

**31st ANNUAL**



***Serving Minnesota's Youth  
Through Sports<sup>sm</sup>***



**MINNESOTA SPORTS FEDERATION**  
118 12th Ave N. ♦ South St. Paul, MN 55075  
(651) 451-3140 ♦ [www.msf1.org](http://www.msf1.org)



*Spring 2019*

**Dear Youth Baseball Enthusiast:**

The Minnesota Sports Federation has offered youth baseball teams affordable services and quality events since 1989. Each year thousands of participants benefit from the MSF baseball program and learn valuable life skills including goal setting, teamwork, discipline and good sportsmanship.

One of the MSF's goals is to keep participation fees as low as possible so everyone can participate. Unlike some local amateur sports organizations, the MSF does not charge high and excessive entry or membership fees for players, coaches or teams. Why forward thousands of dollars to a national organization which benefits only a handful of elite teams?

We are coming off another successful year for the MSF youth baseball program in 2018. Several hundred teams took part in MSF Qualifiers held throughout the spring and summer. The season came to a thrilling conclusion in the State Championships the last weekend of July, where 17 champions were crowned at several top-notch sites across the state of Minnesota. MSF Baseball's continued growth can be attributed to our quality facilities, certified umpires and the dedicated efforts of our tournament hosts.

The 2019 MSF State Championships are sure to be as successful as ever, with more than 200 qualified teams expected to participate in twelve divisions of play. The MSF is working hard to insure that youth baseball teams from across the state benefit from our services and enjoy quality events. The MSF State Championships are at some of the state's great facilities, including many of the favorites from previous years.

If any questions arise, please do not hesitate to contact Dan at [dan@msf1.org](mailto:dan@msf1.org) or (651) 451-3140. We hope your team has fun this season!

Dan Bradley  
Program Administrator

Perry Coonce  
Executive Director

**P.S. IF YOU ARE NOT COACHING THIS YEAR, WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR PASSING THE GUIDEBOOK ALONG TO YOUR SUCCESSOR.**

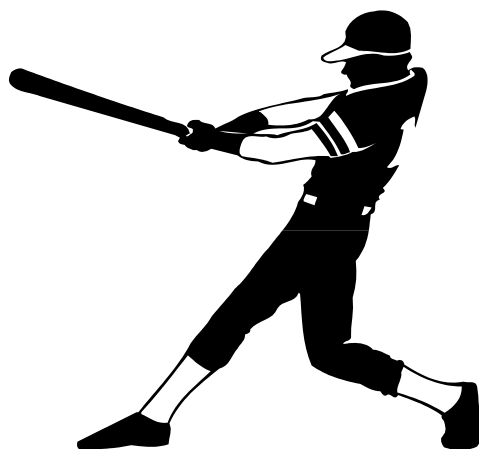


# ★ 2019 Youth Baseball Guidebook ★

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## ★The Role the MSF Plays★

The Minnesota Sports Federation (MSF) is a non-profit, non-tax supported organization which solely conducts recreational-amateur sports activities in the state of Minnesota. Members of the Federation receive many valuable services which enable them to enjoy recreational-amateur sports to their fullest extent.

The MSF mission is to provide wholesome amateur-recreational sports opportunities that promote fitness, personal growth, good sports and the development of lifetime leisure skills.

Since 1982, the Sports Federation has become a major organizational force in planning and executing amateur sports events for over 200,000 youth and adults in Minnesota.

To implement and conduct a program of this magnitude, the MSF relies on individuals who dedicate many hours of their time to the benefit of recreational sports enthusiasts throughout the state of Minnesota.

The MSF serves as the local association of the National Softball Federation, USA Broomball, Minnesota Youth Basketball Association, Minnesota Girls Fastpitch Association and Minnesota Girls Volleyball Association.

The MSF is governed by an 17-member board which is comprised of players, coaches, program administrators and officials active in the sports community.

League, association, team and player membership in the Minnesota Sports Federation is voluntary and conditional upon members adhering to established rules and regulations and acting in the best interest of the MSF program.

Through the union of all eligible leagues, organizations, groups and affiliations with organizations devoted wholly or partially to the promotion of recreational sports, the MSF hopes to expand programs and services in the future.

The MSF is committed to serving amateur sports enthusiasts in an effort to enhance the quality of life for all Minnesotans regardless of age, gender, race, economic status or handicap.

### SERVING MINNESOTA THROUGH SPORTS<sup>SM</sup>

If there is a conflict or omission within on a program or playing rule, MSF tournament/state staff shall make a final ruling/interpretation.

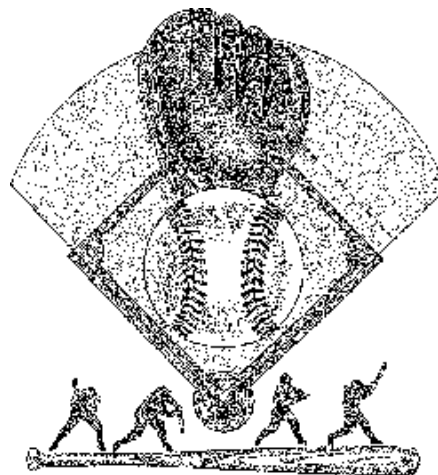
## USED BASEBALLS FOR SALE!



