



Atlanta MABL Manager Responsibilities, Guidelines and League Policies

Last Revised: February 3, 2018

PREFACE

This book contains a set of league policies as well as responsibilities and guidelines to which all managers in the Atlanta MABL should know and adhere. Since managers organize teams and act as a liaison between their players and the league, managers are held to a higher standard of responsibility and accountability than regular players. As such, managers need to be aware of all the responsibilities that are expected of them by the league, and they need to be prepared with the appropriate knowledge to handle certain situations that they will encounter while performing their duties as manager. This book will provide a reference for all managers to look up such information. Also, this set of guidelines is not meant to re-state the rules in our local or national rulebooks. Instead, these guidelines outline things that will not be found in any of the rules. Therefore, this book is meant to supplement the rule books as information that all managers should know.

To utilize this guide properly, it is intended for a manager to check this guide book first if that manager has a question about anything regarding the league. This guide is to be the first resource used for finding information and answering questions. If this guide does not answer the question, or if there is confusion over a league policy, then that manager may contact a league board member for an explanation or answer.



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GUIDELINES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1 Manager Meetings and Fee Schedule

The Atlanta MABL begins to have manager meetings for the upcoming summer season in December of the previous year. These meetings are of paramount importance for all managers to attend. At these meetings, we will accomplish several goals/tasks:

- Vote in new board members (if necessary)
- Vote for changes to league policies or rules
- Discuss important league business
- Collect money
- General information on teams, fields, tournaments, and games

Most of the meetings will be mandatory – especially the first two or three meetings. After the first manager meeting, the league will meet roughly every two weeks. **At each meeting, an additional \$500 (or more) is due from each team until league fees are paid in full.** All meetings and league communication will be accomplished via email; therefore all managers must make sure that the league has a valid email address along with a cell phone number on file. **In addition, only teams that are current on league fees can vote in manager meetings up to the start of the season.**

2 League Fees

As stated above, each team owes \$500 (or more) at each manager meeting starting from the very first meeting until that team's league fees are paid in full. All fees must be paid in full before the start of the season or that team is in danger of either forfeiting or not playing games until their fee balance is reconciled with the league. Also, a team must have at least 10 players paid by the draft date in order to draft in their appointed draft position; otherwise they fall to the bottom of the draft order.

In terms of paying the league, teams have options. Players can pay their league fees directly to their manager, and the manager can then pay those fees to the league. Also, players can make checks out to the league and hand them to the manager, and the manager can turn those checks in to the league. In addition, players can pay their league fees directly to the league via the league's online PayPal web portal.

2.1 League PayPal Portal

The league's PayPal web portal is located at <http://www.atlantamsbl.com/mablsunday/index.html>. New teams may not yet have their team name listed on the online PayPal web portal, so having the players pay their money to the manager is the only option until their team name is added to the PayPal portal. Note – a player does not need a PayPal account to use this portal. They only need a valid credit card.

IMPORTANT: When a player pays his fees via the online PayPal portal, that player is emailed a receipt from PayPal. **As a manager, you must tell your players to forward this receipt to you.** This is your only proof that the player has actually paid their fees via PayPal. Do not call or email the commissioner asking if a player has paid or asking how many players have paid via PayPal. It is not the commissioner's job to track this for you - it's YOURS. If you want to know if someone

has paid or not, call them yourself. If they cannot produce a PayPal receipt, then they probably have NOT paid online. The commissioner will bring his master list to every meeting which shows who has paid and who has not, but he does not want to receive any calls or emails about this outside of the meetings. You are all managers, and you need to be responsible for tracking your own players. If you have questions about whether or not someone has paid, then it must wait until the next manager meeting.

New Policy – All players who pay their fees via the league PayPal portal must provide their manager with the PayPal receipt and the name of the person who actually paid (if it was a parent or wife, we need to know so we can match the name). No fee will be credited at a manager meeting without receipts.

2.2 Manager Submitting Lump Sum Payment to the League

If a manager wishes to make a payment to the league on behalf of his player, or has personally collected several fees from his players and wants to make a lump sum payment to the league, then it can be done via PayPal. Note – you must have a valid PayPal account to do this. Simply log on to your personal PayPal account and choose to “Send Money”. **IMPORTANT:** when you choose to send money like this, you **MUST** choose the payment type as “Sending money to friends or family”. Do NOT choose “Paying for Goods or Services”. The reason why is because if you choose “Sending money to friends or family”, there is no transaction fee taken out of the payment. Conversely, if you choose “Paying for Goods or Services”, then PayPal deducts a transaction fee from the payment to the league. This means that the league has been shorted money because the entire amount was not received. The manager will be held responsible for paying any transaction fees that are deducted from payments or any other amounts that are shorted to the league for any reason. The PayPal address is AtlantaMABL@aol.com.

