

RBI Softball Bulletin: 2016

DIVISION CRITERIA & AGE DIVISIONS

League Options:

- 10U RBI Slow Pitch:** 9/1/05 through 9/1/07
Plus any 4th grader with a birth date between 6/1/05-8/31/05.
- 12U RBI Fast Pitch:** 9/1/03 through 9/1/05
Plus any 6th grader with a birth date between 6/1/03-8/31/03.
- 14U RBI Fast Pitch:** 9/1/01 through 9/1/03
Plus any 8th grader with a birth date between 6/1/01-8/31/01.
- 18U RBI Fast Pitch:** A player born on or after January 1, 1997. (ASA & MLB Age Guidelines)
No up waiver restriction for this division

**** The roster size limit is 15. A roster may contain a maximum of three non-resident players.**

DAYS OF PLAY (no games Memorial Day weekend)

Below dates do not include invitational tournament

10U RBI Slow Pitch	Tues/Thurs/Sat	May 14 – June 22
12U RBI Fast Pitch	Mon/Wed/Sat	May 14 – June 18
14U RBI Fast Pitch	Mon/Tues/Sat	May 14 – June 18
18U RBI Fast Pitch	Mon/Thurs	June 6 – July 30

- Teams will compete against teams from Minneapolis and St. Paul
- Players will be invited to tryouts for the RBI All-Star team that will compete in the RBI Regional Tournament
- All-Star Tryouts: Sunday, June 7 at Oxford Community Center in St. Paul at Noon – 2:00 p.m.

Tournament Date:

12U & 14U Divisions: June 20th – June 25th

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 22 nd :	10U, 12U & 14U Pre-Season Fast Pitch Rosters Due
May 14 th :	10U, 12U & 14U Season Begins
May 16 th :	18U Fast Pitch Pre-Season Rosters Due
June 9 th :	10U, 12U & 14U Final Rosters Due
June 6 th :	18U Season Begins & Final Rosters Due
*June 6 th :	18U Girls Fast Pitch Softball All-Star Tryouts – Monday, June 6, 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. at Concordia University Softball at Hamline and Marshall Ave., St. Paul (Inclement Weather: Contact Frank White 612.282.3018)
June 20 th – 25 th	12U & 14U RBI Invitational Tournament

Administrative Rules:

Game Specifications:

Divisions	Ball Size	Regulation Game	Pitching Distance	Base Line
10U Slow Pitch	11"	5 Innings	35 Feet	60 Feet
12U RBI	12"	6 Innings	35 Feet	60 Feet
14U RBI	12"	7 Innings	40 Feet	60 Feet
18U RBI	12"	5 innings double header	43 Feet	60 Feet

Called Games:

RBI Divisions	Size of Lead	At End Of:
10U Slow Pitch	10 runs	4 innings
12U RBI	10 runs	4 innings
14U RBI	10 runs	5 Innings
18U RBI		

1. RBI League 10U – no new inning will begin after 1 hour 40 minutes.
2. RBI League 12U & 14U - No new inning will begin 1 hour 50 minutes after the actual start of a single game.
3. RBI 18U League - No new inning will begin 75 minutes after the start of a double header game.
4. A team which fails to show up for two consecutive games will automatically be dropped from the league.
5. Games are considered official at ½ of scheduled innings, unless the home team is behind, in which case the home team must complete its half inning.
6. There will be no extra innings, games will remain a tie.
7. Games will be delayed once lightning has been spotted. Games may be re-started when / if weather conditions improve. If a game is not continued due to bad weather and the number of innings necessary to become a complete game have not been completed, the game will be cancelled.
8. **Forfeits:** Players must be on the field and ready to play within 10 minutes of scheduled time or game is forfeited. **Teams must have a minimum of 8 players on the field.**

