

# Mid-Atlantic Baseball Association Annual Meeting 2021

## League Contacts:

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\* The above list will be updated as the positions are filled.

**\$700 Fulltime and 8U Sunday**  
**\$700.00 For Weeknight Only Division (With Tournament)**  
**\$235.00 For Weeknight Only Division (No Tournament)**

(No team will be included on any schedule if their full fees are not paid in full)

## **Mailing Address:**

M.A.B.A.  
P.O. Box 573  
Ellicott City, MD 21041

**We have a Facebook page, "like us" to keep current on  
important notices.**

## **Important Dates:**

(1) February 1st 2021 --Registration closes, full payment is due.

**No team will be included on any schedule if their full fees are not paid in full!**

(2) February 1st 2021– Schedule writing begins, last day for refund consideration.

(3) February 28<sup>th</sup> 2021 – Field availability is due.

(4) All age groups 13 and under will start official games on or about April 10th. The 14U age division will start official games on or about May 19th. All High School age groups (16 and 18, 22) will start official games right after the High School season ends (In the event that the High School season is cancelled due to Covid, we will start the season earlier). In the event that fields are closed due to Covid, we will adjust the schedule accordingly.

## **Notes For 2021**

- (1) All age groups 14 and up will be required to use BBCOR certified bats. All age groups 8-13 may use 2 ¼”, 2 5/8”, and 2 3/4” barrel bats. We no longer have any barrel restrictions for these age groups.
- (2) As in the past, the season for all age groups 14 and up will be extended into July. Because of scheduling nightmares in the older age groups driven by the Maryland High School tournament, we will start the league for all divisions 14 and older a little later in May and will extend the season to July 10<sup>th</sup>. We will not schedule games for Memorial Day weekend or the weekend of July 4<sup>th</sup> to allow teams the opportunity to attend outside tournament should they desire. This will allow us to schedule more games with more flexibility.
- (3) M.A.B.A. will continue to ask for a forfeit bond of \$125.00 (paid in addition to the league fee). We have done everything possible to avoid having to collect a forfeit bond in the past however many of our members that have been burned by someone else forfeiting a game have rightfully asked us to require a bond. While the number of teams that have declared forfeits in the past are minimal, the fact that forfeits skew the standings, offer another team a win without using a pitcher and take away a scheduled game from an innocent team dictates that it has become necessary. The Forfeit Bond will be refunded to all teams that play within the rule set following the season. If desired it can be applied to fall ball registration or used toward the following years forfeit bond.
- (4) The days of play will continue to be the same as 2020, labeled above.

- (5) M.A.B.A. will no longer be arranging umpires for groups 13 and up. We will have an approved list of umpire groups to choose from in the Handouts Section of the site. Please familiarize yourself with the penalties for umpire no-shows located in the Policies and Procedures.
- (6) For 2021 M.A.B.A. will put a limit of 16 on the number of players to be rostered on any one team.
- (7) In 2021, no changes to the base rule sets, the ON-Field Rules or the Policies and Procedures will be allowed at the pre-game meeting.
- (8) Intentional Walks - 12U & under simply declare the IBB and hitter takes first. 13U & Up –pitcher must deliver 4 pitches.
- (9) M.A.B.A. will require players to have Government issued photo ID at EACH GAME to display to game official. This will eliminate any chance of illegal players. Any DMV location (including express can provide the ID.)
- (10) When there is an “Excessive heat advisory” – M.A.B.A. will mandate a 2-game maximum for a day.
- (11) Whenever thunderstorms are in the area of any game or event, M.A.B.A. policy is to immediately GET THE PLAYERS, COACHES and FANS off the field and to safety. That means under cover, not running around a parking lot or anywhere near the field. We urge the use of an emergency weather app such as Weatherbug which has an alert setting indicating lightning in the area. Safety comes first at all times -- Have an enjoyable season but please use common sense on the field. No victory is worth jeopardizing the safety of any players or fans.

**Handouts** -- (available in the Handouts section of the website)

- (1) Coaches Handbook
- (2) On-Field Rules
- (3) Policies and Procedures
- (4) Approved Umpire Company List

**Communication:**

- (1) Email: each team needs to provide an email contact for communications from the league.
- (2) All schedule changes (offers) and information discussed between coaches should be made via email so that there is a valid means of verification.
- (3) M.A.B.A. has a Facebook site. The fastest means of communication is if you have “Liked Us” on Facebook, the notifications are instantaneous. Your kids can help you out on this one.