2.3 Managers Paying for Players

A player must have his league fee paid before he is eligible to play in any game or league function. If a manager wants to cover a player’s fee and then get reimbursed from that player later, that is between the manager and the player. The league has no authority in policing or upholding any such deals made between players and managers, and the league will not become involved in any efforts to hunt players down to pay back managers. Once the league collects money for a player, regardless of who pays it, that player is considered by the league as being paid and those fees are non-refundable.

2.4 Late Fees – New Policy

A player has until March 10 to submit their league fee in full. After March 10th, a \$25 late fee will be applied to all players (not to each team) whose fees are not paid in full. The online PayPal portal will be adjusted to include the extra \$25 late fee on March 10. This is an incentive to help managers try to collect all league fees prior to the draft.

2.5 Minimum of 15 Paid Players

For the Sunday summer league, the Atlanta MABL collects fees per player – it is not a flat team fee. There is a 15-player minimum roster requirement, but no maximum. Therefore, if a team carries 13 players, then the league must collect fees for at least 15. If a team carries 20 players,

then the league must collect fees for 20 players. Also, a team must have all 15 players paid in full before the fee proration amounts or the drop/add policy can be used.

2.6 Fee Deadlines

Every team must have 13 players paid in full prior to the first game. If a team does not have at least 13 players paid in full by the first game, then they will forfeit week one. Each team must have the 14th and 15th players paid in full by May 1st, or additional forfeits will be assessed by the league. The league has a player pool, and the league will help you if your team needs players. All you have to do is reach out to the league board. The resources are there for you to fill your roster, but it is up to you to use those resources. There is no excuse to reach May 1st and not have 15 fully paid players.

2.7 Non-Refundable and No Discounts for Missed Games

All league fees are non-refundable. There is a fee proration schedule (to be explained later in this document) for players that join later in a season, but for a player that joins at the beginning of the season, that player owes the entire amount of the league fee. There is no special consideration given to a player that plans to miss games or go out of town or quit half way through a season. That is not the league's fault, and the league cannot make special concessions for these situations. Those players still owe the entire league fee.

2.8 Part Time or Occasional Players

There is no such thing as a part time or occasional player. If a player signs up to play baseball, then that player owes the whole applicable league fee regardless of any plans to miss any games.

2.9 League Fee Amount and Structure

The current Sunday league fee for the MABL is **\$275 per player**.

The MABL Sunday league fee structure is always an amount per player, it is never an amount per team. The league must collect a fee from each player on every team, regardless of how many players are on a team's roster. A portion of every player's league fee goes toward an MABL/MSBL national membership fee. This national fee allows that player to receive national membership benefits such as discounts at the MSBL online store and eligibility to regional and national tournaments.

2.10 Fee Proration Schedule

The league has adopted the following fee proration schedule based on a \$275.00 league fee. These prorated amounts only take effect after a team has all 15 spots paid in full. In other words, **every team must have 15 fully paid spots before adding new players with prorated fees.**

- Fees are \$275.00 (full price) until March 10.
- After March 10, fees go up by \$25 to \$300 total.
- Fees are \$300 until 5 games are played.
- After a team plays 5 games, their fee drops to \$200.00 per player.
- After a team plays 9 games, their fee drops to \$140.00 per player.
- After a team plays 14 games, their fee drops the final time to \$120.00 per player.



As previously stated, if a player joins the league at the beginning, then fees are full price, even if they plan to miss any games during the course of the season.

2.11 League Collections for Teams in Arrears

Jeff Travis (league Vice President and Webmaster) will now handle all league fee collections. The league will no longer chase teams down for fees. If you owe fees, forfeits will be handed out.

2.12 Submitting Fees After the Start of the Season

Once the season begins, we will not have any more manager meetings (unless there is a very good reason). With no more meetings, there are no more chances to hand money to the league in person. Therefore, you only options for submitting fees are via PayPal or by mailing a check to Don Pike. The PayPal address is AtlantaMABL@aol.com. All checks should be made out to **Atlanta MABL**. The physical mailing address is:

Atlanta MABL
1803 Corn Road
Smyrna, GA 30080

3 Adding Players/New Players

Teams are allowed to add as many players as they wish to their roster as long as they have a minimum of 15 players. A player is not eligible to play in any game or league function until they have two things completed in the following order:

1. They have ALL of their league fees paid FIRST
 2. They have filled out their online waiver for the current season SECOND
- Note** – an online waiver is not valid unless the league fees are collected in full FIRST.

