EMCSA
2026
SOFTBALL

RULES
&
REGULATIONS

East Montgomery County Sports Association

E-Mail: info@emcsports.org
Web: www.emcsports.org

Executive Board

John Warren – President	Jeff Doherty/Tyson Snelson – Vice President
Jamie Crawford – Secretary	Mindy Vest – Treasurer

Home page to website

www.emcsports.org

East Montgomery County Sports Association

Softball Director
Elicia Wolsey softball@emcsports.org
Softball Commissioners

6U	8U
Noe Saldivar & Drew Davenport	Kelsie Jackson & Krystal Bonds
10U	12U
Cody Lewis	Elizabeth Moguel & Josh Recendez
14-18U	
Ralph Salinas	

EMCSA SOFTBALL DIRECTOR

1. There will be a Softball Director appointed by the Executive Board. The Executive Board will solicit recommendations from prior members of the Board and regular members of the Association, for qualified and interested member at the November General Open Meeting.

2. The Softball Director will be appointed as a Board Member with a 1-year term. They are to report to the Executive Board and must attend ALL Board meetings.

3. The Softball Director can be removed from his/her position by a 2/3 majority vote of the Executive Board by Closed Ballot.

4. The Softball Director will make all practice schedules, game schedules and communicate with the UIC to schedule umpires.

5. The Softball Director has full control of the softball leagues. Duties and responsibilities of the Softball Director includes coordinating all league and tournament play with the Executive Board, as well as the FASA, DYS and Ranger Softball District Director and supply the organizations with pictures and proof of eligibility.
6. The Softball Director will appoint League Commissioners to each League with approval of the Executive Board.

7. The Softball Director will call and conduct meetings with League Commissioners, assign duties to League Commissioners, and when warranted, replace the League Commissioners who are unable or unwilling to perform their duties.

8. Workday schedules will be established by the Softball Director and the League Commissioners, and then coordinated with the Executive Board. The General Draft Rules, All-Star Selection Process, Coaching Application Approvals, Coach's Responsibilities, Ground Rules, Game Rules and Protest Rules will be determined by the Softball Director and League Commissioners and will be approved by the Executive Board.

9. Umpire selections will be coordinated by the Softball Director, League Commissioners and the Executive Board.

10. The Softball Director will re-schedule all rain out/make-up games and inform the UIC.
11. The Softball Director has no responsibility regarding any financial dealings with EMCSA.

EMCSA LEAGUE COMMISSIONERS

1. League Commissioners will work with the Softball Director in reviewing, establishing and changing any rules deemed necessary for softball, including General Draft Rules, All-Stars Selection Process, Coaching Application Approvals, Coach's Responsibilities, Ground Rules, Game Rules and Protest Rules.
2. After coaches are approved, League Commissioners will set up meetings with

Coaches within their Leagues in order to go over Coach's responsibilities and all rules necessary to fulfill their responsibilities.

3. League Commissioners will control all try-out sessions within their League; they should appoint 2 Coaches to run each try-out session, should the League Commissioners be a Coach in another League. League Commissioners should start each try-out session within their League before they depart to go to their try-out session.
4. League Commissioners and Softball Director will assist the Executive Board in the coordination of equipment matters.
5. League Commissioners, with the assistance of the Softball Director, will handle all protests within their league in accordance with the protest rules. 6. League Commissioners will notify all Coaches within their League, regarding workdays and will oversee and direct all work that is required.
7. League Commissioners will notify all Coaches within their league, in the event of rain-out.
8. Commissioners will handle all Parent/Coach/Umpire problems within their League. All problems should be resolved in accordance with EMCSA Rules. The League Commissioners should notify the Softball Director regarding all problems. Commissioners on duty, when a problem occurs must notify the Commissioner of that division and the Softball Director at the time of the incident.
9. **Commissioners will make sure all coaches are updating Team Sideline with their standings (win/loss/tie records) of all teams within their division each week throughout the regular season.**
10. A Commissioner will be assigned to be present at the EMCSA Park on each day that games are played on a rotating schedule. A schedule will be posted in the Concession Stand. Commissioner on duty must stay at EMCSA Park and help lock up and shut down the Concession Stand.
11. Commissioners are responsible for helping out with any and all EMCSA District and State Tournaments.
12. Commissioners will be present and on duty during EMCSA Fall Softball season also.

