

COACHES AND MANAGERS MEETING NOTES 22/8/17

WEB Site www.mwsa.com.au

- First port of call - Draws, results, what's happening, etc

On the front page - "Our Comp" tab

- The Draw
- Results
- Where is that Diamond
- Rules
- What Ball, what pitching distance
- Filling out the score sheet
- Wet Weather
- Packing up the Diamonds
- Setting up the diamonds
- Canteen
- Insurance Claims

"stuff" tab

- 3 Pitch Lesson Plan (Modball B & C basis)
- Diamond ball lesson Plan
- Teeball Lessons Plan
- Softball Lessons Plan
- Throwing and Catching

Facebook

- <http://www.facebook.com/manlywarringahsoftball/>

Weather

- The golden rule is - the games are on unless you hear otherwise.
- A decision of morning games will be made by 7:30 am and afternoon games by 12:00

To see if anything has changed:

1. Check this WEB site - it will be bold and obvious if the games are cancelled.
2. Check Wet Weather Bounceback number are updated **SMS "MWSA"** to 0428 985 410 – for the cost of a normal txt message.

If conditions change during the day the WEB site and SMS will be updated AND team on the grounds will be informed.

Ball Sizes

Seniors	12"
Div 1 and Div 2	12"
Div 1 Res, Div 2 Res, Div 3A, Modbal A	11" hard softball
Div 3 B, Modball B, Modball C	11" softcore
Teeball	10 ½" softcore

Pitching Distance

Seniors	
A Grade	43'
All other Senior Grades *	40'
* For the MWSA team playing in the senior competition the pitching distance for that team will be what they will pitch at State.	

Juniors – These distances will apply in all matches unless specifically approved by MWSA	
Div 1	40' or 43' depending on the pitcher (ie the pitching distance she would pitch at State)
Div 1 res	38' or 40' depending on the pitcher (ie the pitching distance she would pitch at State)
Div 2	40'
Div 2 res	40'
Div 3A	38' or 40' depending on the pitcher (ie the pitching distance she would pitch at State)
Div 3B	35'
Modball A	35'
Modball B	30' (when the team pitches)

Injured Players

Unfortunately injuries do happen. Please use common sense and not move a player if an injury could be serious. All injury incidents must be recorded in the day book to ensure insurance matters can be handled effectively.

If an insurance claim is LIKELY to be made the insurance forms need to be sent in within 30 days of the injury. DO NOT wait for bill before submitting the forms. Forms are on the WEB site under the "Comp" tab.

Scoresheets

Scoresheets can be found in the files at the Abbott Rd & Rueb Hudson Canteens or behind Diamond 11. We had intended changing our scoresheet but the automatic process has not worked out well. We will confirm scoresheet details very soon.

Fines or lost points will apply for scoresheets which are not completed properly – warnings will be issued first as we understand there are new people responsibility for this in some teams.

An introduction to scoring course will be run early in the season – date to be set... Details will be sent soon.

Borrowing Players

The following are the specific MWSA rules that apply to borrowing players from other teams within the same club. See section 8 of the updated MWSA Rules:

8. "PLAY UP" AND "PLAY ACROSS" RULE

- 8.1 Teams may borrow players from teams ranked below or in the same grade or division.
- 8.2 Teams may only borrow players who are registered with the same club. This includes players who are playing in joint teams. (Rule 7.2.1)
- 8.3 The borrowed player/s must be withdrawn and replaced if regular team members become available during the game.
- 8.4 The number of players in the augmented team must not exceed 9.
- 8.5 Borrowed players must not play pitcher, catcher, shortstop or first base. They must bat at the end of the line-up. Exception – A Grade where no restrictions apply.
- 8.6 A team must have a minimum of 4 original registered team members or the team will forfeit.
- 8.7 Only players registered in Junior divisions 1, 1R and 2 can play up in Seniors A and B Grades. Normal "play-up restrictions" (See 8.4) apply. Players from Junior divisions 2R, 3A and 3B can also play up in B Grade but must field in the outfield and bat at the end of the line-up. No junior players can play in C Grades or Ladies Grades.
- 8.8 An individual may play up or across 3 times during the season. On the fourth play-up, the player is automatically registered in the lowest graded team that the player played-up for.
- 8.9 Junior registered players may play up to 3 games in the senior competition. On the fourth occasion, they become dual registered as a member of the lowest graded team they played for. Dual registration becomes effective from the first game the junior played in the senior competition. Juniors who are not eligible for dual registration, are not permitted to play any further games in the senior competition.
- 8.10 A player registered in one team cannot play in a lower graded team with the following exception. The lowest graded team in a club may borrow a maximum of 3 players from the next highest graded team in that club provided there are no other club teams in that grade or below. The borrowed players must play in the outfield and bat at the end of the line-up. All rules- Section 8 - regarding borrowed players must apply.