Please see Atlanta MABL Local rule 3.6 for additional details on this. If a player is added during the season, that manager is encouraged to notify their upcoming opponent of the new addition.

3.1 Deadline to Add Players for Playoff Eligibility

Please see Atlanta MABL Local Rule 8.4 for rules on deadlines for adding players to your roster for playoff eligibility. If a player is added to your roster, that player's league fee is dictated by the current fee proration schedule (explained in section 2.7 above). This player must have both his online waiver completed AND his fees paid before 10:00 PM on the cutoff date to be officially added to the roster. After the cutoff date, all rosters are locked for the playoffs. Additional players can still be added for the remainder of the regular season, but they are not eligible for the playoffs.

4 Player Pool

The league maintains a list of players that have contacted the league who are interested in playing. This list is known as the player pool. If for any reason during the course of the season or before the season



starts, you are in need of an extra player(s); then contact the commissioner via email. Please include what your needs are and what you are looking to find, for example: short stop, preferably an older player, someone from Cobb area, ready to pay his money, etc. A league representative will forward one or several players' contact info to you so that you may contact them.

5 Drop/Add Policy

The league does not give refunds for guys that do not show up. Once money is collected by the league, it is not given back (league fees are non-refundable). If someone quits, they typically want their money back. If the manager has covered that player's fees, then the manager is cheated out of the money for that player if he quits. The Drop/Add policy is intended to allow a team to drop one guy who paid his fees and has never shown up, then pick up a second guy and collect that second guy's fees and use those fees to reimburse the first guy who quit. If the manager is covering all the fees, then the manager does not have to waste money for a guy who never showed up.

Utilizing this policy allows managers to delete a player from their roster and take whatever funds have already been paid for that player and re-allocate those funds toward a different player. The following criteria and stipulations apply to this policy:

1. The drop/add cutoff date is May 1. After this date, the drop/add policy can no longer be used.
2. Regardless as to whether or not a team desires to use the drop/add policy for a player, that team still owes the league the full league fee for at least 15 players. No exceptions.
3. Up through May 1, if a player has played in the league and must discontinue due to a season-ending injury, then the league will evaluate these situations on a case by case basis to determine if he is eligible for the drop/add policy. However, if that player opts to file a claim with the league medical insurance, then that player will not be eligible for the drop/add policy and that player's fees belong to him alone.
4. Other than a player that gets injured as mentioned above, the drop/add policy **ONLY** applies to players that have **not shown up at all**. Once a player has stepped foot on a field for any reason, whether it is to bat, play defense, pitch, coach in a coach's box, or even sitting the bench in the dugout; that player's fees cannot be re-allocated to someone else (not eligible for the drop/add policy).
5. Any player that files a claim with our league insurance for any reason – even if they have never played – is no longer eligible for the drop/add policy and his fees belong to him alone.
6. We submit our national dues on April 1. Therefore, if a player was on a team's roster on April 1, then that team still owes the \$26 national dues for that player. Even if that team wants to drop the player under the drop/add policy, the team will still have to pay the "dropped" player's \$26 national dues as well as the new "add" player's \$26 dues between April 1 and May 1.
7. NOTE: If a team has not yet met the minimum roster requirement or if dropping a player causes a team to fall below the minimum roster requirement, then that team must pick someone up before the drop/add cutoff date to fill the dropped spot. Conversely, if a team wishes to drop a player and that team is already over the minimum roster requirement, then those league fees are still non-refundable. Therefore, that team can either eat those lost fees or find another player to add in that dropped player's place before the drop/add cutoff date.



6 Season Ending Injuries

If the following scenario happens:

- A team has their full 15 players paid or more
- A player has a season-ending injury
- The team does not plan to pick up another player or it is after the drop/add deadline
- That player wants a full or partial refund on their league fees

A player is never entitled to a refund. The league will evaluate these situations on a case by case basis to determine if that player is eligible for any kind of refund. If he receives any refund from the league, he forfeits his ability to use our league medical insurance.

Even if a player has paid his full league fee and gets injured in the first game of the season, and he wants a full refund or the team wants to use the drop/add policy for him to get another player, then that player forfeits his right to use the league medical insurance.