EMCSA COACH'S RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Attend try-out dates so that you can effectively draft your team.
2. ***Workdays and Equipment***:
   a. Attend workdays needed to prepare the park for League play. Bring equipment to work on the fields (rake, weed eaters, shovels).
   b. Check out equipment from League Commissioners.
3. Spring Season-Acquire at least 1 Full Sponsor or 2 Half Sponsors (total donation of $350.00) for your team. The Park will provide the Sponsor Sign. Coaches must turn in Sponsor money and Sponsor information by the announced date so that team uniforms can be ordered. After a team acquires their initial donation of $350.00, they will then be allowed to keep half of any additional Sponsor donations that they are able to obtain provided that the money is used for the team. The team's money will

then be issued by the EMCSA Executive Board. 4. Issue uniforms to the players on your team.

5. Maintain equipment for your team and return it at the time of closing ceremonies. **A $200 deposit will be required when equipment is issued.**

6. Encourage team members and parents to keep our park clean! Picking up all trash from your dugout and bleacher area is **MANDATORY**!

Failure to do so will constitute a 1-win forfeit at end of season. 7. Please do not leave your team members unattended after practices!! Make sure that Parents know what time practice is over.

8. Appoint a Team Mom to help make phone calls, text parents, set-up team parties, handle raffle tickets, order parent shirts(optional) etc.

9. Acting in an unsportsmanlike manner, using foul language, attempting to disrupt players on opposing teams and abusing equipment in anger will not be tolerated. Umpires have been instructed to eject ANY Coach who is guilty of any or all of these actions during a game. The League Commissioners will document the incident and it will be discussed at the time to approve the Coach's application for the next season.

10. No tobacco product of any kind including Vaping will be allowed on the playing fields. Any Head Coach or Assistant Coach that leaves the playing field or dugout during the game to use any type of tobacco product will not be allowed to return to the playing field or dugout during the game.

11. Any Head Coach or Assistant Coach that leaves the playing field during the game without permission from the Umpire (other than to warm-up a pitcher in the bullpen) will not be allowed to return to the playing field or dugout during the game.

12. A Coach from each team must sign the scorebook to verify the game. At that point if no one protests the score is FINAL.

13. All Head Coaches will have their teams at their playing field 30 minutes before the game time.

14. Head Coaches are required to turn in a complete roster of players to the opposing Head Coach and the official score keeper before the game time. Late arrivals will be determined by Head Coach.

15. It is the Coach's responsibility to be present at draft day, opening ceremony, All-Star Nominations, and Closing Ceremony. If a Coach is not present and does not have an appointed representative present, then they will not be allowed to Coach EMCSA for up to 1 year, subject to review.

16. 2 representatives from each team must be present and working at each workday during the entire work period. Each team representative must sign in & out on each workday with their appropriate League Commissioners. Workdays & times will be announced by League Commissioners. **Failure to abide by this rule will result in not being allowed to practice on park fields and a mandatory 1-win forfeit (unless specified by League Commissioner)**

a. **a.** Concession Stand Duty must be worked 1 time by each team during the regular season. If at any time a team does not work their shift with a least

4 representatives in the Main Concession stand the team will forfeit 1 win. **NO ONE UNDER THE AGE OF 18 WILL BE ALLOWED IN THE CONCESSION STAND!** It is the Coach's responsibility to make sure of the day and time of duty. ***Your shift is not over until the Concession Stand is restocked and clean. ***

17. **Ejection from a game will result in a Mandatory 1 game suspension and up to removal for the remainder of the season, if deemed necessary by the Softball Commissioners Board. If a Coach is ejected from a game or suspended during the season for alternate reasons, that Coach may not be eligible to participate as a Coach for any All-Star Team for that season. (Subject to Commissioners Review)** If removed for the season, the Coach may be banned from coaching the following year. If you are ejected by an Umpire from a game, you will have 2 minutes to leave the playing field or the game will be declared a forfeit.
18. If a Coach is suspended for a second time during the same season, that Coach will be unable to coach another game until the Commissioners Board meets to discuss his/her eligibility. The Commissioners Board will meet within 24 hours of suspension for a determination on his/her eligibility.
19. Coaches need to stay in contact with their League Commissioners to make sure that they are informed of all activities. It's not only the League Commissioners job to contact you.
20. There will be **NO ALCOHOL OF ANY KIND** at any EMCSA activity including practices and team parties. Any Coach caught promoting or doing this will be suspended for 1 year from coaching at EMCSA and all of his seniority points will be removed.
21. Any team issued a forfeit for not fulfilling their duties (workday, concession, cleaning dugout and bleachers, or any other rule) will forfeit a win to a loss at the end of the season.
22. It is the Coaches Responsibility to know and understand the EMCSA Ground Rules and Game Rules described in EMCSA's Rules & Regulations. Also, to know and understand the rules governed by Diamond Youth Softball and Ranger Softball that applies to their respective League.
23. **Coaches will turn in their standings (win/loss/tie records) AFTER EVERY GAME throughout the regular season. They will use the Team Sideline App to update.**

EMCSA GENERAL DRAFT RULES

1. There will be a protected player draft.
    a. Protected player is defined as a player who is not subject to the draft. Children of a head or an assistant coach are automatically assigned protective player status. Each team shall be limited to a maximum of two protected players, excluding siblings.
2. All teams in each division will consist of mixed age groups.