The Minnesota Sports Federation has dozens of used baseballs available for your team to purchase. Each ball has only been used during one game! Why pay for brand new baseballs when gently used baseballs work great for practice? Baseballs are \$2 each. Contact dan@msf1.org if interested.

## ★Youth Baseball Contacts★

118 12th Ave. N.  
South St. Paul, MN 55075  
dan@msf1.org  
(651) 451-3140



## ★★MSF Board of Directors★★

<b>District One</b>	Open
<b>District Two</b>	Open
<b>District Three</b>	Rich Rakness, South St. Paul, <b>President</b>
<b>District Four</b>	Open
<b>District Five</b>	John McRaith, Hutchinson, <b>Vice President</b>
<b>District Six</b>	Bob Gustafson, Chisago City
<b>District Seven</b>	David Long, Detroit Lakes
<b>Tournament Rep</b>	Duke Weisbrod, Cambridge
<b>District I Comm/UIC</b>	Open
<b>District II Comm/ UIC</b>	Kevin Voltin, Hayfield
<b>District III-IV Comm/UIC</b>	Bob Kuehlwein, Woodbury
<b>District V Comm/UIC</b>	Paul Goebel, St. Cloud
<b>District VI Comm/UIC</b>	Duke Weisbrod, Cambridge
<b>District VII Comm/UIC</b>	David Long, Detroit Lakes
<b>At-Large Rep</b>	Perry Coonce, MSF
<b>At-Large Rep</b>	Dan Bradley, MSF


*The Minnesota Sports Federation is a proud member of the Sports Alliance of Minnesota.*

[sportsalliancemn.org](http://sportsalliancemn.org)



# 2019 MSF State Championships

## MSF Baseball

CLASS	AGE DIVISION		DATES	SITES
AAA	10-Under		July 26-28	Mankato
AA	10-Under		July 26-28	Mankato
AAA	11-Under		July 26-28	Sartell
AA	11-Under		July 26-28	Sartell
AAA	12-Under		July 26-28	Rosemount
AA	12-Under		July 26-28	Rosemount
AAA	13-Under		July 26-28	Ham Lake
AA	13-Under		July 26-28	Marshall
AAA	14-Under		July 26-28	Austin
AA	14-Under		July 26-28	Ham Lake
AAA	15-Under		July 26-28	Austin
AA	15-Under		July 26-28	Austin

\*dates subject to change if weather intervenes.

## Ways to Qualify

Teams must qualify for the MSF Baseball State Championships by finishing 1st or 2nd at a MSF Qualifier Tournament (see [www.msfl.org](http://www.msfl.org) for a complete list of MSF Qualifiers). If the top two teams have previously qualified, or are not from Minnesota, berth(s) will be presented to the 3rd and then 4th place team. Berths will not be awarded to teams finishing lower than 4th place.

Teams advancing from a MSF Qualifier held in May and June must forward the official Entry Form and the proper entry fee (see entry fee section on next page) to the MSF offices by July 1 (an earlier response would be appreciated). Qualified teams which do not enter or notify the MSF within these constraints will forfeit their berth to the MSF State Championships.

A limited number of "At-Large" berths may be available depending on the number of unused qualifier berths returned to the MSF (see the enclosed *At-Large Application*). At-Large applicants will be accepted starting June 1st and no sooner please. No entries will be accepted without payment. If more entries than available positions are received on the same day, a drawing will be held from all the entries received on that day. Accepted at-large applicants will be notified no later than July 8th.



Once a tournament has begun, no monetary credits will be provided to teams that did not receive the minimum number of games guaranteed unless money has been returned from the site in the form of unpaid umpire fees, unused game balls, and awards. The amount credited shall be distributed equally to teams that did not get their minimum game guarantee. Should a tournament be cancelled before play has begun, it may be played on a succeeding weekend or entries will be refunded, less a \$30 service fee.



**ENTRY FEE:** \$325 10-13 under  
\$350 14-15 under

**GATE FEE:** \$150 made payable to host organization and paid at team check-in.

**FORMAT:** Pool Play / Single Elimination Championship Series (3 scheduled games guaranteed).

**UMPIRES:** **For 10 under - 13 under age divisions** - Pool play games and quarter-finals - one certified umpire shall be used. Semi-finals and finals (of championship bracket play only) shall use two certified umpires per game.

**For 14 under & 15 under age divisions** - Two certified umpires used for every game.

**AWARDS:** Medals will be given to players of the top four teams in divisions of eight or more teams. A State Championship plaque will also be awarded to the top two teams in divisions of eight or more.