Refunds will ONLY be given to players if their team has at least 15 fully paid players left over after that refund. So if a team has exactly 15 paid players, and someone gets hurt and wants a refund, then that team must find another player and collect that player's fees first before a refund will be given. Teams must maintain at least 15 fully paid players at all times.

7 Illegal Players

Illegal players are defined as players that step foot on a field for a game and violate any one of the following criteria:

1. Have not paid the entirety of their league fees to the league
2. Have not completed an online waiver
3. Do not meet the eligibility requirements for ex-professional players without a manager vote

The requirements for ex-pros are explained in Atlanta MABL Local rule 7. If any team is found to have an illegal player during any game at any time, they will be dealt with very harshly by the commissioner and board. The penalties could include, but are not limited to: steep monetary fines, forfeiture of games, being declared ineligible for playoffs, suspensions for players and managers involved, loss of draft picks, or expulsion from the league.

New Policy: It is up to the individual managers to report illegal players. The league cannot do anything about it unless a manager reports it. It is impossible for the league to police this by itself, so if a manager suspects an illegal player, get that player's name from the other team's lineup (or ask the player himself for his name). Compare it to their online waiver. Report it to the league within 24 hours of the incident if you suspect an illegal player.

8 Online Waivers

All players in the league are responsible for completing an online waiver. These must be completed before that player is allowed to step foot on a field for any league function. Online waivers are legally



binding contracts that release the league of any liability for any accidents or harm to players or property. Online waivers can be completed at:

<http://atlantamsbl.sharepointspace.com/mablsunday/Lists/Rosters/NewForm.aspx> for players that are already on a team. New players that want to complete an online waiver for the open player pool must use a different link for a different form. That link is located on the MABL Sunday home page on the "Links" section to the right.

Managers are responsible for their players' awareness of the verbiage in the waiver disclaimer. Managers should go over the waiver with their players prior to being completed... especially the part which states "no refunds".

New Policy: In the past, we have allowed waivers to be completed while still waiting to collect money. What ends up happening is that players play many games "for free" before their fees are paid. The league cannot function like this. From now on, **fees must be collected FIRST**. A waiver can only be completed AFTER a player is paid in full. If a waiver is completed and league fees don't match, then the last waiver completed will be deleted. If that player plays in a game, then he is an illegal player and the manager will be fined and that game will officially be ruled as a forfeit loss. So, the sequence of a player's eligibility to play is as follows:

1. League fees paid in full FIRST
2. Online waiver completed SECOND
3. Only then can he play in any games

9 Contacting the Commissioner

The following guidelines govern how the commissioner is to be contacted.

9.1 Players May Not Contact the Commissioner – Only Managers

Regular players are NOT allowed to contact the league commissioner – only managers are allowed to contact the commissioner. **If a player on an existing team does contact the commissioner directly for any reason, then the commissioner has the right to fine that manager \$25.** The commissioner has too many other things to worry about in dealing with over 40 managers as well as coaches/athletic directors/community directors plus MABL national; he does not need to deal with individual players and their issues as well. This is what the managers are for. As a manager, it is your job to act as a liaison between your players and the league. Neither the commissioner nor the board members give out the commissioner's phone number or personal email address, but this information is listed on the league website for new players (ONLY FOR NEW PLAYERS THAT WANT TO JOIN THE LEAGUE). It is your job as a manager to make sure that your players know NOT to contact the commissioner directly.

9.2 Calling the Commissioner on Game Day

On Sundays, the commissioner is a player just like everyone else in this league, and he wants to enjoy his baseball game without the burden of handling league issues. Therefore, on Sundays between the hours of 11:00 AM to 7:30 PM, managers can only contact the commissioner for the following reasons:

1. The field where you are supposed to play is locked
2. You have no umpires



3. The other team has not shown up
4. A player was hurt and required medical attention

All other situations can either be handled by you and the other manager on the field or can be taken up with the commissioner after 7:30 PM (such as protests, umpire complaints, reporting fights or bad behavior, etc.).

9.3 Email is Preferred Method of Contact for Non-Immediate Issues

For any issue that is not an immediate issue, email is the preferred method of communication with the commissioner. This is for special requests in terms of scheduling, asking for players, or scheduling make-up games (to be covered later in this guide). This is so that the commissioner can have a written record of any correspondence with managers.