3. All Players:
    a. Eligible for the draft must participate in 1 try-out each and every year with the exception of the Head Coach's child and Pre-Draft Assistant Coach's child, who are considered protected players. These must be children playing in the same age group as being coached by the Head Coach or Pre-Draft Assistant Coach.
    b. Who have not officially signed up prior to 2:00 pm on the last day of try-outs will not be allowed to try-out and will be hat pick.
    c. Who do not try-out will be placed in a hat and picked at the end of the draft.
4. In the interest of fairness and equality to all teams, absolutely no ride problems of any kind will be allowed in any league.
5. Player Birth Certificates:
    a. If there is a question of a player's age, a copy of their Birth Certificate must be provided to the League Commissioners. Failure to turn in a Birth Certificate or Falsification of the same will be cause for removal from the team.
    b. A Parent has the option to move their child up one age group. **Commissioners' approval is needed for a child to move up. (During try-outs the on-duty coach will make this determination to move up the child. If your child is not able to move up, you will then need to try out in the child's age group. Parents please understand this is in place for the safety of your child**. If a child is moved up, he/she will not be eligible to drop back down to their age group for All-Stars.
6. All Parents have the option to exclude 1 coach from drafting their child. a. The reason for excluding a Coach must be specific and must be in writing to the League Commissioners (Text Messages and Phone Calls will not be accepted). Must fill out EMCSA COACH BLOCK FORM. The reason for excluding a Coach must be found to be acceptable and must be approved by the Commissioner Board and the Executive Board before it can be granted.
    b. Any Parent that excludes a Coach from drafting their child (if approved) will not be eligible to play for the excluded Coach during the All-Star season should that Coach be the Head Coach of the All-Star Team.
    c. Hat picks are eligible to exclude 1 Coach from drawing them from the hat, if approved according to the 1st rule (6.a.) & 2nd rule (6.b.) listed above. 7. All Head Coaches and Pre-Draft Assistant Coaches must be approved by the Commissioners Board. After approval, Head Coaches of all teams will be determined by the following (listed in order of priority):

Head Coaches from previous year (Same League).

a. Coaches with kids have priority over point standings.

b. All vacant coaching positions will be based on point system.

c. Points are accrued during the spring season only as follows:

d. Head Coach (Spring Ball) = 2pts.

e. Head Coach (Fall Ball) = 1pt.

f. Assistant Coach (Must be Named) = 1pt.

g. Commissioner Board or Board Member = 1pt.

h. Maximum of 3pts. Per year.

i. Coaching points will expire after 7 years. All points less than 7 years will remain active.

j. If a coach receives 5 or more blocks in one year that coach will have to be approved by the commissioning board and director before he will be allowed to coach that year. **In the event of a tie, the Coach's names will be placed in a hat and drawn for coaching positions. Coaches MUST be present.**

8. Vacant coaching positions are filled by new incoming Coaches based on point system.

9. ~~A~~ll player selection systems must ensure that all Head Coaches have an equal opportunity in the selection of all players.

10. Pre-Draft Assistant Coaches are allowed **(1 per team).** Pre-draft assistant coach will be taken in the 3rd round of draft.

a. However, if the Assistant Coach is not declared by the Head Coach to the League Commissioners prior to the start of the 1st try-out date, the Assistant must be named after the draft from the team's roster of players.

b. All Pre-Draft Assistant Coaches will be working coaches on the field during games, not in the bleachers or in a lounge chair outside the playing field. There is no limit of Assistant Coaches that can be named after the draft from the team's roster of players.

c. A completed Coaches Applications must be completed online including background check prior to the 1st try-out date. Completed Coach's Applications for all other Assistant Coaches must be completed online before registration is closed by the executive board. You will not be allowed on the field if you don't have a Coach's Application filled out.

d.*Pre-Draft Assistants will not be allowed until every team is represented by a Head Coach.