Game Cancellation Policy

1. Games will **not** be rescheduled due to non-weather related conflicts.
 - a. Two games have been added to the schedule to guarantee the minimum number of games. A team's first two games cancelled due to bad weather will not be rescheduled. Additional cancellations due to weather will be rescheduled.
 - b. **If make-up games are needed**, the teams involved should work with their park director(s) to determine a reschedule date. Once a date and field have been secured, the park director will contact the league director to request an umpire. *** There is a minimum 7 day notice to schedule an umpire for a rescheduled game.**



Equipment

1. A **catcher** must wear a protective helmet with full ear protection (hockey style helmet), throat protector, chest protector and shin guards.
Penalty: Correction must be made for player to participate.
2. Tennis shoes or shoes with molded cleats are mandatory. Players wearing sandals or attempting to play barefoot will not be allowed to play.
 - a. 10U & 12U – Metal spikes are **not** allowed
 - b. 14U & 18U – Metal spikes are allowed
3. All batters on deck batters, runners & players in the coaches' box will be required to wear approved protective helmets with facemasks.
Penalty: Correction must be made for a player to participate.
4. Bat Guidelines: Only bats labeled "Official ASA Softball" may be used. See Official Bat, Rule 3, Section 1, page 39 ASA Rule Book.
5. Jewelry – Exposed jewelry, which is judged by the umpire to be dangerous must be removed and may not be worn during the game. Medical alert bracelets or necklaces are not considered jewelry. If worn, they must be taped to the body so the medical alert information remains visible. ASA Rule 3, Section 6, F

MPRB League Rules: All RBI Divisions

1. **Maximum Roster Size: 15** (A Roster may contain a maximum of 3 non-resident players.)
2. **Batting Order** – The batting order shall include all players in uniform, and they will bat in this order throughout the game. Late arrivals will be added to the bottom of the batting order. If for any reason a player has to leave the game that position in the batting order will be left blank.
3. **Participation / Substitution** – All players in uniform must play a minimum of two complete innings (6 outs) in the field, before the start of the last inning. Defensive substitution shall be unlimited including the pitcher up to the maximum number of innings / outs allowed. **Penalty:** Game Forfeit
4. **No pinch-running**- If a base runner is injured will be replaced w/ the player who was last put out.
5. Coaches have the authority to withhold a player from competition for disciplinary reasons. They must inform the umpire and opposing coach prior to the start of the game.
6. A runner is out when she does not attempt to get around a fielder who has the ball and is waiting to make the tag, or if she maliciously runs into a fielder. Malicious contact will also result in the offender being ejected from the game.
7. The home team will occupy the third base bench. Home team will be listed on the schedule. If not listed, the home team will be determined by coin flip.
8. Team benches will only be occupied by the team players and certified coaches.
9. **Foul tip- A batted ball that moves "sharply and directly" from the bat to the catcher's glove/mitt/hand and is caught. This results in a strike and the ball remains live. Foul Ball- A batted ball with a "perceptible arc" to which the catcher must move their glove/mitt/hand to catch. This results in an out and the ball remains live (like any other foul ball play). *The ball height in relation to the height of the batter's head no longer applies as it relates to a Foul Ball or Foul Tip.***
13. There is NO inning limit that a softball pitcher may pitch.
14. A starting or substitute pitcher must pitch until a batter completes her turn at bat or until the side is out (whichever occurs first).
15. **Sliding** – girls do not have to slide, however they must avoid any collisions if they go in standing up.



16. **Throwing the bat** – The team warning will be included in the pre-game meeting. For an unintentionally thrown bat the batter will be called out.

