

Miami Valley Youth Softball League

2022 League Bylaws

1/17/2022

Miami Valley Youth Softball League (MVYSL)

This document contains the Bylaws by which each community that participates in the MVYSL agrees to abide. The league is not a separate legal entity but a loose affiliation of community softball organizations that have come together to form inter-community age-based divisions for the purpose of providing all girls in the participating communities the opportunity to play softball.

The purpose of the Bylaws is to provide the guidelines and governance procedures by which the MVYSL will operate and make decisions relative to league operating matters.

Rules governing MVYSL game play have been established in a separate document titled "Miami Valley Youth Softball League Official Rules". Every attempt has been made to align the rules for league play with that of National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) rules with exceptions deemed appropriate based on skill level of each division. We urge everyone to take the time to read the MVYSL rules so there is a clear understanding of the rules and regulations of league play. Any rule not covered by the rulebook will be governed by the NFHS rulebook.

The following communities have agreed to participate in the MVYSL and agree to participate and abide by the Bylaws and the MVYSL rules.

- Beaver Creek Fastpitch Association
- Bellbrook Loin's Club Girls Softball
- Centerville Baseball Softball League
- Jamestown Youth Softball Baseball
- Kettering Amateur Baseball Commission
- Patterson Park Youth Baseball & Softball
- Riverside Amateur Baseball Association
- Waynesville Baseball Association
- West Carrollton South Dayton Fast Pitch

Board of Directors

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Secretary	Matt Stillwell	matt.stilwell@centerville.k12.oh.us
League Coordinator	Paul Dungan	pdungan76@gmail.com

Board Members

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I. Purpose and Objectives

1. The purpose of the Miami Valley Youth Softball League (MVYSL) play are:
 - i. Provide softball for as many girls as possible in our respective communities.
 - ii. Teach basic knowledge of the game and to develop character in the girls by teaching them to play together fairly, abide by the rules, win or lose with good sportsmanship and to have fun.
2. The MVYSL provides two leagues of play in each age division as follows:
 - i. NFHS "Recreation" League - Intercommunity Recreation League
 - ii. NFHS "All Star" Recreation League - Intercommunity Recreation All Star League
3. Relative to team formation in the "Recreation" league, each community organization is required and committed to the following process:
 - i. Conduct a community wide open registration process.
 - ii. Following closure of the registration process, each community will conduct a league approved team formation process.
 - iii. The goal of team formation is for each community to construct teams of equal talent and avoid situations of forming teams that are superior to other teams from that community.
4. Relative to team formation in the "All Star" league; each community may follow any process they would like so long as all girls meet each communities player registration and residency requirements.
5. If a community participating in the MVYSL does not have enough players to form a team in either the "Recreation" or the "All Star" league at any particular age level, it may request the league to allow those affected players to register with another neighboring community already participating in the MVYSL. Girls from another community registering in this manner will be assigned to a team based on the neighboring communities "Recreation" league team formation process or "All Star" league team formation process.
6. Each community organization retains the authority for its player registration process and player fees.
7. Each community organization is responsible for fielding, outfitting, and equipping its teams for league play. Games will be played on the home team's community fields with that communities umpires.

8. All "Recreation" league game umpires are not required to be NFHS certified. All "All Star" league game umpires are required to be NFHS certified.

II. Organization

1. The MVYSL "Recreation" and "All Star" leagues will be governed by a Board of Directors, hereafter referred to as the Board, which shall be elected according to these Bylaws.
2. The Board shall be comprised of one (1) Representative from each participating community organization. Each community will elect or appoint a Representative to the Board each year. The Community Representative may use a Stand-In Representative to vote on issues when they are not available.
3. The Board will elect a four (4) member Board of Directors (BoD) consisting of a President, Vice President, Secretary and League Coordinator who will be responsible for the overall operation of the league. The election should be conducted after the end of the fall season and before the beginning of the spring season. Each member of the BoD will be chosen by a simple majority vote of the MVYSL Board members. The President is a non-voting member, unless there is a tie-breaking in the vote. Each member of the BoD must be from a different community in the league.