11. **The Sister Rule**: Siblings will be on the same team. Siblings will not be drafted

to different teams without parental consent. When 1 sibling is drafted, the other sibling or siblings will be drafted with the team's following round draft pick (or by following rounds in a case with 2 or more siblings). The same rule applies to a Head Coach or Pre-Draft Assistant Coach, or both, if they have more than 1 sibling playing in the same age group.

12. The drafting process for 6U,8U,10U, 12, and 14-18U Mixed Leagues is as follows:
    a. Each team in each league will receive a pick in the 1st round of the draft (The sister rule #11 remains in effect). The Head Coach's child or children must be drafted in the next round or rounds. The Pre-Draft Assistant Coach's sibling or sibling's must then be drafted in the next round or rounds. The draft will feature multiple rounds among the teams and will continue until every player has been placed on a team either through the draft or as a protected player.
    ~~b. T~~he draft order will be drawn out of a hat just prior to the draft. In the 2nd round, the **draft order will reverse** and the team that drafted last will now drafts 1st until all teams have drafted their 2nd player. This draft order will continue to reverse each and every draft round until all players have been drafted onto a team.
    c. **Every team will have a 1st round draft pick**. **Head coach players will be the 2nd round pick and the Assistant coach player will be 3rd round pick**. Players in the hat will be drawn from the hat according to the same draft order until all teams are equal. Then all teams are eligible for a hat pick player, or if there is more teams needing players then there are players available, then all teams needing players are eligible for hat pick players.
13. The roster size will be determined by registration, with the preferred size being 11 players per team plus 1 slot for late sign-ups. Late registration will be terminated in any given age group, when all teams in that age group have an equal number of players or when determined by the softball director and executive board.
14. Trading of players is allowed. However, all trades must be completed within 10 minutes after completion of the draft (Before leaving the draft room). Rounds 1-4 can only be traded for a player in the same round pick (Round 1 must be traded for another round 1 pick. 2 for 2, 3 for 3, and 4 for 4). Trades for Round 5 & Down can be traded for other rounds. All trades must be approved by the appropriate League Commissioners.
15. Any rules not listed herein will be governed by the FASA, DYS and Ranger Softball Rules.
16. A Head Coach or Assistant Coach attempting to fill out his/her roster by any means other than these guidelines set forth by the EMCSA Board of

Commissioners shall automatically be removed from that team and will not be allowed to manage or assist an EMCSA team for a period of 1 year.

17. Should any part of these draft rules prevent a team from drafting or drawing any given player or players, and there are no remaining players left in the draft or hat, then that team will have to pass on draft or hat pick. This rule applies to all players including hat picks.
18. Any coach who **does not register as a coach / team mom before the start of the regular season is NOT eligible to be a Coach and/or Manager of any EMCSA All-Star Team**. Any All-Star Coach, Parent, or Manager that tries to circumvent this rule will be removed from the All- Star Team and may be suspended from coaching at EMCSA for 1 year (Subject to Commissioner Board Review).

EMCSA PROTEST

1) No protest will be allowed on an Umpire's judgment call, only on rule of play. 99% of all calls made by the Umpire are considered to be judgment calls.

2) Protest will be handled according to appropriate League Rule Book.

3) Protests must be noted in the Official Scorebook at the time of the protest. (The official game time must be documented in the Official Scorebook when the protest is made, along with the official score prior to the incident in question.)

4) The protesting Coach has 48 hours after completion of a game to file a written protest. They must state which rule was broken and how it was broken. The protest must be turned in to the appropriate League Commissioners, along with a check for $50.
5) A 3-member committee will then be selected by the appropriate League Commissioners. If the League Commissioners are directly involved, the committee will be named by the Softball Director.
6) The committee will be comprised of any Coach, Umpire, or Responsible Person who is affiliated with EMCSA, but does not have a conflict of interest with the protest being submitted.
7) The committee will decide if in fact a rule had been broken and whether or not to accept the protest. If accepted, both Coaches must attend a meeting to give their opinions of what happened. If the protest is upheld, the $50.00 will be refunded.

8) The Committee must make a decision within 72 hours of the meeting with the Coaches, not counting Sundays.
9) The protest will be decided by vote of the 3 appointed members of the committee.

10)The decision may be appealed to the Softball Director along with a check for

$100.