10 Special Schedule Requests

Any special schedule requests must be submitted to the league commissioner (copy the league secretary as well) VIA EMAIL before the “drop dead” meeting. The “drop dead” meeting is the last manager meeting that is held before the schedule is created – all teams are responsible for turning in the remainder of their league fees at this meeting. The league will try to accommodate all special schedule requests, but the league cannot guarantee that all requests will be met. The league will try to accommodate what it can, but if you are stuck with some games that do not meet your special requests, then you will have to find a way to deal with it. Generally, the league will no longer consider special requests after the schedule has been posted.

If you have any special requests or circumstances that arise during the course of the season, such as half of your team will miss a game due to a funeral, or you have decided to go to an MABL tournament one weekend and will miss a regular season game, then please email the commissioner (copy the secretary). If it is last minute, then please call the commissioner to discuss. The league will consider the nature of your request and try to accommodate your team based on the urgency and practicality of your needs.

11 Change of Manager Contact Information

It is the responsibility of every manager to make sure that the league has current/correct contact information for you. If you ever change your cell phone number or email address for any reason, you must notify the league secretary immediately.

12 Make-Up Game Scheduling Protocol

When a game is rained out or otherwise canceled for any reason, the following protocol shall be followed by those managers for scheduling a make-up game. This protocol is an explanation of how to carry out the reschedule policy outlined in Local Atlanta MABL Rule 2.9 which states:

- 2.9. Any game(s) rained out, postponed, or suspended must be rescheduled by the two opposing managers within seven (7) days. Note: the game does not have to be played within the seven (7) day period, only rescheduled.
 - a. If the game is not rescheduled by the seven (7) day mark, it will be rescheduled by the league Commissioner. After this point, the game can only be further rescheduled in the event of a rainout.



- i. If a team cannot play on the date rescheduled by the league Commissioner, it is considered a forfeit for that team. If both teams cannot play on the date rescheduled by the Commissioner, then it will be recorded as a double forfeit.
- b. When opposing managers are rescheduling games, all make-up game dates/times must be agreed upon by both managers in writing via email.
- c. Make-up game requests must be in written form and must be emailed to the league Commissioner with a minimum of ninety six (96) hours advanced notice of the actual game.
 - i. Email request to: <mailto:dpik3163@aol.com> and copy jjboudoin14@gmail.com
- d. ALL make-up games will be nine (9) innings or three (3) hours (including make-up games played on week nights). Managers can agree to seven (7) innings OR three (3) hours at the manager's pre-game meeting at home plate.
- e. Any games that are not made up by August 31 – the league will schedule these at the league's discretion. Rule 2.9.a.i. above applies.

It is up to the managers, not the commissioner to contact each other to determine a date and a time to play the make-up game. If either of the teams involved has a home field, then they can go through their normal channels to schedule the game at their home field. If not, then the commissioner will assign a field for the game once the two managers have agreed upon a date and time.

When the managers are emailing back and forth to each other trying to determine the date and time of the make-up game, DO NOT copy the commissioner or league secretary on these emails. The commissioner and secretary only need to be informed once the date and time has been finalized. They do not want their inboxes filled with unnecessary messages.

Once the date and time have been agreed upon by both managers in email, you must notify both the league commissioner and league secretary in writing via email (you can simply forward the entire email chain between the two managers). There must be confirmation from BOTH managers on this email chain on the agreed upon date and time. If not, the commissioner will not schedule the game.

If for some reason you are trying to reschedule a game and the other manager is being unresponsive or uncooperative, then forward the email chain or your email attempts to the commissioner. The commissioner will take action and will schedule the game on a date/time of your favor.

Only after the commissioner and secretary have been notified of the make-up game date and time (and field if applicable) that has been agreed upon by both managers will the commissioner post the change on the website and schedule umpires.

13 Advertising for Players

As stated in our Atlanta MABL Local rule number 3.10, advertising for individual team tryouts is prohibited between December 1st of the previous year and the date of the league tryout of the new season (typically the first Saturday in March). This is because the league is advertising for its own tryout, and no team should advertise in opposition to the league.

The above rule does not apply if you are put into contact with a new player because they are a friend of someone that you know. If they are introduced to you, then that's fine. The spirit of this rule is meant to keep teams from ADVERTISING for their own open tryout via the internet, signs, flyers, newspaper ads, etc. while the league is advertising at the same time.