Teams impacted by representative duties (MWSA, NSW, Australia) - See section 16 of the updated MWSA Rules:

16. POSTPONEMENT OF MATCHES

- 16.1 Postponement of matches will not be permitted.
 - 16.1.1 *Exception:* Teams need not be disadvantaged due to absent players if these player/players are involved in NSW Softball State Championships or are required for NSW/Australian softball representative commitments.
- 16.2 Disadvantaged teams must let the Committee know in writing at least two weeks prior to the affected date.
- 16.3 The Committee will either reschedule the game, amend the draw, direct the teams involved to play for double points in the next round or direct the team to play as per the draw, depending on the circumstances of the competition and the involved players.
- 16.4 Teams who are deemed to be disadvantaged must fulfil any umpiring or other commitments.
- 16.5 A senior team is deemed to be NOT disadvantaged if the absent players are dual registered players.

Clearly approval of an exemption remains at the discretion of the Committee.

A few specific comments:-

- It is the responsibility of the both teams to check the teams recorded on the scoresheet to ensure the opposition team is as listed
- If you borrow a player you must record that on the scoresheet
- Breaches of the player borrowing rules could lead to the result being treated as a forfeit
- For all grades other than A Grade & Division 1 all borrowed players must bat at the end of the line up and not field as pitcher, catcher, short stop or 1st base
- If you have any doubts about whether you can borrow a player please check with your club well in advance

Qualifying for the Finals

- Team must have at least 6 players that played half the round matches
- Players must have played 5 round matches for the team or other same club team during the season
- At least 9 players must participate in the whole match during the final series - penalty is forfeiture of the match and remainder of final series
- A player in a team receiving a forfeit will be deemed to have "played"
- Washed out games do not count towards eligibility

Regrading

Grading teams is always difficult and MWSA reserves the right to regrade teams during the season.

Regrading could potentially happen at any time. It generally happens around Rounds 4 to 7. We do not have a set time for doing this as we want to retain the flexibility to see enough games to make such a decision. We will try to do it as early as possible.

Rep Programme

MWSA is very proud of its rep programme. It however relies on people trialling to join the teams. We encourage all coaches & managers to encourage your players to trial for rep teams.

Diamond Etiquette

The first team on the draw will normally sit on the 1st base side of the diamond. No team or players should warm up on the diamond. Each team should warm up past the 1st & 3rd bases (depending on which side you are sitting) & in the outfield of the field.

Sponsors

If you know anyone who may be interested in sponsoring MWSA please ask them to contact Doug Freeman from the Committee.

Your Support is Needed

MWSA is managed by volunteers so jobs need to be allocated to the clubs to get them done. The allocations end up even over the year and we do ask for your support in meeting your obligations with this.

a. Canteen

The clubs are advised of the roster to serve in the canteen or on the BBQ well in advance of the duty and it is their responsibility to ensure each team gets their equitable share of jobs to do. Your assistance is appreciated. The canteen & BBQ are key fund raisers for MWSA and help keep fees to a minimum.

b. Working Bee

MWSA runs working bees throughout the season to do specific jobs to improve our grounds. Your assistance is appreciated. The next working bee will be prior to the season commencing.

c. Grounds Set Up Pack Up

The clubs are advised of the roster (morning & afternoon) to set and pack up the grounds well in advance of the duty and it is their responsibility to ensure each team gets their equitable share of jobs to do. Your assistance is appreciated.

d. Diamond Pack Up

We would ask you to pack up the diamond if you are the last team to play there on the day. This will normally be a 1.45pm or 3.30pm game. Please put the bases & the benches in the middle of the diamond neatly piled.

e. Shelters

Shelters are provided for teams on diamonds 5 to 10. The first team to play on the diamond is to pick the shelter up from outside the Rueb Hudson building and erect it. **PLEASE make sure the tent is pegged.** It may not be windy when you put it up however the shade will be up all day and conditions change. **PLEASE CHECK THE DRAW as you may be the last game on that diamond.** The last team to use the diamond is to pack the shelter up and return it to the Rueb Hudson Canteen. Please do this as soon as you game is finished... other people want to finish and go home and they can't until everything is away. Shelters are NOT provided for the teeball games on C and D.

f. Teeball Grounds

Some of the teeball grounds are temporary. We would ask the parents to pack up the diamond (put the bases in the bags), take down the back nets and take all this with the benches to the Rueb Hudson canteen or to the grounds trailer (for Diamond B).