EMCSA GROUND RULES

1. Coaches and Parents: Please keep all children off the fences and out of the press boxes. Damage is the cause of unnecessary expense for our park and physical injury could occur. All parents will be responsible for repairs and expense caused by your children. Park and League Officials are not responsible for damage to personal property. ***NO PETS OF ANY KIND ARE ALLOWED IN THE PARK***
2. No glass containers or alcoholic beverages are allowed at the park. The use of any tobacco products is not allowed on the playing fields. **Smoking and vaping is allowed within designated areas in the outfield away from all dugouts, sidewalks, playground and children.** Anyone not complying will be asked to leave.

3. No practicing on the game fields without permission from your EMCSA League Commissioners.

4. All players must have a park issued uniform to play. Exception: If a player is released by EMCSA to participate, the player may play without a uniform.

5. No mandatory practices on Saturday, Sunday, Monday or Wednesday.

6. All games will be played under FASA, Ranger Softball, DYS & EMCSA Ground &

Game Rules.

7. Visiting team is responsible for operating the scoreboard during the game.

8. Home team furnishes official Scorebook Keeper. Home team is responsible for getting score book and scoreboard box to the field before the game, and returning to concession stand after the game.

9. **BOTH TEAMS WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPPING THE PLAYING FIELD**. All mounds must be removed from the field, placed on red cart and put outside field.

10. After each game, the Official Scorekeeper will have the Umpire and a Coach from both teams sign the official score book, which should indicate the final score, game winner and number of innings in the game. The official score book must be returned to the Umpire Room.

11. All Divisions will be allowed to pick up 2 players from within their division to prevent a forfeit, (with parent's permission).
    a. A forfeit will be declared if a team does not have enough players by 15 minutes after a scheduled game time.
    b. All teams must have at least 8 players to prevent forfeit.
    c. Picked-up players must bat last and play in the outfield.
    d. In the 14-18U Mixed League (14-18 years old) players can only be picked up from the EMCSA Mixed teams. A 13-year-old must be replaced by another 13-year-old. A 14-year-old can be replaced by either a 13-year-old or a 14-year-old, etc.
    e. In the 6U division (4, 5 & 6 year olds) players can only be picked up from other EMCSA 6U teams. A 4-year-old must be replaced by another 4-year-old. A 5-year-old may be replaced by either a 4 or 5-year-old. A 6-year-old may be replaced by a 4, 5 or 6-year-old.
    f. No team will be allowed to pick up more players than is required to field a normal defensive team in their league. (10 defensive players in 6U and 8U, 9 defensive players in 10U-18U)
    g. Picked-up players must wear the uniform of the League in which they are registered and must be registered for the current season.

12. Each child must participate in at least 6 defensive outs in a game with 5 or more innings, or 3 defensive outs in a game of 4 innings or less. Each child must also get at least 1 at bat in each game. If a player does not play and bat in the game, he/she must start and play the entire next game.
13. No foul language, unsportsmanlike conduct, (taunting or signs) harassing or abuse of the Umpires, Coaches or Team Players will be tolerated by anyone during the game. The Umpire and/or Commissioner on duty will be responsible for making that judgment call. This will result in the individual being asked to leave the park.
14. Any fan asked by an Umpire to leave the park will have 2 minutes to leave the field

or park, or they could possibly subject the team to a forfeit.

15. A phone number is mandatory for all Commissioners, Board Members and Coaches. This number must be published for all Park Members.
16. **Rain Outs: Head Coaches will receive notification from their Commissioner,** Concession Stand Phone# (281-354-7303) Website (www.emcsports.org), Face Book (@EMCSports), Instagram @emcsportsassociation, or email / cancelation from SSU Play.
    a. **The Softball Director shall be responsible for determining if the game will be played up to 30 minutes prior to game time. Beginning 30 minutes prior to scheduled start of the game, the Head Umpire and/or Game Umpire shall have complete control of the game. If park is open games will not be called before scheduled time of play**.
    b. In 6U and 8U division, a game will be considered complete if 3 innings have been played or 2 ½. (if the home team is ahead)
    c. In all other divisions, games will be considered complete if 4 innings have been played or 3 ½. (If the home team is ahead).

    d. Rain-Outs may or may not be rescheduled, depending on the availability of time and fields.
    e. If all teams have met the minimum requirement of games for the season and the make-up game will not affect standings, it will not be scheduled.

