

LEAGUE INFORMATION - 2012
Montgomery County Senior Softball League
www.mcssl.org — Telephone 267-738-6551

League Mission Statement: Everyone plays and bats. Play safe, have fun, show sportsmanship, get some exercise, have some laughs, share camaraderie, and enjoy winning - in that order of importance. While we all enjoy competition and winning, at this stage of our lives we should not worry about dropping or misjudging fly balls, striking out, missing ground balls, bad throws or having senior moments. We have all done these things in the past and will continue to do so in the future. We play for fun and love of the game. IF YOU HAD FUN - YOU WON!!!

GENERAL

1. **Nature of the League:** The MCSSL is a recreational senior league where everyone plays and bats. The league offers a winter indoor season, a summer outdoor season, and a travel team that travels to play other senior groups. The league is for players whose skills may not have kept pace with their enjoyment of the game.
2. **Player Qualifications to Join the League**
 - a. **League Application and Dues:** All members must complete an application and pay the current dues before participating in any practice or game.
 - b. **Refund of dues:** There will be no refunds if a player leaves the League for any reason with one exception. If an applicant is deemed unfit to play by his manager during training, the applicant may be refunded his dues. The Commissioner or League Director has the final say on the assessment of playing capability.
 - c. **Age:** A player must be a minimum of 60 years old in the current calendar year. Any exceptions must be voted on by the League Officers.
3. **Maintaining League Membership:** Players must attend a minimum of 60% of the games to maintain membership.
4. **Applicable Rules:** Amateur Softball Association (ASA) playing rules apply with some modifications to reduce the risk of injury. The rules are available on the league's website.
5. **Registration:** All teams will be registered with the ASA of Pennsylvania.
6. **Risk of Injury:** All players play at their own risk. League members, officers, and sponsors are not responsible or liable for any injuries to players.
7. **Team Rosters:** An outdoor team roster will have a maximum of 15 players. An indoor team roster will have a maximum of 11 players. Rosters are provided to Managers and Officers and will include emergency contact information for each player.
8. **Uniforms:** Players on the outdoor teams are issued official uniform shirts and hats that include the names of league sponsors. In consideration of our sponsors, players must wear the hats and shirts for all games so that sponsor information is visible. Indoor league players are issued a colored shirt for team identification.
9. **Team Parity and Evaluation of New Players:** The league's goal is to work towards team parity over time so that all teams have a roughly equal chance of winning each game. To attain this goal, the playing ability of new players will be evaluated before they are assigned to a team. Evaluations will be done by a three-person panel at the indoor facility in February of each year. Each new player will then be assigned to a team based on the evaluation results and the team's needs.

10. **Alcohol:** Alcoholic beverages are prohibited per Township and League regulations. No tobacco products allowed in any part of the School Road Park.

11. **Language:** Abusive language or profanity is not permitted. Do not use language which will reflect negatively upon the league, any player, or spectator.

12. **Liability Insurance:** Insurance is a requirement of Hatfield Township and the Montgomery County Senior Softball League. The league has purchased insurance through the ASA Adult Team Insurance Program (administered by Bollinger Insurance and underwritten by Markel Insurance Company), which provides a \$8 million liability on an occurrence basis. It covers lawsuits brought against you by participants, spectators, and others. Protection is provided to the team, league, and sponsors from such lawsuits brought against you for bodily injury and property damage claims arising out of your team's softball activities, including practices, games, and tournaments. In addition to those exclusions usually found in the standard commercial general liability policy, there is no coverage for hired/non-owned auto liability, or for the furnishing, serving, or selling of any alcoholic beverage or for any acts of intoxicated participants. All members must sign the waiver of release of liability and indemnification agreement which is part of the League application form and is necessary for the company's compliance and the League's general requirements.

13. **League Finances:** A financial statement for the league is prepared annually and will be made available on the league's website.

14. **League Travel team**

a. **Eligibility:** All league members are eligible. Dates, times, and locations of games with teams from outside the league will be provided to team members by the travel team manager.

b. **Registration:** To register you must enter your name on the travel team sign-up boards which are available at regularly scheduled games. Players who participate in the away games will have first preference in playing in the home games.

c. **Away Games:** The travel team usually car pools from our home field or an agreed-upon location to away games.

d. **Rules:** The rules of the home team apply.

FIELD AND EQUIPMENT

1. **Home Field:** The league's field for the outdoor summer season is the Hatfield Township School Road Park softball field located at 1619 School Road, Hatfield, PA 19440 (on School Road off Orvilla Road, between 309 and 463 and adjacent to the Twin Woods Golf Course). The location for the winter indoor season is the BucksMont Indoor Sports Center, 2278 North Penn Road, Hatfield, PA 19440-1905. The Sports Center's phone number is 215-996-1740.

2. **Emergency phone numbers:** dial 911 and give the location.

Hatfield Township Municipal Building-----215-855-0900

Hatfield Township Police Department-----215-362-1355

3. **Game Cancellation:** Games may be cancelled due to bad weather, excessive heat, or field conditions. Check the league hotline at **215-274-5998** for the latest status.

4. **Bases:** There are two first base bags and two home plates to help avoid collisions. Refer to Section 7 of the League Rules for details about the use of the bases and the commitment line between third base and home. The distance between bases is 65 feet. The distance from the point of home plate to the farthest point of second base shall be 91 feet 11 inches.

- a. **First Base:** Two first base bags are used. A white base is placed in fair territory. An orange base is placed adjacent to the white base in foul territory.
- b. **Home Plate:** Two home plates are used. An extended wooden home plate is positioned so the front edge matches the front edge of the permanent rubber home plate on the field. A second home plate is positioned 8 feet to the third base side on a line with the first base foul line.

5. League Storage Box at School Road Park

- a. **Keys:** Managers and assistant managers have keys to the storage box and the league's porta-john.
- b. **Home Team Responsibilities:** The home team of the first game (9am) will use the first base dugout and is responsible for opening the storage box and laying out the field (i.e. bases, boundary cones and pitching and commitment line marker).
- c. **Last Game of the Day:** It is the responsibility of both teams to place league equipment in the box and to securely lock the storage box.

d. **Storage Box Inventory:**

- Bats in carrying case
- Four Bases: four white and one orange
- Base tool
- Balls: in 5-gallon bucket
- Foul line cones (12)
- Extended wooden home plate
- Rubber home plate
- Measuring tape on reel
- Chalk liner
- Chalk line string on spool
- Pitcher's rubber
- Hammer
- Base commitment line
- Catchers Mask
- Scoreboard
- Defibrillator in case
- Medicine and First Aid Chest

JRM

Revision: 1/26/12