There is one caveat to this rule. If your team has a website, and your website has some wording on it that says something like “if you are interested in playing on our team, please fill this form out” or “please call this number”. This is acceptable because you are not advertising for an open tryout – you are just giving potential players a way to contact you. However, if you take a look at a potential new player and decide that you do not want to keep him, the league asks you to direct that player to the league tryout/draft.

PLEASE NOTE: Prior to the league tryout, if a potential new player has filled out your web form on your team website or has otherwise contacted you from information that he found on your website, and he has also filled out the player pool form on the league website, then he is officially league property. You are not allowed to pick him up if he has also filled out the league player pool form, regardless of which one he had done first. Once he fills out the league’s player pool form on the league website, he must attend the league’s tryout or must reside in the league’s player pool to be made available to all teams.

14 Draft

The league has an open tryout and draft typically the first Saturday in March. Sometimes the league will also have a second tryout/draft if there is enough interest from potential new players and managers are still in need of guys. Potential new players only need be 18 years or older (or 25 years or older) to attend the tryout, and any or no previous baseball experience is acceptable. A tryout will consist of each player going to their chosen position and fielding 3-5 fungos plus making throws. Each player will then hit and will be allowed to take approximately 10 swings against batting practice style pitching (not game situation pitching). After that, all pitchers and catchers will convene down in the bullpen so that pitchers may throw approximately 15-20 pitches. All players attending the tryout are encouraged to come dressed in baseball attire (baseball pants, cleats, hat) and bring their gloves and bats.

The guidelines for determining the draft order is subject to change from year to year as the league expands or contracts, but the following are the latest draft order guidelines to be used for the current season.

14.1 Draft Format

Beginning in 2014, the 25+ age division is under the same umbrella of rules and policies as the 18+ age division. Therefore, they will follow our draft guidelines as set forth here. The current format is that there will be one tryout followed by three separate drafts all occurring in the same day. The one tryout will encompass 18+ wood bat, 18+ metal bat, and 25+ players all at the same time. They will be designated by different colored shirts. Then there will be an 18+ wood bat (NL) draft, a 25+ draft, and then an 18+ metal bat (AL and CL) draft.

Here is the sequence of events:

1. The tryout will occur with all players (18+ wood bat, 18+ metal bat, and 25+) participating together.
2. The 18+ wood bat (NL) draft will take place.
3. The 25+ draft will take place next.
4. The 18+ metal bat (AL and CL) draft will take place last. Any player that tried out for 18+ wood bat or the 25+ leagues who was not pick is eligible to be picked in the 18+ metal bat draft.

When prospective players show up and register, they must decide whether they want to try out for 18+ wood, 18+ metal, or 25+. We will have three different colored T-shirts at the tryout; red will designate an 18+ wood bat guy, white will designate an 18+ metal bat guy, and blue will designate a 25+ guy. During the drafts, teams can only pick guys who tried out for their respective league, except for the 18+ metal bat draft where they can also pick anyone who was left over from either of the 18+ wood or 25+ draft that was not picked by a team.

Everyone who shows up for a tryout will be placed on a team, even if the commissioner has to create new expansion teams for that age division. If guys tried out for an 18+ league, they will try to be placed on an 18+ team. If guys tried out for the 25+ league, they will try to be placed on a 25+ team but may also be placed on an 18+ team. In certain situations, the commissioner may place guys from the draft up or down in age divisions at his discretion if it is for the overall benefit of the MABL, but guys that are younger than 25 will never play in the 25+ league.

Please note – any team that does not have the required amount of money turned in to the league by the draft will be moved to the bottom of the draft order. This cannot be determined until the draft itself, so the preliminary draft order that is sent out ahead of time is only tentative. The draft order will be handed out to every manager at the draft.

14.2 18+ Wood Bat (NL) Draft Order

First Round

1. Existing 18+ National League teams ordered WORST to FIRST. The order is based upon where the teams finished after last year's regular season. Where they finished at the end of the playoffs is not considered.
2. If any teams moved up from the 18+ American League to the 18+ National League this year, then they pick next. If more than one team moved up from the AL to the NL, then the team with the worst record last year in the AL after the regular season (where they finished at the end of the playoffs is not considered) picks first and the team with the best record last year in the AL picks last (WORST to FIRST ranking order).
3. If any teams moved to the 18+ National League from the Saturday League or from the 25+ age division or any other age division, then they pick next. Teams are ordered in terms of longevity in the Atlanta MABL/MSBL with the oldest teams picking higher and the newest teams picking lower.
4. 18+ National League Expansion teams based on the order of how quickly they have gotten the required amount of money in to the league.
5. Any teams that do not yet have the required amount of money turned in to the league. These teams draft based on the total amount of money that they have turned in to the league (most drafts first, least drafts last).

