

2025 Kansas City Men's Senior Baseball League Official Rules

For the 2025 Kansas City Men's Senior Baseball League (KCMSBL) season, the following rules have been adopted by the managers of each league and approved by the KCMSBL Board for use during the 2025 season. All rules are valid for regular and post-season play, unless specifically noted within this rule set.

The foundation for all league rules is the Men's Senior Baseball League (MSBL) National and Tournament Guidelines. These can be accessed at the following link: [MSBL National Rules](#)

Below are the rule sets for each specific league. These rules apply only to the league they are assigned, and either replace or supersede the MSBL National and Tournament Guidelines, with the exception of the "2025 Rules for ALL Leagues" which apply to all 2025 KCMSBL Leagues.

2025 Rules for ALL Leagues

1. Protests

1. All protests require a \$200 non-refundable fee. This fee must be paid prior to review by the KCMSBL Board. Should a protest be ruled in the protesting party's favor, a \$200 credit will be applied to that team's fees for the following season.
2. A protest must be submitted by the team manager and sent directly to both the Commissioner and Co-Commissioner via email.
3. All protests are reviewed by the KCMSBL Board, and all decisions are final.
4. All protests will be addressed in a timely manner, and the KCMSBL Board reserves the right to take as much time as is required to properly review and provide a decision within the current season including post-season.

2. Modifications to Rules

1. The KCMSBL Board reserves the right to adjust rules as it deems necessary.
2. Any and all modifications to the rules shall be posted immediately and communicated to League Directors for dissemination to their respective managers and players.
3. At the request of players, managers, and/or League Directors, the KCMSBL Board will accept and review any suggested rule change requests within the current season. In order for the rule to be accepted, a unanimous vote by managers within the league in question must occur. All other rules requests will be addressed following the completion of the current year post-season in preparation for the following season.

3. Code of Conduct

1. Each individual who is present at a KCMSBL sanctioned event is required to adhere to the Code of Conduct set forth in these rules. In addition to the KCMSBL Code of Conduct, each individual must adhere to the facility's code of conduct.
 - i.1. Code of Conduct violations will be adjudicated by the KCMSBL Board and

punishment will be levied based on the severity of the violation.

2. General Code of Conduct

i.1. All individuals present at a KCMSBL sanctioned event are expected to:

1.1. Adhere to KCMSBL and facility rules, regulations, and guidelines.

2.1. Act in a manner that properly represents KCMSBL.

3.1. Provide and encourage an environment devoid of discrimination and harassment of all types.

ii.1. Electronic and Social Media

1.1. KCMSBL sanctioned teams are encouraged to utilize various platforms to share their experiences through KCMSBL on the platform of their choice. Use of specific KCMSBL intellectual and electronic property, such as logos, is allowed if a team is approved to do so by the KCMSBL board.

a.1. A request is not required to “tag” social media accounts associated with KCMSBL.

2.1. Should an electronic post or physical communication be made that violates the Code of Conduct, KCMSBL reserves the right to request removal of said post or communication and pursue action with the respective platform and/or authorities.

4. Ejections and Suspensions

1. All ejections will be reported to the KCMSBL Board by the officials involved, and the officials will provide a detailed account of the ejection.

2. All ejections will be reviewed by the KCMSBL Board to determine appropriate length of suspension. Each case will be reviewed on an individual basis. 3. If an attendee at the game is ejected, who is not a rostered player or team staff member, they will be automatically barred from attending a KCMSBL sanctioned event for a minimum of two weeks.

5. Time Limits

1. Each league's games will follow these time limit rules:

i.1. After 2:15, no new inning shall start unless the teams are tied.

ii.1. At 2:30, the game is considered over.

2. Fall Ball

a. After 1:45, no new inning shall start regardless if tied.

b. At 2:00, the game is over.

6. Ties

1. The California Rule

i.1. If both teams are tied after 7 innings or after the time limit (2:15) has expired, the California Rule is applied at the beginning of the top of the next inning. ii.1. The offensive team places a runner at second base, and one out is applied against the offensive team.