EMCSA SOFTBALL GAME RULES

Player eligibility is determined by the player's age as of January 1 for that year

1. A player may be held out of a game by a Coach for disciplinary reasons or for missing practices. The Coach must notify the League Commissioners (at least 1 day prior to the game) in writing. A Coach must produce a copy of his practice schedule to verify misses without good excuses (sick or in a school function). If approved by the League Commissioners, the Coach must report the disciplinary actions to the player's parents prior to the start of the game.
2. Length of games will be as follows:
    (a) 6U and 8U: 5 innings or 1 hour.
    (b) 10U: 7 innings or 1 hour and 5 minutes.
    (c) 12U: 7 innings or 1 hour and 5 minutes.
    (d) 14U: 7 innings or 1 hour and 5 minutes.

    (e) A new inning starts as soon as the 3rd out is made, or the last run is scored in the previous inning.

(f) An inning started before the time expired will be completed.
(h)Fall Ball Games will be **1 hour and 5 minutes unless scheduled otherwise**.

3. **Inning Run Rule**:
   a) ALL DIVISIONS will have a 6 run rule, per inning.

4. Games ending in a tie will remain tied with a ½ win & ½ loss given to each team.

5. Final standings will be determined by overall records of all games played.

6. Ties for 1st and 2nd place at the end of the season will be determined by the following:
   1st- Head-to-head competition, if still tied , a 1 game playoff will be played to decide 1st place **2nd** - divisional record, **3rd** Differential Scores, **4th** Runs Against, **5th** Runs For. If still tied a coin toss will be used to determine 1st place. These all come from EMCSA SSU Play.

7. There will be a continuous batting order in all Leagues.

8. No head first sliding in 6U and 8U divisions.

9. No game ball shall be given unless it is hit out of the park for homerun.

10. Any EMCSA Ground or Game Rules have precedence over any Rule Book. Any rule not covered in the EMCSA Ground or Game Rules will be governed by the appropriate FASA and/or DYS/ Ranger Softball Rules.

EMCSA 6U Rules (4, 5 and 6 yr olds)

General:

1. Bases will be 60 feet apart. The pitching rubber will be 35 feet from home plate and all other dimensions will be optional.

2. Games are played with 10 defensive players, 1 rover in the outfield. A team is allowed to play with as few as 8 players. All players present when the game begins will be included in the batting lineup. Teams will “bat the roster”. If a player arrives after the game has started, she will be added to the bottom of the batting order. No pinch runners will be allowed unless a player is injured.

3. Players can only be picked up from other 6U League Teams, bat last and play in the outfield.

4. Pitching circle is 16 ft in diameter and must be chalked before the game.

5. An 11” yellow hard touch softball must be used

6. Catcher must wear a helmet with a facemask and a chest protector. 7. All players batting must wear a batting helmet with a facemask and chinstrap. 8. Each half inning will end with 3 outs or 6 runs, whichever comes first. 9. Free substitution on the field. There will be no more than 6 players in the infield.

10. Fielders CANNOT STAND on a base unless they are receiving a throw. Obstruction will be called

11. All fielders MUST wear a facemask.

12. Two defensive coaches may be present in the field to assist his or her team with positioning on the field. During play the coach must be behind the deepest fielder and may not interfere with the game. If a coach touches the ball or a player, dead-ball interference will be called and each runner will be awarded the base that she was running to plus one additional base. The umpire will rule on the play whether interference should be called on the coach.

13. All infield defensive players except the pitcher must remain at a distance no closer than 10' in front of an imaginary line drawn on the baseline between first base and second base and between second base and third base until the ball is in play. The outfielders must be 15' behind the imaginary base before pitch is thrown. (Rule of thumb: Outfielders should have feet in grass.)
    a. The player-pitcher must stay in the circle with at least one foot in the pitcher's circle at a distance adjacent to or behind the 35' pitching rubber, until the ball is hit.

14. Players should be encouraged to throw the ball to make plays. For this reason, NO players shall run down a batter runner while attempting to get to first base. The ball MUST be thrown.

    a. Expectations:
        i. If the ball is hit to the first baseman, first baseman receives the ball and tags the runner going to first.
        ii. Pitcher fields a fair batted ball towards the first base side and her momentum in fielding the ball takes her to the batter runner. (Judgement CALL)

iii. Fielders tags the runner or the base on a force.
b. If the ball is not thrown the batter runner will be called safe.

15. If the ball is fielded and overthrown during at attempt to make a play at first base, runners will be allowed **ONLY ONE** additional base at the runners risk, provided the ball is retrieved and immediately returned to the pitcher in the pitcher's circle. If a fielder gets the ball after the overthrow and an attempt is made on the runner, the ball remains live and runners may advance at their own risk.

16. A throw is considered as the ball being thrown overhand to another player. Rolling the ball is not allowed and will not be considered a throw.

