

BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL BY-LAWS

1. The Flint Metro League baseball and softball teams should play a single round of double headers on Mondays and Thursdays, and finish before the state tournament pre-district play begins.
2. In case the first game of a varsity League game double header is completed, but the second game is stopped and not a complete game, it should be completed on another day from the start of suspension, and not started again from the first inning. If game is rained out, the next date is automatically the make up date at the original home site. If on the next date the home varsity site is unplayable but the away site is playable, the original away site will be used for the varsity game(s), keeping the original home team in all other respects. (i.e. batting last, paying for umpires, etc.)
3. If a game is called and one team is ahead after five (5) innings of play, the game is complete.
4. Scorebooks should be carefully compared at the end of each game before leaving the field. The home book is official.
5. Softball and baseball are to play the 10-run mercy rule after 5 innings of play and 15-run mercy rule after 3 innings of play.
6. There will be no time limit for freshman and junior varsity ball games. 7 innings will be played in the first game and 5 innings in the second game. The International Tiebreaker Rule will be used for all sub-varsity games. (For one inning, the last official batter of the previous inning goes to second base and the inning and game continues.)
7. Any postponed games affecting championships must be played.
8. Base line coaches must be in uniform. (baseball only)
9. Junior varsity baseball and softball are the same schedule as varsity at the opposite site as varsity games. Freshman teams play at the same site as junior varsity teams one day later.
10. Baseball and Softball: The home team is to be the home team for both games of a double header.

11. Pre-game Warm-Up Schedule

Home team batting practice: 20 minutes - 1 hour and 5 minutes before game time.
Visiting team batting practice: 20 minutes - 45 minutes before game time.
Home team infield practice: 10 minutes - 25 minutes before game time.
Visiting team infield practice: 10 minutes - 15 minutes before game time.
Ground rules with umpires: 5 minutes before game time.

12. All Flint Metro League selections for baseball and softball will be as follows:

- A. The athletic director in charge will arrange a meeting of all head coaches to select All-Metro First and Second Teams. The chairperson or his/her appointee will be in attendance.
- B. The statistics that are needed that should be kept for All League nominees are: (From only League games)

Regular

Official at bats
Runs scored
Hits
Batting average
Runs batted in
Home runs
Three base hits
Two base hits
Stolen bases
Errors
Attempts

Pitcher Statistics

Games won
Games lost
Strike outs
Walks
Hits given up
Innings pitched
Earned runs
Earned run average
(Figured on 7 innings)

Catcher Statistics

Runners Thrown Out
Steals Against

- C. Only League game statistics will be used to determine all-League players.
- D. Players considered for All League selections must have played in that position at least seven (7) League games. (One less than half the League games.)

E. The positions are:

First Team

3 Pitchers
4 Infielders
2 First Baseman
2 Catchers
4 Outfielders
2 At-Large Players
17 Players

Second Team

2 Pitchers
3 Infielders
1 First Baseman
1 Catcher
3 Outfielders

10 Players

First team selections receive gold medals and second team selections receive silver medals. (17 gold medals and 10 silver medals)

F. Voting Procedures for All-League

1. All First Team nominees receive 2 points; all Second Team nominees receive 1 point. (2-2-2, 1-1-1)
2. All League Honorable Mention
 - a. Players must receive at least one vote to be recognized as Honorable Mention All-League.
 - b. Each school will also receive 1 wild card selection for Honorable Mention.

G. The chairman will get all information and final standings to the news media.

13. All Baseball/Softball double-headers will only begin when the projected 4:00 pm “Real Feel” temperature at the host school location is 39 degrees or above. A decision will be made by the Athletic Directors by 1:00 pm on game day.

PERTINENT GENERAL BYLAWS FOR ALL F.M.L. SPORTS

1. In case of a school being closed due to inclement weather, all non-varsity events may be postponed or canceled. The playing of all varsity or combined varsity and JV matches will be determined by the athletic director and administration of the schools involved.

2. Noise making devices, including the human voice, will not be allowed to be used in an unsportsmanlike manner. The home team management will have the right to remove any such object, or person, from the sporting activity.
3. The Flint Metro League takes the position that the practice of good sportsmanship is essential and that all members should adopt a common policy. Member schools are expected to implement a plan to promote responsible behavior by fans and all persons associated with athletics. It is suggested that schools use contest programs, the media, bulletins, and meetings as a means for promoting good sportsmanship. Member schools should also have plans for the monitoring of home and away contests and for dealing with those persons who violate the principles of responsible behavior.
4. During league competitions and tournaments, the host school administration, the sport administrator, and/or designee of either, is charged with the authority to act on any situation that might arise that is not covered herein.
5. Home school will contact league-approved media to report contest results.
6. Grievance and Protest Procedure:
 - A. All protests must use the following procedure:
 1. The principal/designee of the protesting school will notify the League president and its opponent(s) by phone the following school day of the intent to protest.
 2. All violations and protests will be directed to the League president in writing. This protest must be done in writing by a school administrator within 72 hours of the event.
 3. The League president will appoint a three member committee of non-involved schools to determine whether the protest is valid and make a recommendation for a course of action to be voted on by the conference membership not involved in the protest.
 - B. Courses of action possible when a violation is determined and a protest is upheld include:
 1. Letter of censure (duplicate will be sent to each member

school and any game official who may have been involved)

2. Forfeiture of League contest(s)
3. Probation for one year in the sport involved
4. Ineligibility for championships (such ineligibility to be in the sport involved only, for one year only, and the year involved to be determined by the membership); no all-sports points awarded that year
5. Other courses of action as deemed appropriate to the violation

- C. All contests in which an ineligible player or players are used shall be forfeited and the score be that of a forfeited contest. This includes League championship tournaments.
 - D. If use of an ineligible player or players by a League champion is determined, and forfeitures under section C above prevent a team from maintaining its championship, the championship for that sport for that year will be awarded to the second-place team and All Sports Award points adjusted accordingly. In the event of co-championships, the remaining championship team would maintain its championship.
7. The only League awards to be made in any sport are the ones sanctioned by the League.
 8. The FML will NOT recognize an MVP athlete for each sport.
 9. Each varsity sport will be allowed a Coach of the Year selection. That coach will be presented a certificate.
 10. If a coach or designated representative is not present at an All-League voting meeting, athletes from that school are not eligible for All-League recognition beyond honorable mention.

11. To receive FML honors, an athlete has to finish the season in good standing. The definition of “good standing” is to finish the season on the team and meet minimum requirements for that sport’s awards.