1.1. The runner at second base must be the preceding batter in the lineup.

- 2.1. If the preceding batter was injured or is a non-runner, the last batter out or a rostered player who has not entered the game may be used.
 - iii.1. The remainder of the half inning shall be played following standard rules, and after the third out is retired, then the defensive team will switch to offense. This team shall now follow the above rules in the bottom of the inning.
 - iv.1. The California Rule shall be repeated until a winner is decided, or the “drop dead” time limit is reached.
2. Regular season
 - i.1. At the conclusion of 7 innings or time limit (2:15), the next inning will begin with the California Rule and will continue until the “drop dead” time of 2:30 is reached.
3. Post-Season
 - i.1. *This section is incomplete and will be completed prior to August 1st, 2025*

65+ Wood Bat League

1. All exemptions allowed by the previous Commissioner are grandfathered in.
 1. This includes Joel Becker, who is under 60.
 2. Ed Young is unable to participate this year, so he will not be on the Cardinals roster.
 3. Due to the number of grandfathered exemptions, the Cardinals are unable to add any players under 65 this season unless agreed to by a majority of the other teams in the league.
2. League Age Rules
 1. This will be a 65+ league with exemptions.
 2. All age calculations are done by calendar year. For example, if a player turns 65 on December 31st, 2025, he is considered a 65+ player; if a player turns 60 on December 31st, he is eligible to be an Exemption as a 60 year old.
 3. Each team is allowed four exemptions aged 60-64; those players must turn 60 within this calendar year. All new exemptions must be reported to and approved by the League Office.
 4. Throughout the season there may be roster changes that include adding exemptions. Any and all of these changes must be reported to and approved by the League Office.
3. Pitching
 1. There are no pitching limits this season; we will use the 2024 rules.
4. Bunting
 1. Bunting is allowed in all games, unless managers agree on disallowing bunting at the plate meeting. Both managers must be in agreement and this will be recorded by the umpire.

2. Should a player attempt to bunt when both managers have agreed to disallow bunting, this will be treated as a Dead Ball Strike. If the batter has two strikes on him, this will be recorded as an out. All runners will return to their current base as though this was a Foul Ball.
5. Stealing Bases/Advancing on a Passed Ball
 1. Runners are allowed to steal 2nd base, but are not allowed to steal 3rd.
 2. A passed ball is defined as a ball that leaves the home plate circle, or arc.
 3. Any time there is a passed ball, a runner is allowed to advance, rather than be to 2nd, 3rd, or Home.
6. Courtesy Runner Rules
 1. Courtesy runners will be used in this league, and they must be the last batted out.
 2. If a second courtesy runner is needed in an inning, it must be the last batted out previous to the first courtesy runner used in the inning. If other courtesy runners are needed, then they will be the previous batted out to the previous courtesy runner and so forth.
7. Batted Ball to the Outfield
 1. If a batter advances the ball to the outfield grass, he is awarded 1st base and cannot be thrown out by a fielder in his advance to 1st base. Should that batter round 1st base, he can be thrown out as he has now become a runner (standard baseball rules).
 2. Fielders may force out runners at 2nd, 3rd, or Home on the same play, but the batter is awarded 1st base.

45+ Scotty Matteson League

1. Exemptions
 1. Each team is allowed two exemptions under the age of 45.
 - i. Exemptions must be 40 years of age by opening day.
 - ii. Exemptions must be 44 years of age by opening day to be allowed to pitch.

35+ Charlie Holmes League

1. The age for this league is determined by calendar year. If a player's birthday is 12/31/2025, and they turn 30 years of age or older, they are eligible to participate.
2. Exemptions
 1. Each team is allowed three exemptions under the age of 35 years old.
 - i. Exemptions must turn 30 years of age by the end of the current calendar year.
 - ii. There are no pitching restrictions for exemptions.

18+ Federal, Senior League, and Fall Ball Rules

There are no league specific rules. (Except Fall Ball time limit, see above)