards, chest protectors, catcher’s helmet with facemask, and throat protector. Hockey style catcher’s helmets are permitted.

Pitching

3.1 ASA and WPIAL pitching rules will apply.

3.2 Pitching distances:

 10 & under: 35 feet

 12 & under: 40 feet

 14, 16, and 18 & under: 43 feet

3.3 Intentional walks will not be permitted in the 10 and 12 & under age divisions. All other divisions are permitted to walk a batter intentionally; however the ball must be pitched and is considered a live ball.

3.4 If a pitcher hits a batter 3 times in one inning she will be removed for the remainder of that inning…If the pitcher hits 4 batters in a game then she will be removed from the mound for remainder of that game. If you play a double header than the pitch count starts over for second game. Managers/scorekeepers are responsible for keeping track of hit batters on their team. Team that does not keep track will result in the following….1st offense will be brought to boards attention. 2nd offense will result in suspension of manager. 3rd offense will result in board action with more severe action taken.

Playing Rules

4.1 General playing rules will apply within regards to rain/delayed, suspended, and tied games.

4.2 More than 1 trip to the mound by the manager or coach in a single inning in the 10 & under division will result in the pitcher being replaced. Managers or coaches of all other divisions are permitted 3 trips to the mound in a game before the pitcher must be replaced.

4.3 The infield fly rule will be in effect for all divisions except the 10 & under division.

4.4 Mandatory playing time for all age divisions is a minimum of 2 innings in the field. A continuous batting order is mandatory in all age divisions except for the 16, 18 & under divisions, they may opt to use a competitive batting order. Teams using a continuous batting order will not be penalized for a player being removed from the line-up. Teams using a competitive line-up will follow ASA guidelines.

4.5 Courtesy runners are permitted for the pitcher and catcher anytime, and are recommended with 2 outs. Courtesy runners are permitted for any injured player. MYGSL will use the last out, second to last out and last in the lineup as courtesy runners.

4.6 Stealing is permitted in all age divisions, however, in the 10 & under division they may steal only one base at a time. Also in the 10 & under division, stealing home is not permitted. Players attempting to steal home will be sent back to 3rd without penalty. Players may be awarded home on a wild pitch going into dead ball territory. Players in the 10 & under division may be put out on attempted steal of more than one base, but will be sent back to the previous base if the steal was successful.

4.7 A dropped third strike is a live ball and the batter may attempt to take first base if it is not occupied with less than 2 outs. With 2 outs, the batter may attempt to take first base if it is occupied or not, in all age divisions, except for the 10 & under division, where the third strike is an out whether it is dropped or not. The ball is still considered live, and the runners may steal but the batter is out.

Umpires

5.1 One umpire will be required for the 10, 12, and 14 & under divisions; two umpires will be scheduled for all other age divisions. 12 and 14 & under teams may request two umpires, and this will be at the home team’s discretion and cost.

5.2 Umpires will be paid prior to the start of each game.

5.3 Umpires will be paid as follows:

 6/8 & under: $35.00 per game (6u division may not require umpire)

 10, 12, 14 & under fast-pitch (single man crew): $50.00

 16, 18 & under fast-pitch: $30.00 each umpire.

5.4 The show up fee for an umpire will be 50% of these costs, this is due to any umpire showing up to a game that ends as a no-show or is called for rain before game starts. If a game is stopped and rescheduled due to rain and the same umpire cannot return to finish the game the new umpire will receive $5 per remaining inning.

5.5 In the event 2 umpires are scheduled, and only one shows up, the umpire will officiate the game from behind home plate and call the bases. He/she will be paid the amount in 6.3. If 2 umpires are scheduled and only one shows up, a league officer and the umpire scheduler must be notified as soon as possible.

5.6 Each school district must contribute to the umpire pool at least 1 umpire/JO per every 3 teams playing in the league (1:3 ratio) to be trained and eligible to officiate games in that area. These umpire names must be turned in at the March meeting or that association will not be scheduled.

5.7 Any league play-off umpire fees will be split evenly among the home and visiting teams.

5.8 League Championship games in all fastpitch divisions must utilize a two man umpire crew.

Section IV

Slow-Pitch Division

1. Current ASA playing rules will apply except when modified, amended, changed or deleted to meet MYGSL Needs. The rules found in the General Playing Rules Section also apply.

Pitching

1.1 Pitching distances for each division is as follows:

 19/16/14 & under:………………….50 Feet

 12 & under:………………………...46 Feet

 10 & under:………………………...40 Feet

1.2 All pitches will be slow, underhand, and with an arc 6 to 12 feet from the ground.

 Exception for the 10 & under division. An arched pitch between 3 and 9 feet from the ground will be a legal pitch.

1.3 Only 3 warm-up pitches will be permitted between innings.

1.4 Intentional walks will be permitted in only the 18/16 & under divisions.

1.5 This league will permit foul balls on the third strike without penalty. The ASA Foul Out rule is suspended in the youth division.

1.6 The official softball will be an ASA approved 11” optic yellow or white softball with red stitching with a Max core compression of .375

Game Rules

2.1 See General Playing Rules for additional rules that may apply.

2.2 Base distances are as follows:

 18, 16, 14 & under Divisions…………………..65 Feet

 12, 10 & under Divisions………………………60 Feet

2.3 The infield fly rule will be in effect for only the 12, 14, 16, & 18 & under divisions.

2.4 Mandatory playing time for all divisions is a minimum of 2 complete innings in the field. Violations will result in a forfeit.

2.5 All teams will bat in a continuous batting order in all divisions. If a regular rostered player arrives late for the game, they must be added to the end of the line-up.

2.6 All teams are permitted to use a courtesy runner due to injury or handicap, however the courtesy runner must be the player who made the last out.

2.7 The 10 & under division out fielders must remain 10 feet behind the base line until the ball is hit.

Equipment

3.1 The official softball for the Mon-Yough Girls Softball League shall be any ball approved by the ASA as reported in the Official ASA guide and playing rules.

3.2 Each home team must provide one new game ball and one other ball in good condition for each game.

3.3 Batting helmets with properly tightened chinstraps must be worn by Junior Olympic Players while batting, running the bases, standing in the on deck circle, and while acting as a base coach. Base runners will be called out for intentionally discarding their batting helmets.

3.4 Only official softball bats may be used, with the exception of Titanium bats which may not be used. No bat larger than 34" in length or heavier than 36oz may be used. No plugged, altered or cone shaped bats will be permitted. Exception, the 6,8, 10, and 12 and under divisions may use little league bats provided they are smaller than 32" in length and meet softball dimension requirements.

3.5 No metal spikes will be permitted in any divisions.

Umpires

4.1 Umpires will be paid prior to the start of each game.

4.2 Umpires will be paid as follows:

 All Slow-Pitch: $30.00

4.3 Each school district must contribute to the umpire pool at least 1 umpire/JO per every 3 teams playing in the league (1:3 ratio) to be trained and eligible to officiate games in that area. These umpire names must be turned in at the March meeting or that association will not be scheduled.