## **M.A.B.A. Tournaments:**

- (1) Tournament hosts **MUST** be secured by June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- (2) Teams that wish to participate in the EOS tournament must confirm with the age group coordinator by June 1<sup>st</sup>. The coordinators will reach out to you.
- (3) We will try to have tentative tournament dates available by December 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - This is dependent on field availability.
- (4) Tees have to be ordered **BY THE CUTOFF**, or no order can be filled.
- (5) Teams can opt out of the M.A.B.A. tournament but please **do not** try and play simultaneously in another event.
- (6) M.A.B.A. will use the AABC format (random seeds).

## **Outside Tournaments:**

Where **POSSIBLE**, we will **TRY** to accommodate teams wishing to play in a couple (we cannot possibly do multiple events) of tournaments during the season. What we will do is **TRY** to pair you against another team asking for the same weekend off when we can. However, we have to write balanced schedules which can make this impossible; all M.A.B.A. teams are expected to play all scheduled games. Teams that abandon scheduled games in M.A.B.A. will not be allowed to return - this year, we have already turned away 11 teams for violating that policy in 2020. We do not in any way make any guarantee that all requests can be accommodated. However, when we are made aware of the request in advance, the vast majority can be taken care of. In the event that we can't write the schedule around a request, we ask that you attempt to work together to reschedule the game. No team is required to honor a request to reschedule due to an outside tournament. We purposely do not schedule games on Easter Sunday, Memorial Day or July 4<sup>th</sup> to allow teams to go to outside events. In addition, all age groups 13 and under will be done by July 1<sup>st</sup> allowing the entire month for tournament scheduling.

## **Rosters**

For many years various organizations had asked that we allow their players to participate in Ripken games needed for their World Series qualification. We began allowing participation in Ripken qualification games in 2008. Then in recent years, so many high school coaches started forcing kids to participate on specific teams in the summer months (often only a handful of games during or after the M.A.B.A. season) in 2016 felt that we had to adjust additional rules of rostering under **four specific circumstances** for exception.

- (1) A High School Sponsored team.
- (2) A Showcase team (or tournament).
- (3) League games that are required for Ripken qualification.
- (4) League games that are required for Little League qualification.
- (5) Teams participating in an Elite M.A.B.A. sponsored tournament.

Teams that have players participating outside of M.A.B.A. seeking an exception under any of those conditions are required to notify M.A.B.A. upfront of their desire, the players involved and the games involved **prior to the start of the season**. In addition, the exception has to involve an entire team, not just individual player's so that we can ensure that teams are not using specific players only under specific circumstances (ringers). That way, we can monitor the situation and make certain that the spirit of the rostering rules is upheld.

## **Insurance**

All M.A.B.A. teams are required to have M.A.B.A. named as an Additional Insured and named as a Certificate Holder on their insurance policy. No team will be permitted to participate in any M.A.B.A. event without a certificate on file with the league office (example is in the Coaches Handbook).

## **Equipment Notes:**

- (1) No Jewelry (Cloth fighting necklaces with a breakaway are OK).
- (2) It is **STRONGLY RECCOMENDED** that all base coaches wear protective headgear. (It is not an M.A.B.A. rule).

(3) It is **STRONGLY RECCOMENDED** that catchers wear one piece headgear, (It is not an M.A.B.A. rule).

**Ejections:**

All Ejections will require a 2-game suspension. This means that the person ejected will not be at the next (2) games (special rule for players). This includes players, coaches, and spectators. There are NO EXCEPTIONS to this policy. Multiple ejections or a very severe incident can result in removal from the league.

**Covid Restrictions:**

In the event that fields are closed due to Covid, the schedules will be adjusted accordingly. All teams must submit required Covid Waivers prior to their first game.

**Days of Play:**

Div/Age	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
Sunday Only							Single
Fulltime							
8			Single				Single
9			Single				Single
10				Single			Double
11			Single				Double
12				Single			Double
13			Single				Double
14		Single		Single			Double
16	Single		Single			Double	
18		Single		Single			Double
22	Single		Single			Double	

## 2.0 Equipment Rules

Age Group	Bats	Cleats	Balls
8U-10U	2 1/4", 2 3/4", 2 5/8" <u>No Double Wall</u>	Rubber	Any ball stamped "Little League," "Official Pony League," or "Official Babe Ruth League"
11U-12U	2 1/4", 2 3/4", 2 5/8" Barrel * <u>No Double Wall</u>	Rubber	Any ball stamped "Little League," "Official Pony League," or "Official Babe Ruth League"
13U	2 1/4", 2 3/4", 2 5/8" Barrel * <u>No Double Wall</u>	Rubber or Metal	Any ball stamped "NFHS"
14U-18U	2 5/8" barrel, -3 weight restriction BBCOR Certified.	Rubber or Metal	Any ball stamped "NFHS"
22U	Wood Bats Only	Metal	Any ball stamped "NFHS"