17. The batter will have a maximum of 4 pitches or 3 swing strikes from the coach pitcher. If the player fails to put a ball in play a tee will be provided for **1** swing. Unlimited Foul balls off the tee.

18. The player MUST contact the majority of the ball and not the tee. It is in the plate umpire judgment if majority of the ball is struck. If the tee is struck instead of the ball, it will be called a FOUL and another swing off the tee will be granted. A coach shall be at the plate to assist the batter and **TEND** the Tee. Tending the tee: means to remove the tee when not being used or after the player hits the ball.

19. "Time" will be called by the umpire when the defensive team in the field has returned the ball to the pitcher in the pitcher's circle and the player has control of the ball or when the runners have stopped.

20. A batter must hit the ball at least 10 feet for it to be ruled a fair ball. The distance shall be designated by an arc drawn between the two foul lines. Incidental contact with the Tee is allowed if the ball is also hit and the ball is in fair territory. Fair and Foul balls are the judgement of the umpire and are not to be argued.

21. There will be no walks.

22. Runners cannot leave the base until the ball leaves the pitchers hand or is hit off the tee and put into play. No base stealing is allowed.

23. There will be no infield fly rule.

EMCSA 8U Rules (7 and 8 yr olds)

1) Bases will be 60 feet apart. The pitching rubber will be 35 feet from home plate.

2) Games are played with 10 defensive players, 1 rover in the outfield. A team is allowed to play with as few as 8 players.

3) Players can only be picked up from other 8u or 6u League Teams, bat last and play in the outfield.

4) All infield defensive players except the pitcher must remain at a distance no closer than 10' in front of an imaginary line drawn on the baseline between first base and second base and between second base and third base until the ball is in play. The outfielders must be 15' behind the imaginary base before pitch is thrown. (Rule of thumb: Outfielders should have feet in grass.)

a) The player-pitcher must stay in the circle with at least one foot in the pitcher's circle adjacent or behind the 35' pitching mound, until the ball is hit.

5) Players should be encouraged to throw the ball to make plays. For this reason, NO players shall run down a batter runner while attempting to get to first base. The ball MUST be thrown.

a) Expectations:

i) If the ball is hit to the first baseman, first baseman receives the ball and tags the runner going to first.

ii) Pitcher fields a fair batted ball towards the first base side and her momentum in fielding the ball takes her to the batter runner. (Umpire Judgement CALL) iii) Fielders tags the runner or the base on a force.

b) If the ball is not thrown the batter runner will be called safe.

6) Batters are allowed 5 Pitches or 3 Strikes.

7) The Coach-Pitcher may pitch at any distance inside the 16 foot pitching circle and within the boundaries of the 24 inch pitching rubber. To clarify, the Coach-Pitcher must be touching or be directly in front of the pitching rubber with both feet inside the pitching circle and use a straight-ahead pitching approach. Coach-Pitchers may not pitch from either side of the pitching rubber. Both feet must start inside the circle however one foot is allowed to land outside of the pitching circle after the ball is released.

8) No stealing

9) No Drop 3rd Strike

10) No intentional walk or Infield Fly Rule

11) Baserunners shall not leave the base until ball is out of coach pitcher hand.

12)A maximum of only six (6) runs can be scored in half inning.

13) All defensive players must wear a facemask.

14) While the ball is in play, all runners are free to advance at their own risk.

15) "Time" will be called by the umpire when play is stopped on defense either by stopping the lead runner **or** the player pitcher has complete control of the ball in the

pitching circle. Once the play has been stopped, the ball is no longer in play. No runner may advance.

16) Bunting and Slapping are allowed.

17)NO SMASH Hitting (Faking a bunt and then hitting away)

EMCSA 10U Rules(9 and 10 yr olds)

1) Bases will be 60 feet apart. The pitching rubber will be 35 feet from home plate and all other dimensions will be optional.
2) Games are played with 10 defensive players. A team is allowed to play with as few as 8 players.
3) Pitching circle is 16 ft in diameter and must be chalked before the game
4) No pitch count limits in regular season
5) Base runners may attempt to steal only after the ball leaves the pitcher's hand during her delivery of the pitch.
6) Leadoff is allowed while the pitch is in the air
7) All infield defensive players must wear a facemask.
8) Dropped Third strike rule IS in effect. Batter can advance on dropped third strike.

Special Spring Ball 10U Coach Pitch Rules
This rule was put into effect to keep the game interesting and the players more engaged.
1 walk is allowed in each half inning
After the 1st walk of the half inning the coach will come in to pitch the remaining strike count.