Responsibilities:

- i. President – Meeting date and location, meeting agenda, yearly timeline, assist VP, Secretary and League Coordinator as needed.
 - ii. Vice President – Rulebook interpretations, step in when President is unavailable.
 - iii. Secretary – Meeting minutes, Google Drive Administration
 - iv. League Coordinator – game schedule, standings and email complaints
4. If there is conflict/issue between communities that can't be resolved by the respective communities, the conflict/issue will be taken to the BoD.
 5. Each community organization will maintain its organizational autonomy (relative to concessions, teaching philosophy, coach selection, liability insurance, uniforms, equipment, umpire selection, player registration, team formation, field maintenance, etc..) and will continue to bear their respective costs associated with running their organizations and teams.
 6. The MVYSL Board will be responsible for maintaining the MVYSL rulebook and holding players, managers, coaches, parents, and spectators accountable to such rules. At the conclusion of each year, the Board will entertain proposed "Recreation" league rule changes. Such proposed rule changes may only be

proposed by a Board member. Any proposed rule changes must be approved by a simple majority vote of the Board Members. As it relates to proposed rule changes specific to a particular age-based division, a Board member is not eligible to vote on such proposed rule changes if the community for which the Board member represents did not have a team compete in that division the previous season.

7. Removal and Resignation: The Board Members may remove a member of the Board of Directors at any time with cause. Removal is considered just when the member is not performing the required duties of the position. A minimum of 3/4 of the Board Members must vote and 3/4 or more is required to remove from their position. Any resignation shall take effect at the date of receipt or any later time specified in the notice. The acceptance of the resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.
8. Adding or Removing a Community: A minimum of 3/4 of the Board Members must vote with a 3/4 majority to pass.
9. Changing Bylaws: A 30 day notice to all Board Members must be provided with proposed changes. A minimum of 3/4 of Board Members must vote with 3/4 majority to pass.

III. Rules and Regulations

All league play shall be governed by the National Federation of State High School Associations Rule book except as noted in the Miami Valley Youth Softball League Rule book.

IV. Eligibility Rules

To be eligible to play, each girl must register with a MVYSL recreation softball organization and meet that community organization's registration requirements.

V. General League Structure

League Structure

1. Each division will be structured as follows:
 - i. 8u Coach Pitch Division
 - ii. 10u Rookie Division
 - iii. 12u Minors Division
 - iv. 14u Majors Division
 - v. 18u High School Division
2. A player's age on January 1 prior to the commencement of the season determines the division to which a player is eligible to participate.

Schedule

3. All divisions will have a scheduled sixteen (16) game regular season.
4. The regular season schedule, once issued, is the "final" regular season schedule. Managers are prohibited from rescheduling regular season games for any reason other than school required activities and weather related cancellations. The Board reserves the right to adjust the schedule when it deems appropriate.
5. There are no set number of games guaranteed in the regular season.
6. Following cancellation of a game, Managers will have one week to reschedule the game after which either Manager may involve their community to ensure the game is rescheduled. It is expected that team managers will make every attempt to reschedule rainout games, so that each team plays a minimum of twelve (12) regular season games. If regular season rained out games can't be rescheduled before the end of the season, they will not be played.

Awards

7. Awards will be determined annually by the BoD.

Violating Rules

8. Managers, coaches, and players who violate the MVYSL rules will be subject to review by the Board and may be subject to suspension by the League.

VI. Community Selection of Managers and Coaches

Each participating community will make every effort to select managers with the ability to teach the girls good sportsmanship, develop character and develop basic knowledge and skills of the game.

VII. Manager/Coach/Parent/Spectator Behavior Grievance Review Process

The following Manager/Coach/Parent/Spectator behavior grievance review process will be followed by the MVYSL Board to ensure that all facts are reviewed and appropriate and fair action is taken with respect to violation of Manager/Coach/Parent/Spectator behavior as defined in the MVYSL "Official League Rules":

- i. Grievance filed with the League Coordinator via email by the accusing party within 24 hours of game's completion.
- ii. Upon receipt of grievance, the Board will request a response from the accused party within 24 hours of receipt of the grievance notification.
- iii. The Board will make a decision relative to disciplinary action within 48 hours of receiving the accused party's response to the grievance report.
- iv. MVYSL Board Members from the communities who have teams involved in the grievance will recuse themselves from the Board decision making process and agree to enforce the discipline decided on, by a simple majority vote of the remaining MVYSL Board Members.
- v. The input of Umpires, as the only objective 3rd party involved with any game, will carry significant weight in the decision making process.

VIII. Player Equipment Rules

Each community shall be responsible, at their cost, for outfitting their community teams with the proper uniform attire and softball equipment.

IX. League Tournaments

End of season tournaments will be Invitational tournaments by communities volunteering to host. The league Board Members will provide guidance, but will not be directly involved in tournaments.