

MLS FORFEIT POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Please read the following information to understand Major League Softball's policy on Forfeits and ways to prevent them on the fields. Let's face it, most folks just want to come out & play ... and we want everyone to have fun as well, so we are making every effort to prevent forfeits while remaining **FAIR** and **CONSISTENT**.

STANDARD ELIGIBILITY & FORFEIT RULES:

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY AND LEGAL/ILLEGAL PLAYERS

1. Each player is required to personally sign the official line-up form before they are eligible to play in any MLS Adult Softball League game. Manager's **MAY NOT** sign for their players. Everyone must sign for himself or herself. **DO NOT PUT PLAYERS ON THE LINEUP THAT HAVE NOT YET ARRIVED.**
 2. Each team shall be allowed to roster a maximum of 20 players. All players must be at least 18 years of age.
 3. Late arrivals must visit the scorekeeper's station to check in and they may be added to the **BOTTOM** of the lineup.
 4. If a player's name is listed on two (2) rosters, whichever team that player actually plays on first will be their legal team.
*I.E. if you play **ILLEGALLY** in a game under an assumed name you **CAN NOT** play for your "Rostered" team later that day.*
 5. All players must be able to produce some form of positive picture identification at each game. In the event a manager wants to protest a game because he believes the opposing team is fielding a player or players that are not legally rostered, he may request an Identification Check before the game begins or during the player's first plate appearance.
- NOTE:** MLS Officials may request Photo I.D. at **any** point in the game if they feel a player is not who they have represented themselves to be (Umpires, Scorekeepers or League Directors).
6. A team may start and finish a game with eight (8) **LEGALLY ROSTERED** players ... in coed you **must have** four (4) males and four (4) females. If at any time you fall below the required minimum of 8 the game will be declared a **FORFEIT**.
 7. There will be a ten (10) minute grace period for ALL games. Any time used for the grace period will be subtracted from the official game clock.
 8. A team that does not submit its line up card **AND** Official's Fees/Registration Fees to the official scorer at least five (5) minutes before game time will be subject to forfeiting the game.

*** NOTE:** all Registration Fee balances must be paid in full by the 3rd game of each season or your team will **FORFEIT** and be placed on suspension from further play until cleared up.

FORFEITS & FORFEIT FEES

1. A **FORFEIT** will be called if, at the end of the allowed 10 min grace period, you do not have the required minimum of 8 **LEGALLY ROSTERED** players. **UMPIRES & SCOREKEEPERS WILL NOT WORK FORFEITED GAMES**

FORFEIT FEES: Teams will be responsible for paying a \$40 forfeit fee after each game it forfeits, due to insufficient number of legal players at game time. The forfeit fee must be paid on the field at the time of forfeit, if not paid at that time the fee will be **\$55 due BEFORE the team's next scheduled game**. If the forfeit fee is not paid as defined above the team will forfeit its next game as well & be suspended from the league or **DROPPED**. The forfeit fine will not be imposed if a team has enough players to start a game, yet forfeits during the course of the game. Games that have begun, yet due to circumstances, cannot be completed due to forfeiture, will have all of the players' statistics recorded. Any team that forfeits more than two (2) games may be dropped from the league. The forfeit fee will be waived* if the forfeiting team notifies Major League Softball, Inc. by 3:00 p.m. on or before the day of the game. (***middle games do not qualify for waived fees as our officials are still required to be present to officiate the games before & after and must be compensated for their time.**) (Forfeit fee increase effective Summer 2009)