Speed Up Rules

Starting pitchers – At the beginning of each half inning, or when a pitcher relieves another, not more than one minute may be used to deliver not more than five pitches. Play shall be suspended during this time. For excessive warm-up pitches, a pitcher shall be penalized by awarding a ball to the batter for each pitch in excess of five. This does not apply if the umpire delays the start of play due to substitution, conference, injuries, or other umpire responsibilities. A pitcher returning to pitch in the same half inning will not receive warm-up pitches. There is no limitation as to the number of times a player can return to the pitching position as long as the player is legally in the game. (ASA Rules)

Courtesy Runner - At any time, the team at bat may use a courtesy runner for the catcher or the pitcher. A courtesy runner must be the player who was last put out. A player who violates the courtesy-runner rule is considered to be an illegal substitute. Should an injury, illness or ejection occur to the courtesy runner, he/she must be replaced with the player who was last put out.

Rules of Play by Division

League Rules: 10U Slow Pitch – **This is a Slow Pitch League**

1. 10U Slow Pitch will use ASA (Amateur Softball Association) with MPRB modification listed below.
2. **Pitches** must have a noticeable arc. Does not need to meet the six foot minimum requirement.
 - a. Pitcher shall deliver ball on her first forward swing past her hip (paraphrased Rule 6C.3.D)
3. Roster batting will be used. Players must stay in the original line up from the start of the game. All players will bat but only 10 players may play the field (4 player outfield). Free substitution of defense.
4. Each inning will consist of 5 runs or 3 outs. The coach must tell the opposing team when the tenth batter will hit. When the 5 run rule applies a team is limited to scoring 5 runs per inning. In such innings when play is stopped due to the 5 run rule, the last player to bat shall be considered the third out. The last inning will be 3 outs with no run limit.
5. A 3 ball / 2 strike count with one courtesy foul will be used.
6. Stealing is NOT allowed. Runners may leave the base when the ball is hit.
7. Teams must have a minimum of 9 players to play. *** If the team only plays with 9 players, the 10th spot on the batting order will NOT be considered an out.**
8. A tenth player may be added to the tenth position any time before the end of the game. Any team starting with eleven or more players may drop to 9 players to finish the game. If a team starts with 9 or 10 players they are not allowed to add the eleventh player at a later time.
9. Any player that leaves the game for any reason may not return to the game. Exception: A player, who has left the game under the blood rule, may return.
10. Infield fly will not be called at the 10U division.

League Rules: 12U Fast Pitch

1. This division uses Fast Pitch Rules published by the ASA (Amateur Softball Association) with Park Board modifications listed in this bulletin.
2. **Nine players** are allowed in the field at any one time.
3. Once the pitcher has the ball in her glove, & is within 6 feet of the rubber, the umpire may call Time Out - preventing any base runners from advancing.
4. On a dropped 3rd strike, the batter is out.
5. 5-run per inning rule. (In effect for the first 3 innings of the game). The half inning will end after 3 outs are made or 5 runs have been scored, whichever comes first.
6. The Regulation Fast Pitch &/or Modified Pitch will be allowed for 12U.
 - a. A legal modified pitch is a flat pitch delivered with a limited wind-up. (ASA Rule Book)
7. If a pitcher delivers an illegal pitch & the batter hits the ball (fair or foul) or becomes a base runner, the coach of the team at bat shall have the option of the result of the play or the penalty for the illegal pitch.
8. Infield Fly Rule will be called at 12U, 14U & 18U levels.
9. A team must have 8 players in the field to begin the game or the game shall be declared a forfeit.
* If the team only plays with 8 players, the 9th spot on the batting order will NOT be considered an out.

League Rules: 14U Fast Pitch

1. This division uses Fast Pitch Rules published by the ASA (Amateur Softball Association) with Park Board modifications listed in this bulletin.
2. **Nine players** are allowed in the field at any one time.
3. **8-Run per inning rule** (In effect for the first 3 innings of the game). The half inning will end after 3 outs are made or 8 runs have been scored, whichever comes first.
4. Pitch according to the ASA fast pitch / MN State H.S. league rules. A windmill rotation is not required.
5. A team must have 8 players in the field to begin the game or the game shall be declared a forfeit.
* If the team only plays with 8 players, the 9th spot on the batting order will NOT be considered an out.
6. An illegal pitch will be enforced in 14U & 18U.
7. Infield Fly Rule will be called at 12U, 14U & 18U levels.