Pitching and Catching Clinic

A Pitching and Catching Clinic is held every Saturday at 8:30 and 10:00 behind diamond 3. The clinic is for anyone interested in learning to pitch or catch ... young or old. Usually starts in Round 2.

Ozpitch

Social mixed Ozpitch competition on Friday nights. Rego night 6/10/17 with 8 rounds 13/10/17 – 1/12/17 (inclusive). A flyer is attached for anyone interested in playing.

Umpiring:

Each team after they move up from teeball and modball has umpiring duties. It works out about every 2nd week. When your team has umpiring you are expected to provide a plate umpire and 2 base umpires.

There is a penalty for not supplying all 3 umpires – loss of competition points and a fine.

Some basic “rules” for coaches and spectators:

- Any aggressive behaviour towards an umpire will not be tolerated. The main reason we can't get umpires is that they don't like being “attacked”.
- Umpires like players and coaches make mistakes – accept it and move on.
- You can't question a judgement call (out or safe, ball or strike) – the call that goes against you this time will go in your favour another. Live with it.
- If you are asking a question of a rule interpretation then ask in a non aggressive way and accept the answer.
- Don't go back for a second bite of the cherry
- Listen to the umpire – when they ask your team to hurry up do it.
- If there is a problem with an overly aggressive coach, official or spectator then write it up in the day book. Without a something in writing we can't do anything to stop it.

Junior Games:

An adult is required to be present during the game when a junior is umpiring. Their role is to provide support for the umpires – you don't need to know the rules or be able to umpire, just be there in case. Remember the coach is typically an adult talking to a child – the child can be very easily intimidated.

Blues may be assigned to a game. The Club will be informed of this on the Thursday. Where Blues are assigned to the game there will be a supervising umpire with them. The supervising umpire may be on the diamond during the game assisting the umpires with positions etc. They are not there to make a call for the umpires.

NOTE: continue all junior games 5 across the plate rule

Senior games:

Only Senior players can umpire a senior game unless they are assigned by the UIC or have been approved by the UIC. The penalty for using a non-approved junior is the same as not providing any umpires – forfeit of the game you have played and a fine.

Buying an umpire:

Email umpire@mwsa.com.au

If you can't or don't want to umpire you can pay hire an experienced umpire. The process is:

1. Send an email by 5:00pm on the Tuesday asking for a plate umpire or base umpires or both. Include the name of the team they will be umpiring for and what you need – eg a plate umpire, plate and base umpire. If your request is late we will do our best but may not be able to provide umpires.
2. Requests for an umpire to do a single base are unlikely to be filled.
3. On Thursday night you will get an email back giving you the name of the umpire/umpires.
4. On Saturday you pay the umpire at the game. The kids rely on their umpiring money for Saturday night so please make it a priority to pay them.

You can request a plate umpire or all umpires for the season with one email. Saves sending emails every week.

The umpires provided are typically accredited juniors. Where “all” umpires are requested we will typically assign one for the plate and one for the bases. The cost:

- \$30 for the plate
- \$60 for plate and bases.

Please note that we will not have enough umpires so you will have to provide umpires some weeks.

Learn to Umpire:

MWSA runs a “learn to umpire” program called “The Blues”. The program teaches you how to umpire and gives you a good understanding of the rules. It is open to adults as well as children over the age of 13. Participants umpire most Saturdays in teams of 3 or 4 with an experienced senior umpire.

- Sign up sheet will be on the Notice Board near both canteens from week 1
- There will be rules sessions as well – the time of these has not been decided as yet
- The program will start week 4

Coaching courses:

- Level 1 on Wed 20/9/17 at 6pm – 9:30pm Abbott Rd cost is \$100, need to email name, club, mobile details to Flora flora.mwsasecretary@gmail.com
- Level 2 after Round 4 – expression of interest email to Flora flora.mwsasecretary@gmail.com (5 interested so far)

Scoring courses:

- Level 1 – week of round 4 (Oct 15 to 20) date to be confirmed. Must register BEFORE the night email Doug on doug@mwsa.com.au
- Level 2 – expression of interest email to Flora flora.mwsasecretary@gmail.com (6 interested so far)