

## MS Rec Playing Rules - Spring 2026

<b>Base Distance</b> - 60 feet	<b>Pitching Distance</b> - 40 feet	<b>Ball Size</b> - 12" hard, new ball each game	<b>Standings Kept</b> - 3/22
<b>Game Time Limit:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Six innings with no new inning to be started after 90 minutes, finish the current inning (soft stop 90 minutes).</li><li>• 3 full innings minimum. The new inning is considered started as soon as the 3rd out is called in the previous inning. (USA Rules also allow an umpire to add additional time if a team attempts to delay a game.)</li><li>• The game only reverts back to the previous completed inning if game is called due to darkness.</li><li>• Championship Game: 6 complete innings (no time limit, if game goes extra innings pitching/catching limits reset)</li></ul>			
<b>Run Limit:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Innings 1-3: Five run cap per inning</li><li>• Innings 4+: Unlimited</li><li>• If up 10 runs after completion of 5th inning, game will end</li></ul>			
<b>Offense:</b> Batting is continuous <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bunting - Yes</li><li>• No dropped 3rd strike</li><li>• No Infield Fly Rule</li><li>• No Commit Line</li><li>• <b>Stealing:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Runners may advance when ball leaves pitcher's hand</li><li>○ <b>Sportsmanship Rule:</b> NO stealing home when leading by 7 runs</li><li>○ <b>Sliding</b> - Yes</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Courtesy Runner:</b> For catcher, pitcher or injured player only. Must be the player that made the last recorded out, if no outs, revert to prior inning. The injured player <u>must</u> bat and make it to 1<sup>st</sup> base.</li></ul>			
<b>Overthrow Rule</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• USA Rule: As long as the ball is in play, baserunners can advance until the ball is returned to the pitcher in the <u>pitcher's circle</u>.</li></ul>			
<b>Defense:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Standard 9 players on the field</li><li>• Player <b>MUST NOT</b> sit out more than 1 inning per game during regular season (5th inning will reset sitting limits)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Players <b>MUST NOT</b> sit out more than 2 innings per game during playoffs.</li></ul></li><li>• <b>All players must play 1 full inning at an infield position by the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> inning.</b></li><li>• Managers to exchange line-ups at umpire plate meetings.</li></ul>			
<b>Pitching Limits:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pitching - 2 innings max in the first 4 innings per game<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ 1 pitch constitutes an inning</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Playoffs Pitching:</b> Max 4 innings per game.</li><li>• Pitchers <b>MUST</b> wear a mask - mandatory</li><li>• Pitchers must start each pitch with their (throwing arm) foot on the rubber.</li></ul>			
<b>Catching Limits:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Catching - three innings per game</li><li>• <b>Playoffs Catching:</b> 4 innings max per game.</li></ul>			
<b>Umpires:</b> USA umpire, Jr umpire			
<b>Managers/Coaches/Dugout Moms/Parent Helpers -</b> <p>All must have a background check and a lanyard visible to be on the field or in the dugout. Board Members will excuse any person without their lanyards. NO EXCEPTIONS!!</p>			