**REFUNDS:** Once the schedules are drawn, there is no refund for dropping from tournament.

# Thank you to our Tournament Sponsors!!





## Baseball Order Form

Type	# Dozen	X	Price	Total
A.D. STARR 300	_____	X	\$46.99	\$ _____
A.D. STARR 600	_____	X	\$52.99	\$ _____
			Subtotal	\$ _____
			Add 7.125% sales tax	\$ _____
			\$8.00 shipping + handling	\$ 8.00
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>



### AD STARR 300

- Pro-Grade Leather Cover
- 50% Grey Wool Windings
- Cushion Corked Center
- AD STARR Super Seam
- Ages 18 and under



### AD STARR 600

- Pro-Grade Leather Cover
- 90% Grey Wool Windings
- Cushion Corked Center
- AD STARR Super Seam

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
(Not a PO Box)

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

### CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

Visa \_\_\_ MC \_\_\_ Discover \_\_\_ Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Month/Year Expiration \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_ (Cannot process without exp. Date or Sec. Code)

Name as it appears on card \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_



Submit form and payment to:

MSF Baseball • 118 12th Ave. N. • South St. Paul, MN 55075



# Eligibility

## PLAYERS

Players must reside or attend school in Minnesota. EXCEPTION: Minnesota border communities (i.e. Winona, Moorhead, etc.) are limited to no more than five players who reside or attend school in a neighboring state's border community. These players must be original members of the team, not added to the roster for the tournament.

Players must participate on the team nearest to where they reside or attend school. EXCEPTION: Any player who tried out and was cut from the team nearest to the residence or school will be allowed to participate with the team next nearest to residence or school.

In order to participate in a MSF State Tournament, you will have had to compete in a minimum of four regularly scheduled league or tournament games with the team whose roster you are on. Lack of four games played due to injury or illness is not an exception.

Players may not be on two rosters for qualifier or state tournament play. If a team wins and accepts a state berth at a qualifier, the players are frozen to their roster and may not be picked up by another team playing for a state tournament berth. If the qualified team declines the state berth, that team's players may be picked up by another team playing state, provided the players are legal pickups.

## TEAMS

Intact teams only. No ALL-STAR Teams allowed. In order to participate in a MSF championship event, you must compete with the roster submitted for qualifier play and competed as a team for a minimum of four league games or tournament games with the team they are going to participate with in the MSF Championship. Teams are also allowed to pickup three players from their local association as long as they are of the same age or younger and play at the same or lesser class. Class AA teams may not pick up players from Class AAA of any age.

## AGE REQUIREMENTS

A player must meet only **one of the two criteria**.

**10U:** 1.) Born on or after May 1, 2008 OR 2.) Player is in 4th Grade and born after May 1, 2007

**11U:** 1.) Born on or after May 1, 2007 OR 2.) Player in in 5th Grade and born after May 1, 2006

**12U:** 1.) Born on or after May 1, 2006 OR 2.) Player in 6th Grade and born after May 1, 2005

**13U:** 1.) Born on or after May 1, 2005 OR 2.) Player in 7th Grade and born after May 1, 2004

**14U:** 1.) Born on or after May 1, 2004 OR 2.) Player in 8th Grade and born after May 1, 2003

**15U:** 1.) Born on or after May 1, 2003 OR 2.) Player in 9th Grade and born after May 1, 2002

# Classes of Competition

## CLASS AAA

*For skilled and competitive teams which compete in an "AAA" league or at "AAA" tournaments. Top teams from outstate communities should consider playing "AAA".*

## CLASS AA

*This classification is for teams which are less competitive than "AAA" teams, compete in a "AA" League or "AA" tournaments. This classification is intended for second or third teams from a community (second teams could possibly still be Class AAA). Class AA is also for teams from smaller communities which cannot compete at the "AAA" level. **If a "AA" team finishes first or second at the MSF Class AA State Championship and returns 5 or more players, they shall be reclassified as "AAA" the following year if their association does not have an existing "AAA" team within their same age group.** The MSF reserves the right to reclassify teams at any time.*



# MSF "At-Large" Application

To be considered for an At-Large Berth, this application must be completed and returned to the MSF offices. A limited number "At-Large" Berths may be available depending on the number of unused qualifier berths returned to the MSF. At-Large applications will be accepted starting June 1st and no later than July 1st. Entries received prior to the 1st will be returned and must be submitted June 1st or after. No entries will be accepted without payment. If more entries than available positions are received on the same day, a drawing will be held from all entries received on that day. **Please include the proper entry fee (payable to MSF) with this application by check or credit card (entry fee will not be cashed/processed until team is accepted and will be returned/not processed if applicants are not selected).** Teams who submit at-large applications are expected to play. If selected, teams will be placed in the tournament and notified of their schedule. Teams will not be given the option to decline the berth. Accepted at-large applications will be notified no later than July 10th.

