

Policy 5230 Softball - ALL DIVISIONS

Approved Changes 3-21-17

I. Scheduling

- A. All varsity and JV teams will play a single round-robin schedule.
- B. All varsity and JV games will be scheduled as doubleheaders.
- C. JV games will be played the same day, opposite site as Varsity games.
- D. Freshman teams, for those schools who sponsor a team, will have their own schedule.
- E. Home site will alternate each year.
- F. League schedule will rotate every two years with the last game being moved to the first and other games moved back accordingly.

II. Division Championship Determination

- A. A win is worth two points in the standings, a tie is worth one point, and a loss is worth zero points.
- B. The team earning the most points in the regular season wins the title.
- C. In case of a two-way tie for a position in the standings, co-champions will be crowned.
- D. If three or more teams are tied for a spot, tri-champions will be crowned.

III. Starting Times

- A. All games/all levels will start at 4:00 p.m.

IV. Rules of the Game

- A. All MHSAA and National Federation rules will be followed unless the CAAC applies for and receives a waiver. (see game format)
- B. The MHSAA mercy rule will apply for:
Varsity - 15-Run lead after three innings and/or 10-Run lead after five innings. Sub-varsity - 15-Run lead after three innings and 8-Run lead after five innings as per MHSAA waiver.
- C. MHSAA and National Federation approved softballs will be used.
- D. Adult coaches or any player in uniform will be allowed in the coaching boxes.

Players must be on the team eligibility list.

E. If a game is called because of inclement weather or poor field conditions, the visiting team will be notified no later than 2:00 p.m.

F. The host school will be the home team for the first game in a doubleheader. The visiting school will be the home team for the second game in a doubleheader. This applies to all inter-divisional play.

For both games in a doubleheader, the host school will pay for officials and game balls.

H. The time between doubleheader contests will be a minimum of fifteen-minutes and the maximum of twenty. (This may be shortened if both teams agree).

I. The NFHS Tie Breaker Rule will be used in extra innings beginning in the 8th inning.

V. Host School Responsibilities

A. Provide two registered MHSAA officials at each level.

B. Game balls for both games.

C. Water and ice for both teams.

D. Locker room facilities for the visiting team.

E. Changing area for officials.

F. Certified athletic trainer or doctor (if possible).

G. Visiting teams are expected to provide its own athletic training tape.

H. Mark the field in accordance with National Federation rules.

VI. Reporting Scores

A. The host school will report scores to:

Email rmcgowan@mlive.com or ehammis@mlive.com

Email sports@lsj.com

VII. Pre-Game and Warm-Up

A. No team may take batting practice on the game field.

The pre-game warm-up schedule is as follows:

If a Team is late all effort should be made to see they get time to warm-up.

1. 3:25-3:40 p.m.: home team infield practice

2. 3:40-3:55 p.m.: visiting team infield practice
3. 3:55-4:00 p.m.: introductions and National Anthem
4. 4:00 p.m.: first pitch

VIII. Make-Up Dates

- A. All league games must be made up prior to the start of pre-district play.
- B. A rainout or suspended game will be made up on a mutually agreed date as determined by the athletic directors involved
- C. Rainouts or suspended games need only be made up if there is a bearing on the division title.
- D. Make-up of division games will take precedence over any non-division game.
- E. Field conditions and umpire availability will always be a consideration for make-up scheduling.
- F. CAAC make-up games have priority over non-conference games if it is the next day.

X. Game Format

- A. The host school will be the home team for the first game and the Visiting school will be the home team for the second game.

(Note: this is different than baseball.).

- B. All scheduled division games will be doubleheaders lasting seven innings each.

C. Freshmen/JV games will be doubleheaders. Both games will be played with no inning starting after two hours from the start of the game.

- D. If a game is suspended due to lightening, darkness, weather, etc., the following procedure is followed:

Suspended game: Any game that is not a legal game must be finished from the point of suspension if it has a bearing on first place. No additional days or games of competition are to be used.

- E. Suspended game, that is a legal game (4-1/2 innings and home team is ahead or five full innings and home team is behind), may not be continued from point of suspension.

- F. Suspended game that is a legal game and is tied, must start at the point of suspension. No additional days or games of competition are used.

G. Suspended game after 4-1/2 innings and home team cannot bat, score will revert back to the end of the last full inning and if this makes it less than a legal game, game will be continued from the last full inning.

H. Suspended game in the sixth inning or after, home team is losing and game is suspended before the home team can have their last at bat, the score will go back to the last completed inning (end of five) and the game is over with the score at the end of the last full inning.

I. Games that are suspended and will be finished on a different day must be restarted from the same place they were when competition was suspended.

Example: Same line-ups, same count on the batter, outs and runners on base will be the same.

Exception: If the pitcher is not eligible to pitch based on MHSAA rules, a different pitcher may be used.