Second Round

1. The order set by steps 1-5 above is followed in reverse with the last team picking first and the first team picking last.

Following Rounds

1. Each successive odd numbered round is ordered the same as round 1. Each successive even numbered round is ordered the same as round 2.

14.3 25+ Draft Order

First Round

1. Existing 25+ League teams WORST to FIRST. The order is based upon where the teams finished after last year's regular season. Where they finished at the end of the playoffs is not considered.
2. If any teams moved to the 25+ League from the Saturday League or from the 18+ age division or any other age division, then they pick next. Teams are ordered in terms of longevity in the Atlanta MABL/MSBL with the oldest teams picking higher and the newest teams picking lower.
3. 25+ League Expansion teams based on the order of how quickly they have gotten the required amount of money in to the league.
4. Any teams that do not yet have the required amount of money turned in to the league. These teams draft based on the total amount of money that they have turned in to the league (most drafts first, least drafts last).

Second Round

1. The order set by steps 1-4 above is followed in reverse with the last team picking first and the first team picking last.

Following Rounds

1. Each successive odd numbered round is ordered the same as round 1. Each successive even numbered round is ordered the same as round 2.

14.4 Metal Bat (AL and CL) Draft Order

First Round

1. Existing 18+ Central League teams WORST to FIRST. The order is based upon where the teams finished after last year's regular season. Where they finished at the end of the playoffs is not considered.
2. If any teams moved to the 18+ Central League from the Saturday League or from the 25+ age division or any other age division, then they pick next. Teams are ordered in terms of longevity in the Atlanta MABL/MSBL with the oldest teams picking higher and the newest teams picking lower.
3. Existing 18+ American League teams WORST to FIRST. The order is based upon where the teams finished after last year's regular season. Where they finished at the end of the playoffs is not considered.
4. If any teams moved up from the 18+ Central League to the 18+ American League this year, then they pick next. If more than one team moved up from the CL to the AL, then the team with the worst record last year in the CL after the regular season (where they finished at the end of the playoffs is not considered) picks first and the team with the best record last year in the CL picks last (WORST to FIRST ranking order).
5. If any teams moved to the 18+ American League from the Saturday League or from the 25+ age division or any other age division, then they pick next. Teams are ordered in terms of longevity in the Atlanta MABL/MSBL with the oldest teams picking higher and the newest teams picking lower.



6. 18+ Central and 18+ American League Expansion teams based on the order of how quickly they have gotten the required amount of money in to the league.
7. Any teams that do not yet have the required amount of money turned in to the league. These teams draft based on the total amount of money that they have turned in to the league (most drafts first, least drafts last).

Second Round

1. The order set by steps 1-7 above is followed in reverse with the last team picking first and the first team picking last.

Following Rounds

2. Each successive odd numbered round is ordered the same as round 1. Each successive even numbered round is ordered the same as round 2.

14.5 Help with Tryouts

We will need several people to help during the tryout. We will need someone to hit fungos, throw BP, help get guys signed in and registered, and help the day run smoothly.

14.6 Drafted Players

Once a team drafts a player, that player is theirs. There is no drafting a player and then throwing him back. Your time to evaluate the player is at the draft itself, so draft wisely. Do not draft four guys knowing you only need two. If you draft four guys, then all four of those guys will be on your roster. You are not obligated to play anyone, and if you know someone will not play a lot on your team, then tell them. They may ask to be traded to another team, and the commissioner can arrange something. Any team that drafts a guy and then turns that guy away will be dealt with harshly, including but not limited to fines or possible suspensions.

15 Pursuing a New Field

The league welcomes the opportunity to gain new fields every year. The league compensates high schools/colleges/city parks for field usage, but **NO INDIVIDUAL IS ALLOWED TO NEGOTIATE A DEAL WITH A FIELD ON BEHALF OF THE LEAGUE**. If you have a connection with a coach or an official at a potential field site, then your job is to put that coach or official in touch with the league commissioner. The league commissioner will then negotiate the terms of the field usage.

It is perfectly acceptable for managers in the Atlanta MABL to go out actively looking for fields and to try to get in touch with coaches or field officials. You can even tell these officials that the league will compensate them for field usage. Also, if you wanted to make your own personal donation to that coach or official's baseball program, then that is acceptable as well and is up to you. However, as stated above, you are **NOT ALLOWED** to negotiate any terms on behalf of the league nor promise anything from the league. This responsibility is left solely to the commissioner.