**Teams must play in at least one MSF Qualifier to be considered for an At-Large Berth!!**

Entry Fees: 10-13 Under, \$325 14-15 Under, \$350

Send with Applicable Entry Fee to: MSF Baseball • 118 12th Ave N • South St. Paul, MN 55075  
(651) 451-3140

## PLEASE PRINT AND COMPLETE ALL ENTRIES

Team Name \_\_\_\_\_ Association (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Head Coach \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Circle Age Division: 10-U 11-U 12-U 13-U 14-U 15-U

Circle Class (see eligibility section): AAA AA

## TEAM ROSTER

Player Name	#	Player Name	#
1 _____		10 _____	
2 _____		11 _____	
3 _____		12 _____	
4 _____		13 _____	
5 _____		14 _____	
6 _____		15 _____	
7 _____		16 _____	
8 _____		17 _____	
9 _____		18 _____	

**THIS IS NOT AN OFFICIAL ROSTER! Accepted At-Large teams must complete "Official MSF Roster"**

### CREDIT CARD PAYMENT (A \$5.00 service fee will be added to all credit card payments)

Visa\_\_\_\_ MC\_\_\_\_ Discover\_\_\_\_ Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Month/Year Expiration\_\_\_\_ Security Code\_\_\_\_ (Cannot process without exp. date or sec. Code)  
 Names as it appears on card \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_





# MSF Champions



## 10AAA State Tournament

**CHAMPION: St. Michael-Albertville**

2) Cottage Grove Wolfpack	T-3) Brooklyn Park	T-3) Waite Park
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## 10AA State Tournament

**CHAMPION: Anoka Ramsey**

2) Morris Area Tigers	T-3) Buffalo Bison Black	T-3) New London- Spicer Wildcats
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## 10A State Tournament

**CHAMPION: Waite Park Red**

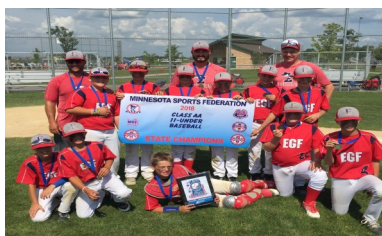
2) Eden Prairie	T-3) Roseville Raiders	T-3) Watertown- Mayer
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## 11AAA State Tournament

**CHAMPION: Mankato Royals**

2) Rogers- Otsego	T-3) Anoka Tornadoes	T-3) Burnsville Black
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## 11AA State Tournament

**CHAMPION: East Grand Forks**

2) Eastview Lightning	T-3) Rochester Tornadoes White	T-3) Mankato Royals
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## 11A State Tournament

**CHAMPION: Redwood Falls**

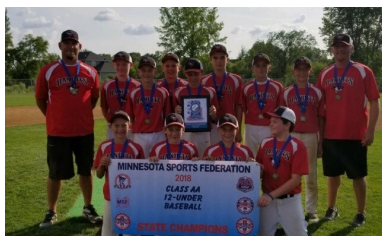
2) Albert Lea	T-3) Waseca Blue	T-3) Hutchinson Yellow
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## 12AAA State Tournament

**CHAMPION: Alexandria Cardinals**

2) Elk River Elks	T-3) Delano Tigers	T-3) Minnetonka Blue
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## 12AA State Tournament

**CHAMPION: Holdingford-Upsala Bandits**

2) St. Michael- Albertville	T-3) Blaine	T-3) Little Falls
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## 12A State Tournament

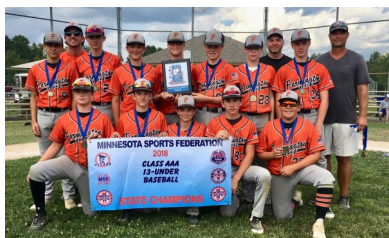
**CHAMPION: Minnetonka Big Willow Royals**

2) Crookston	T-3) Belle Plaine	T-3) Marshall Orange
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# MSF Champions



**13AAA State Tournament**

**CHAMPION: Farmington Tigers**

2) Sartell Sabres	T-3) Rogers-Otsego Royals	T-3) Blaine
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**13AA State Tournament**

**CHAMPION: Cold Spring Springers**

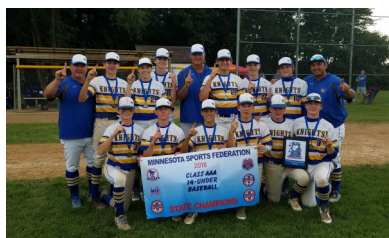
2) Byron Bears	T-3) Hutchinson	T-3) Duluth 709
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**13A State Tournament**

**CHAMPION: Willmar**

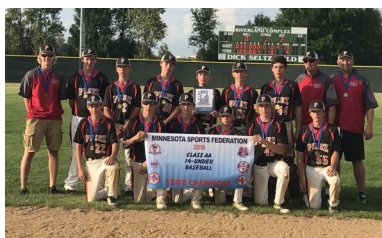
2) East Grand Forks	T-3) Royalton Royals	T-3) USC Rebels, Wells
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**14AAA State Tournament**

**CHAMPION: St. Michael-Albertville**

2) Hopkins Royals	T-3) Buffalo Bison Black	T-3) Woodbury Royals
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**14AA State Tournament**

**CHAMPION: Pierz**

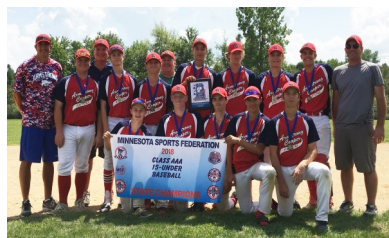
2) Redwood Falls	T-3) Glencoe- Silver Lake	T-3) Andover Gold
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**14A State Tournament**