Example: Batter 1 takes 4 balls and advances to 1 st base. Batter 2 comes up and takes 4
balls and 1 strike. The coach will come in and be allowed 2 pitches. The batter is considered in the book as a strike out if the batter fails to put the ball in play after the coach pitcher has exhausted all of its pitches.
Foul balls will be considered a strike, and the batter will continue the at bat until the ball is put into the playing field or strikes out (All Pitches Exhausted or No Contact Swing). While the coach is pitching the following will apply:
o No Stealing of any base (including pass ball)
o Drop 3rd Strike is no longer in effect.
o If a batted ball hits the coach pitcher, play will be considered dead and the playing field is reset. Batter will keep the same count as previous before play was stopped.
o No bunting, Slapping, or Slashing while the coach is pitching.
Leaving Base Early is still in effect. The look back rule will also be in effect.

EMCSA 12U Rules ***(11 & 12 year olds)***

1) Bases will be 60 feet apart. The pitching rubber will be 40 feet from home plate and all other dimensions will be optional.
2) Games are played with 9 defensive players. A team is allowed to play with as few as 8 players.
3) Pitching circle is 16 ft in diameter and must be chalked before the game.

4) No pitch count limits in regular season
5) Stealing is allowed After the pitch is released
6) Dropped Third strike rule IS in effect. Batter can advance on dropped third strike.

EMCSA 14-18U Mixed RULES ***(13,14,15,16,17 & 18 year olds)***

1) Bases will be 60 feet apart. The pitching rubber will be 43 feet from home plate and all other dimensions will be optional.
2) Games are played with 9 defensive players. A team is allowed to play with as few as 8 players.
3) Pitching circle is 16 ft in diameter and must be chalked before the game.
4) No pitch count limits in regular season
5) Stealing is allowed After the pitch is released
6) Dropped Third strike rule IS in effect. Batter can advance on dropped third strike.

EMCSA SOFTBALL ALL-STARS

Coaches should select All-Stars based on his/her best assessment of player ability and their contribution to their respective teams. Each Coach has a responsibility of nominating players who can best represent EMCSA in district play. “Ball Park Politics” should have no place in these proceedings.

1. Coaches will submit 12 nominations from the division in which they coached for All-Stars to their League Commissioners. Nominations should be players that the Coach feels are real candidates, judging ability, record and attitude.
2. Please include Phone Numbers of players from your team that are nominated. Coaches are not to discuss nominations with players or parents. All nominees will be contacted by All-Star Head Coach for Try-Out dates & times.

3. All-Star Head Coach will be the 1st place Head Coach with approval of Softball Commissioners Board and Softball Director (See Coaches Responsibilities Rule). Should 1st place Head Coach decline, it will go to 2nd place Head Coach and so on down the line, with approval of the Softball Commissioners Board and Softball Director. After Try-Outs of the All-Star nominations, All-Star Head Coach will select the All-Star team from the nominations.
4. Assistant Coaches of the All-Star team will be selected by the All-Star Head Coach with approval of the Softball Commissioners and Softball Director.
5. Final outcome should be accepted & not criticized by any of the Coaches afterwards.
6. All Head Coaches & Assistant Coaches must complete a Coaches Registration and background check (approved by Commissioners Board & Executive Board) and must be correctly named on the team's regular season roster that is provided by EMCSA to FASA and Ranger Softball, before the Head Coach or

Assistant Coach will be eligible to be a Head Coach or Assistant Coach of an All-Star team. It is the Head Coach's responsibility to make sure that this is done on or before the start of regular season.

Should an All-Star Player or Players be lost from the All-Star Team, All-Star Coach has option to go back to the master list of All-Star Selections and select a replacement(s) after all alternates are used. All-Star teams must consist of regular season players.

There will be 2 scheduled try-outs for nominated players, conducted by All-Star Coach. The All-Star coaches' regular season players must try out to make the team. 7. If a Coach is ejected from a Tournament game during All-Stars he/she may not be eligible to participate as a Coach for EMCSA for 1 year. (Commissioner Review with President approval)

8. All Fundraising by All-Star teams must be used for team expenses (uniforms, bags, helmets, travel expenses, team party, etc based on review by the Executive Board.)

9. All-Star Uniforms will be ordered by EMCSA. The Board will design a uniform for each division and determine total cost per team which will cover Uniforms and Lights. Total amount must be turned in before the team will receive their Uniforms.

10. There will be one league recognized team in each division. Any teams formed after the first team are considered select teams and are not sponsored by EMCSA.