



Fall 2026 MTBSA Softball Program Descriptions

Manheim Township Baseball and Softball Association offers three age levels for Fall Softball with an emphasis on skill development and preparation for Spring play while having fun and making friends playing softball. All interested players are welcome at every level regardless of experience.

The Fall 10U-14U programs participate in Susquehanna Valley Fall Fastpitch Softball, which is sponsored by the Susquehanna Valley Umpire's Association (SVUA) and uses the same rules and protocols as the Lanco Youth Softball League in the spring.

MTBSA travel teams should not be confused with weekend tournament teams: as in the spring, travel is restricted to Lancaster county-based softball fields. The league prioritizes geographically smart scheduling, so 'travel' for MT teams typically means games with/at nearby school districts. MT Softball 'travel' does not mean several weekends away per month as it may with other associations, leagues, or sports.

The number of teams and roster placements will be determined by the number of registrants. Team head coaches will announce assignments and practice dates in mid-August and teams will practice one or two weeknight(s) in addition to the games.

Game Schedules for 10U-14U will be released by SVUA in late August. Games are scheduled either Saturdays or Sundays in September and October and typically played as doubleheaders: a 90-minute game, a short break, and another 90-minute game. There are no team rankings or playoffs in the Fall season and tournament options are very limited.

Uniforms will consist of an MTBSA supplied team shirt and socks. Players will be required to supply their own grey pants.

Players will need to supply their own softball mitt and fielding mask if desired and are of course welcome to use their own equipment such as bats and helmets. MTBSA does have these available for players to borrow for the season if needed. MTBSA will also supply each team catching gear and other equipment necessary to learn and play each position.

Players and parents will be required to review, sign, and honor the MTBSA Code of Conduct commitment and a Medical/Photography release form.



MTBSA 2026 Fall Softball Registration Fees:

<u>AGE GROUP</u>	<u>FEE</u>
10U Travel	\$100.00
12U Travel	\$100.00
14U Travel	\$100.00

Softball Programs:

<i>program</i>	<i>player age range</i>	<i>type of play</i>	<i>find details</i>
8U	See chart below	Introductory/Developmental	p. 3
10U	See chart below	Developmental-to-Competitive (Travel)	p. 4
12U	See chart below	Competitive (Travel)	p. 5
14U	See chart below	Competitive (Travel)	p. 6

**Please note:* Fall Softball players should register for the age group in which they intend to play in the Spring 2027 season. The age division chart used by SVUA, Lanco Youth Softball League, and USA Softball is as follows:

2027 USA Softball Age Chart



Match month (top line) and box with year of birth. The player's age and division is indicated on the right.

SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	AGE	DIVISION
2020	2020	2020	2020	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021	2021	5	6U
2019	2019	2019	2019	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	2020	6	6U
2018	2018	2018	2018	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	2019	7	8U
2017	2017	2017	2017	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	8	8U
2016	2016	2016	2016	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	9	10U
2015	2015	2015	2015	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	10	10U
2014	2014	2014	2014	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	11	12U
2013	2013	2013	2013	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	12	12U
2012	2012	2012	2012	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	13	14U
2011	2011	2011	2011	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	14	14U
2010	2010	2010	2010	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	15	16U
2009	2009	2009	2009	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	16	16U
2008	2008	2008	2008	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	17	18U
2007	2007	2007	2007	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	18	18U

NOTE: This age chart is for USA Softball, and only for the 2027 season.



8U: 8 & Under – *Developmental/Introductory*

The 8U program introduces softball to girls with limited or no softball experience: we begin with a series of clinics and practices and then play a few games versus other LANCO Youth teams with a fall 8U Softball program (not all do). Emphasis is placed on learning fundamentals in a positive and fun learning environment.

A few practice/schedule/equipment details:

- Practices will be a combination of drills/fundamentals and short scrimmages
- All sessions are led by MTBSA volunteer coaches who make every effort to ensure equal playing time for each player
- Balls are a smaller, softer-type softball ideal for small hands and limited impact
- Softball gloves are required for each player
- Softball face masks are optional for each player, but highly recommended for infield positions, especially pitcher and 3rd. base
- Bats and batting helmets will be supplied by MTBSA for players that don't have their own

A few gameplay details:

- Games are officiated by coaches
- Team coaches do all the pitching to their own players (or players use a tee)
- All players bat regardless of field assignments
- Players typically rotate field positions every inning
- Each inning is played to either five runs or three outs, whichever comes first



10U: 10 & Under – *Developmental-to-Competitive*

The 10U softball program is intended to solidify softball fundamentals, further develop individual skills, and acclimate players to competitive play managed by an independent umpire. 10U is where pitching and catching skills are developed, and players interested in either are strongly encouraged to begin working on these skills independently.

A few practice/schedule/equipment details:

- Practices will be a combination of drills/fundamentals and short scrimmages
- All sessions are led by MTBSA volunteer coaches who make every effort to ensure equal playing time for each player
- Balls are standard size/density softballs
- Softball gloves are required for each player
- Softball face masks are optional for each player, but highly recommended for infield positions, especially P, 1B, and 3B.
- Bats and batting helmets will be supplied by MTBSA for players that don't have their own

A few gameplay details:

- Games are officiated by members of the Susquehanna Valley Umpire's Association
- Players pitch to each other until the ball is batted into play, the player strikes out, or four balls are called, at which point offensive team coaches pitch to their own players until the ball is batted into play or the player strikes out (no walks)
- Excessively wild pitchers can be removed at the umpire's discretion
- Each inning is played to either five runs or three outs, whichever comes first



12U: 12 & Under – *Competitive*

The 12U softball program is intended to build upon softball fundamentals and enable players to become proficient at one or two fielding positions, develop team play strategies, and compete at higher level under close officiating. Developing pitching and catching proficiency is a 12U objective, and players interested in either are strongly encouraged to develop these skills independently.

A few practice/schedule/equipment details:

- Practices will be a combination of drills/fundamentals and short scrimmages
- All sessions are led by MTBSA volunteer coaches who make every effort to ensure equal playing time for each player
- Standard softballs are used in both practices and gameplay
- Softball gloves are required for each player
- Softball face masks are optional for each player, but highly recommended for infield positions, especially P, 1B, and 3B.
- Bats and batting helmets will be supplied by MTBSA for players that don't have their own

A few gameplay details:

- Seven-inning games are officiated by members of the Susquehanna Valley Umpire's Association
- Players pitch to each other under typical three strike/four ball rules
- Excessively wild pitchers can be removed at the umpire's discretion
- Each inning is played to either five runs or three outs, whichever comes first, except for the seventh inning, which is unlimited runs/three outs



14U: 14 & Under – *Competitive*

The 14U softball program is the highest level of softball before players enter the High School program, and expectations of players time and effort are higher. Emphasis is placed on winning games as a team and elevating individual skills in the field, on the mound, and in the batter's box. Games are very competitive.

A few practice/schedule/equipment details:

- All sessions are led by MTBSA volunteer coaches who make every effort to appropriate playing time for each player
- Standard softballs are used in both practices and gameplay
- Softball gloves are required for each player
- Softball face masks are optional for each player, but highly recommended for infield positions, especially P, 1B, and 3B.
- Bats and batting helmets will be supplied by MTBSA for players that don't have their own

A few gameplay details:

- Games are officiated by members of the Susquehanna Valley Umpire's Association
- Players pitch to each other under typical three strike/four ball rules