**CHAMPION: Minnetonka Blue**

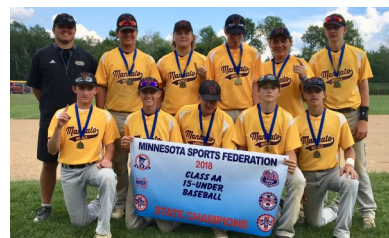
2) Mayer Knights	T-3) Minne- waska	T-3) ACYBA Red
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**15AAA State Tournament**

**CHAMPION: Armstrong-Cooper Raptors**

**RUNNER-UP: Marshall**



**15AA State Tournament**

**CHAMPION: Mankato**

2) Hastings Raiders	T-3) Norwood Young America	T-3) East Grand Forks
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## Roster Information

Roster limit is 18 players. Teams gaining entry to the state tournament through tournament qualifier play must utilize the team roster, which was used at the qualifier. If qualifier roster had less than 18 players, up to three players may be added provided they meet the designated eligibility requirements.

A properly completed MSF State Tournament Roster must be hand carried to the tournament site. Any team with an improperly completed roster shall be withheld from competition. Once the roster has been submitted at tournament headquarters it may not be amended in any way. MSF roster limit is 18.

The roster must include the residence or school address, which qualifies each team member as eligible for the MSF State Tournament. Players claiming eligibility through school attendance shall provide the schools address. Players claiming residence through their residence shall provide their home address.

Each player appearing on the MSF State Tournament roster must have in their possession (to be presented at team check-in) a copy of one of the following to verify their age and birth date: birth certificate, computer printout from school showing birth date, certificate of age from church on letterhead, valid passport, certification of age on letterhead signed by a superintendent/principal/attendance officer, hospital certificate of birth, school issued I.D. which includes birth date, baptismal certificate.

Players must be prepared to prove their age upon the request of a MSF Tournament Representative. Any team found to have used an ineligible player will be immediately disqualified from competition. MSF reserves the right to investigate eligibility matters at any time, including after the event.

Players, teams, or coaches who have been disqualified by their local association for unsportsmanlike conduct or other inappropriate acts, provided due process was provided, are not eligible for MSF Qualifier or State Championship play.

## MSF Game Equipment

1. Unless modified here, all game equipment shall be in accordance with specifications listed in the **National Federation of High School** rulebook. Decisions made by the MSF Umpire in Chief regarding equipment are final.
2. All teams must wear numbered jerseys of the identical color, duplicate numbered jerseys are to be considered illegal and will not be allowed. Tape numbers are not acceptable. Illegally uniformed players must be withheld from competition until they become legal.
3. Metal spikes – High School rules will apply for the 13-, 14- and 15-under age groups. They will not be allowed in the 10-, 11-, and 12-under age groups.
4. Proper helmets must be worn while batting, base running and catching in accordance with the NFHS guidelines.
5. Bats:

### **10-14 year old teams:**

Bats must:

- 1) have the **1.15 BPF or USABat** stamp; or
- 2) have a **BBCOR** stamp; or
- 3) be a wooden bat

### **15 year old teams:**

Bats must comply with NFHS standards: bats must be stamped BBCOR.50, and be no more than 2 3/4" in diameter, and be less than 36" in length

**NOTE: THE BAT RULES LISTED ABOVE ARE EFFECTIVE THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2019. BAT STANDARDS WILL BE CHANGING ON JANUARY 1, 2020. THE CHANGES CAN BE FOUND ON THE MSF WEBSITE AT <https://msf1.org/?p=15763>. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE MSF OFFICES.**



6. Knee, elbow, hand, wrist, arm guard or brace made of plaster, metal or any other hard substance, even though covered or insulated with soft packing, is illegal. A hinged knee brace, if properly covered and padded with no metal protruding is LEGAL.
7. Teams must supply their own first-aid kits. Athletic trainers may or may not be present. Should a serious injury occur, player's parent/guardian and coach shall be allowed on the field. Parent/guardian or coach shall determine if an ambulance/paramedics should be called at the injured party's expense.

## MSF Playing Rules

National Federation of High School rules shall govern play, except where modified in this booklet. These rules will be used at the MSF State Tournaments and should also be used in qualifying tournaments.

1. The official schedule is the bracket board posted at tournament headquarters. It is the teams responsibility to be aware of any changes and to be in the right place at the right time.
2. Responsible adults must supervise teams at all times, on and off the field.
3. Home team shall be determined by a coin toss before every game.
4. A 10-minute grace period will be allowed for a team's first game before a forfeit is declared. Game time is forfeit time for all remaining games. A team that is a NO SHOW for their first game has one hour to contact the tournament director regarding the status of their remaining pool play games. If no contact is made within one hour, that team's games will be declared forfeits.
5. A 10 run rule is in effect throughout the entire tournament. Games will end at the conclusion of 4 1/2 innings (home team) or 5 innings (visiting team) if the score differential is 10 runs or greater for all age groups.
6. Pitching/Base Distances:

AGE	PITCHING DISTANCE	BASE PATHS
10	45-46 feet	60 feet
11	45-46 feet	65 feet
12	52-54 feet	70-75 feet (75 feet at State Tournament)
13	52-54 feet	75-80 feet
14 & Up	60.5 feet	90 feet

### 7. Base Running Rules:

10 – U: Stealing is permitted however a runner may not leave the base until the ball crosses home plate. If the runner leaves early a dead ball is declared and the runner in violation is out.  
Dropped 3rd strike – Batter is out, runners may advance at their own risk, and ball is live.