League Rules: 18U Fast Pitch

1. This division uses Fast Pitch Rules published by the ASA (Amateur Softball Association) with Park Board modifications listed in this bulletin.
2. Double first base is mandatory.
3. Catcher's Equipment: NOCSAE approved mask with throat protector & helmet, chest protector, and shin guards. NOTE! Any player warming up a pitcher (anywhere) must wear the official catcher's headgear.
4. Each team must supply a new ball for each game.
5. Single games shall be 7 innings, no new inning shall begin after 90 minutes of play.
6. Double headers: no new innings after 75 minutes
7. 10 Run Rule – Single games - after 4 ½ innings if the home team is ahead, or after 5 innings if the visiting team is ahead (losing team must bat 5 times).



League Rules: 18U Fast Pitch Cont'd

8. Games tied after 5 innings shall be played with the "international tie-breaker Last Batter on second" rule. When the time limit is applied to the game, the inning shall be completed. If the game is tied at the completion of an inning, the game shall end in a tie. No new inning shall begin after the time limit has been reached.
9. Batting Order - Participation/Substitution: teams may use free substitution on defense and bat all players **OR** use ASA substitution rule. You **MUST** declare **BEFORE** game starts.
10. Teams may start and finish with eight players (ninth spot is an out). If a team drops to less than eight players the game is a forfeit. If a team is batting all players and someone leaves or is injured, their respective spot is an out.
11. Home team will occupy the third base bench. The home team is the second team listed on the schedule.
12. Any team not in attendance 15 minutes after the established game time will forfeit the game. Teams not in attendance within an additional 15 minutes will forfeit the second game, if a double header.
13. Starting and relief pitchers: 5 warm up pitches prior to the start of the game or facing her first batter; 5 pitches between any subsequent inning not lasting more than one minute.
14. The team bench may only be occupied by the players and certified coaches.
15. An illegal pitch will be enforced in 14U & 18U.
16. Infield Fly Rule will be called at 12U, 14U & 18U levels.

18U Girls Fast Pitch Softball All-Star Tryouts

Monday, June 6, 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. at Concordia University Softball at Hamline and Marshall Ave., St. Paul
For more information contact Frank White at frank.white2@comcast.net or by mobile phone at 612-282-3018.

- Age – Senior Girls Softball, 16 – 18 year olds, born on or after Jan. 1, 1997

Players wishing to tryout, should arrive on time in order to register 30 minutes prior to start time, bring appropriate equipment that you need. Be prepared to start on time.

IN CASE OF BAD WEATHER, tryout will be held indoors at Oxford Community Center, 1221 Lexington Parkway, St. Paul, bring a pair of gym shoes and your needed baseball/softball equipment.

TO BE ELIGIBLE: players must play on an RBI team for the current season and must play in at least one half of all games, (league and playoffs) and players must meet Major League Baseball requirement as outlined above.

If for some reason you have a committed conflict with the above schedule All Star tryout date, please contact Frank White prior to the tryouts to explain and receive a possible alternate tryout date.

What does RBI mean to MPRB Softball?

Just like the Major Leaguers who call Target Field home, each player in the RBI Program is a Minnesota Twin. Since 1993, the Twins Community Fund, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, and the Saint Paul Department of Parks and Recreation have partnered to provide Twin Cities youth the opportunity to play baseball and softball. Today, every player on a Minneapolis and St. Paul park team is a member of RBI, the national, competitive league sponsored by Major League Baseball. In addition to games, the nearly 6,000 Twins RBI players can participate in RBI Opening Day at Target Field, attend free skills clinics and the RBI Academy, try out for a Twins RBI All-Stars team, and have the chance to attend Twins games and meet players.

For more information or to register, visit www.mplsstpaulrbi.org