11 – U: Stealing is permitted; however a runner may not leave the base until the ball leaves the pitchers hand. If the runner leaves early a dead ball is declared and the runner in violation is declared out.  
Dropped 3rd strike – batter is out, runner(s) may advance at their own risk – ball is live.

12 – 15 U: High school rules apply to leading off, stealing, dropped 3rd strike, etc.

### 8. Pool Play Game Length / Time Limits:

10 – 12 – U 6 innings/1 hour 45 minute time limit. No new inning shall begin after 1 hour and 45 minutes. (4 innings minimum)

13 – 15 – U: 7 innings/2 hour time limit. No new inning shall begin after 2 hours. (5 innings minimum)

**\*There is no time limit in bracket play.**

**\*\*In Pool Play games, if the score is tied at the end of regulation and the time limit has not expired, the game shall continue. Games may end in a tie in pool play once the time limit is reached. When the time limit is reached after an inning has started, the game will end immediately if the home team is ahead or scores the go ahead run in the bottom half of the inning or when the inning is completed.**

9. 10,11,12,13-U must use free substitution and must bat entire bench. Coaches are expected to follow the spirit of the rule here by batting the entire bench in all games during tournament play. If a player who is present is prevented from sitting on the bench to avoid the spirit of the rule, the head coach shall be prohibited from coaching any remaining games in the tournament and the game in question shall be forfeited. Note: High school rules regarding designated hitter and re-entry for 14 & 15-U. **MSF Exception:** Replacement of injured



players and/or courtesy runners. If an active player sustains an injury that requires them to leave the game and their team has used all available substitutes, the coach may substitute for the injured player with the first player on the bench who had previously lost their eligibility via the re-entry rule.

10. 10-13U – A courtesy runner will be allowed for the current catcher or pitcher anytime. This means the catcher/pitcher must be the catcher/pitcher of record before and after the at bat. The courtesy runner will be the last player that made an out. The player that is run for must catch/pitch the next inning.  
14-15U – A courtesy runner will be allowed for the current catcher/pitcher anytime. Players who have participated in the game in any other capacity are ineligible to serve as courtesy runners until all players have participated. If all players have participated, then the courtesy runner will be the last player that made an out. The player that is run for must catch/pitch the next inning.
11. Teams must start the game with 9 players. If due to injury or illness, a team may finish a game with 8 players. A team reduced to less than 9 players due to an ejection shall be disqualified.
12. (Ages 10-13): If a player arrives late to a game or leaves early, in an entire roster batting order you close the batting order up (eliminate the batting spot if player leaves) or for the player coming late you open up the batting order (add the batting spot at the bottom of the order). If a player is injured you close the batting order up (eliminate his batting spot and the player may not return that game). It is not an out when his spot comes up to bat. If a player is ejected in a 10-13 year old game then that batting spot is an out each time it comes up.
13. If a team is disqualified from the tournament, it only affects the results of their last game (and only if a legal protest had been filed by their opponent prior to completion of that game).
14. Only players listed on the MSF State Tournament roster may occupy the team bench. One batboy and one scorekeeper may occupy the bench in addition to team coaches. The tournament director reserves the right to limit the number of coaches per team.
15. Based on feedback received following the 2018 season, the MSF will be moving from Innings Pitched to a Per Day and Per Tournament Pitch Count limit, effective January 2, 2019. We believe the decision to move to a pitch count (though more bookkeeping will be necessary) will protect younger arms, while also requiring teams to develop pitching skills for all players. At the State Tournament, both teams are required to have a volunteer to keep track of pitches during games. Pitch counters are to keep track of pitches for both teams, and should check in with each other every half-inning and after every pitching change to avoid discrepancies, and must also report pitches thrown to the umpire. If there is a discrepancy, it must be resolved before play resumes. The per day and per tournament pitch count limits are listed below.

**10U: 75 pitches per day, 140 pitches per tournament**  
**11U: 85 pitches per day, 150 pitches per tournament**  
**12U: 85 pitches per day, 150 pitches per tournament**  
**13U: 95 pitches per day, 160 pitches per tournament**  
**14U: 95 pitches per day, 160 pitches per tournament**  
**15U: 95 pitches per day, 160 pitches per tournament**

**NOTE:** If a player reaches his per day or per tournament limit during an at bat, he shall be allowed to finish that at bat but must then be removed from the game. Pitches which are batted foul, even those thrown with two strikes, shall be counted as pitches thrown.

**For One-Day Tournaments, the appropriate “per day” pitch limit shall be in effect.**

**VIOLATION** of pitches thrown restrictions will result in the disqualification of the team for the remainder of the tournament. Teams must keep track of pitches thrown by each pitcher during each game and verify with the opposing coach and umpire at the previously specified times and again immediately following the game. Coaches are also responsible for verifying the number of pitches thrown with the tournament director, who will keep a running total throughout the tournament.

16. Trips to the Mound:  
Two trips to the mound are allowed PER PITCHER, PER GAME for 10, 11, 12 & 13-under age groups. On the second trip the pitcher must be removed from the pitcher position. High school rules will apply for the 14 & 15-U age groups.

17. For 10, 11, and -12U, the following pitches are legal: fastballs, change-ups, palm balls and knuckle balls. All other pitches, including but not limited to: curve balls, knuckle curves, sliders, etc., shall be considered illegal.  
1st offense - warning;  
2nd offense - pitcher and head coach are disqualified for the remainder of that game.  
High school rules shall apply for 13U, 14U, and 15U age groups.
18. **BALKS:**  
A balk may not be called in the 10 & 11U age groups unless the umpire judges the pitcher is being intentionally deceptive. A fake pitch will be considered a balk resulting in a dead ball with all runners advancing one base. High school rules will apply for the 12U, 13U, 14U, and 15U age groups.
19. **EJECTIONS:**  
Any player or coach ejected from a game will be suspended for the remainder of the tournament. These individuals may not be within 200 feet of the team bench throughout the remainder of the tournament. If the suspended party negatively affects the tournament in any way, they will be removed from the facility and may not set foot on any MSF State Tournament facility for the remainder of the weekend. If the individual(s) refuses to leave promptly and orderly, the police will be called. It is possible for the individual/team to face additional penalties regarding future MSF Tournament Participation.
20. A game that is suspended due to inclement weather (or for any other reason) will be resumed from the exact point of suspension. If any portion of the tournament is deemed unpayable, the tournament director reserves the right to do whatever is necessary to complete the tournament, including but not limited to changing the tournament format, shortening games, etc. The decision of the tournament director/MSF Staff is final.
- If inclement weather (or any other reason) does not allow the tournament to be played out in its entirety, tournament staff may determine a champion from the remaining championship bracket teams (and remaining championship bracket teams) using the following criteria:
- 1.) Overall Winning Percentage
  - 2.) Head-to-head (if two teams are tied)
  - 3.) Least number of runs allowed per game
  - 4.) Average run differential (max +/- of 10 per game)
  - 5.) Coin Toss.
21. In pool play games, if the score is tied at the end of regulation and the time limit has not expired, the game shall continue. Games may end in a tie in pool play. If time expires while a game is tied and in the middle of an inning, complete the inning in progress.
22. **POOL PLAY STANDINGS** are determined by:
1. Win/Loss Records
  2. Head-to-Head
  3. Fewest runs allowed in pool play
  4. Run differential in pool play (maximum +/- of 10 runs per game)
  5. Coin Toss

**If a three-way tie exists, please follow examples below:**

**EXAMPLE #1:** Team A = 6 runs allowed; Team B = 9 runs allowed; Team C = 13 runs allowed...  
Team A is #1 seed from pool. Team B is #2 seed, Team C is #3 seed

**EXAMPLE #2:** Team A = 5 runs allowed; Team B = 8 runs allowed, Team C = 8 runs allowed...  
Team A = #1 seed in pool, #2 seed is determined by run differential in pool play.

**EXAMPLE #3:** Team A = 7 runs allowed, Team B = 7 runs allowed, Team C = 10 runs allowed...  
Team C is #3 seed in pool, #1 seed is determined by run differential in pool play.



# Concussion Management Guidelines

A concussion is an injury to the brain and any injury to the brain is serious. It is caused by a blow to the head or a blow to the body resulting in an injured brain. Even a seemingly minor blow or jolt can cause a brain injury.

All umpires and youth coaches in Minnesota who officiate or coach games in which 18-under players participate, must have undergone concussion training within the past three years at the website provided below. Umpires and coaches should print and keep their certificate of completion in their possession.

## Common Concussion Symptoms

Headaches  
Balance Off  
Sensitive to Light  
Numbness and Tingling  
Difficulty Concentrating  
Nervousness

Nausea  
Dizziness  
Sensitive to Sound  
Visual Problems  
Difficulty Remembering  
Drowsiness

Vomiting  
Fatigue  
Ear Ringing  
Mentally Foggy  
Confusion  
Slurred Speech

## Return to Participation

Athletics should not return to play until:

Evaluation and clearance by Health Care Professional

Athletes must be symptom free at rest and during progressively demanding exercises.

Athletes must remain symptom free upon returning to practice/play.

Detailed Concussion Training is available at [www.cdc.gov/headsup/youthsports/training/](http://www.cdc.gov/headsup/youthsports/training/).

Additional resources available at [www.mnata.com/resources/concussion-management/](http://www.mnata.com/resources/concussion-management/) or [www.braininjurymn.org](http://www.braininjurymn.org).

# Lightning Protocol

Tournament directors and umpires should familiarize themselves with information on dealing with adverse weather from the local office of the National Weather Services.

A few recommendations are listed below:

- 1) If you can hear the thunder from a thunderstorm you could be in danger of being struck by lightning (lightning can travel as far as 10 miles from the parent cloud).
- 2) Always go indoors during a thunderstorm if possible. If not possible, avoid things that might attract lightning such as metal, tall trees, fences or power lines. If you are caught in the open, with no shelter available, crouch down with your hands on your knees.
- 3) Employ the 30 minute rule. Once play has been suspended due to the presence of lightning, thunder or high winds, wait 30 minutes until the last clap of thunder is heard or a flash of lightning is seen.



**The Minnesota Sports Federation invites your community to join the leading and fastest growing sports organization in Minnesota.**

## **★ ★ Membership Benefits Include ★ ★**

- ★ Lowest team and tournament entry fees available
- ★ Amateur Sports Review Newspaper
- ★ Highest quality tournament administration and game officiating
- ★ Voting rights for all sports directors
- ★ Assurance that all fees are used solely to provide amateur sports activities
- ★ Largest and fastest growing sports organization in Minnesota

The Minnesota Sports Federation (MSF) is a non-profit, non-discriminatory organization dedicated to providing wholesome community based amateur/recreational sports opportunities that promote fitness, personal growth, sportsmanship and the development of lifetime leisure skills.



*Serving Minnesota Through Sports <sup>SM</sup>*



**Minnesota Sports Federation**

**118 12th Ave N. • South St. Paul, MN 55075**

**(651) 451-3140 • [www.msf1.org](http://www.msf1.org)**



The Minnesota Sports Federation serves as the local association of the National Softball Federation, USA Broomball and administers the local Minnesota Youth Basketball Association and the Minnesota Girls Volleyball Association.



## Coach's Notes

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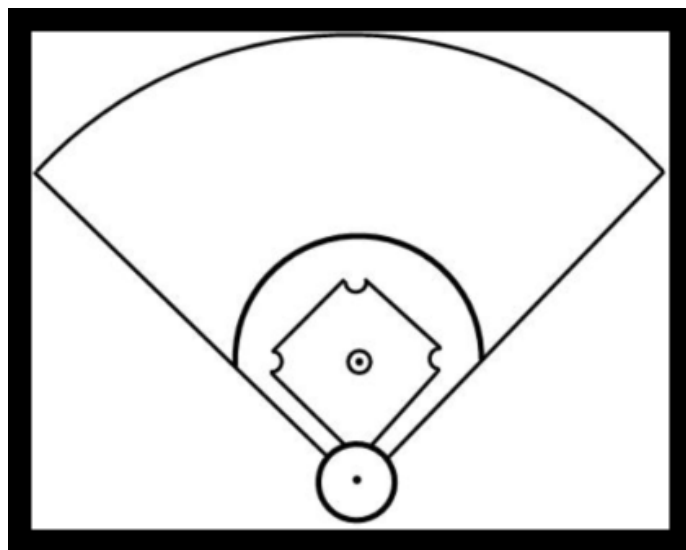
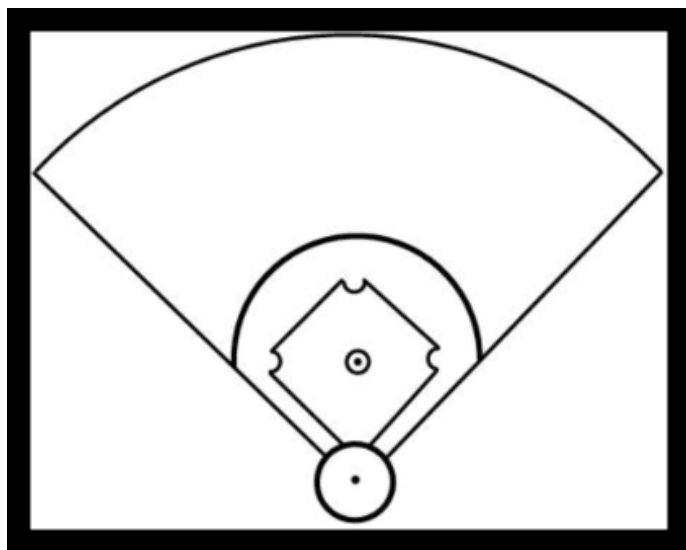
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***www.msf1.org***

## **The Official Site of**

**About MSF**

**MSF Calendar of Events**

**NSF ♦ MSF Adult Softball**

**Adult Broomball**

**NSF ♦ MSF Girls Fastpitch**

**Adult Touch Football**

**Youth Baseball**

**Adult Volleyball**

**Adult Basketball**

**Youth Volleyball**

**Youth Basketball**

**Amateur Sports Review**



## **INFORMATION MADE EASY**

**Turn your browser to [www.msf1.org](http://www.msf1.org)  
to answer your sports questions**



***Serving Minnesota Through Sports<sup>SM</sup>***

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South St. Paul, MN 55075  
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**Youth Baseball Coach/  
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# **31st Annual Minnesota Sports Federation Youth Baseball Program Guide**

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Playing Rules  
MSF State Tournament Info  
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