PLEASE NOTE: Before you pursue a field or contact someone regarding a new field, please check with the league to make sure that no other MABL/MSBL league is already using that field (such as the 35+MSBL or the GAMSBL or the EMBL). If another league is already using that field on Sundays, then we of course will not be able to use it anyway.



16 Practicing on Fields

No team is allowed to practice on a field without expressed permission from either the primary field rep or the league commissioner. Teams are not allowed to just show up at a field and get onto a field for any reason whatsoever – even if no one is currently using the field and the field is unlocked. If this happens, then that team will be dealt with harshly. Also, under no circumstances is a team to jump any fences to practice on a field – even if they have permission to practice. If you have permission to use a field for practice or a scrimmage game and the field is locked when you show up, then you need to call either the primary field rep or the commissioner. If a team is granted official practice time for a field, then you must be aware of your responsibilities:

1. You must pay for field rental during practice times
2. You must clean the field up when you are done

All fields come with an hourly rental fee which is to be paid in cash for practices and/or scrimmage games. Also, all fields will have a list of clean-up responsibilities which you must complete upon finishing your practice. **Time slots on fields for practices or scrimmage games will only be given to teams that are current on league fees.**

17 General Field Rules/Responsibilities

It is expected that all MABL managers adhere to the following set of rules. Also, all MABL managers are expected to make sure that everyone on their team as well as their fans are following all the rules listed below. Also, all fields will be properly secured after the last game of the day. **Any team that does not properly secure a field will incur penalties from the league.**

1. **No profane language.** This is very important because some fields are city owned/operated fields instead of high schools, and they will have little league fields near them with kids and families. For the high school fields, there could also be kids, parents, families or school officials present. We want to conduct ourselves with the highest level of class possible to promote a good clean image for the league. In addition, the league has a rule that a player gets fined \$25 if an umpire reports that the player dropped the “F” word during a game.
2. **No use of any alcohol, tobacco, or illegal substances at any field whatsoever.** At high school fields, it is a felony offense to have alcohol on school premises. That means that you cannot have any alcoholic substances whatsoever anywhere on school grounds, including behind the dugout or in the parking lot. If anyone from your team or any of your fans has any alcohol or cigarettes, then it is your responsibility to make them put it back in their car. **The league has a zero tolerance policy on this. Any reports back to the league of cigarette or alcohol usage by a team or their fans at a school will result fines or suspensions.**
3. **Pick up your trash after your game.** Most dugouts typically have trash cans, so pick up all the trash in the dugout. Even if there is something that was not from your team, pick it up and throw it away.
4. **If you see any beer cans or cigarette butts anywhere on school grounds, then please pick them up and take them with you to throw away later or bury them at the bottom of a trash can – whether it was yours or not.** If anything like this gets left at a field (even visible on the top of the inside of a trash can), then it will be blamed on the MABL. If you pick these up and throw them away somewhere else, then our league cannot get blamed for it. So please take the extra time to pick it up if you see it – whether it was yours or not.

5. **No player, manager, or league member is to climb a fence or otherwise force their way onto a field if they show up and the gates or facilities are locked.** The manager needs to call either the field rep or the commissioner to have someone come and unlock the field.
6. **No player or manager is to go into an equipment room and grab anything, including a rake/tamp/diamond dry or anything else and attempt to work on a wet field without the expressed permission of the high school head coach or the field rep.** This is how fields are destroyed – by guys who think they know what they are doing and are pushing water or mud into the grass. Don't work on a field at all without expressed permission – PERIOD.
7. **Only park in designated areas.** If you are not sure which areas are the appropriate areas, then ask someone.
8. **No soft toss against a fence.** Only soft toss in a cage area. If there is no cage area available, then you cannot soft toss.
9. **No playing pepper in the grass in front of a dugout.** Use the outfield grass as this tears up the grass in front of the dugout.
10. **No banging cleats against the dugout walls or the dugout benches.** This destroys the walls and benches.
11. **While high schools are still in season (through the end of April), do not take infield/outfield before a game.** Most head coaches want to limit the wear on the field as much as possible. After the high school season is over, taking infield/outfield before a game is permitted.
12. **After each game, your team is responsible for making sure that they clean up their dugout.** This includes picking up all trash (whether it was left by you or not) and sweeping out the dugout. There are brooms available at most fields. Also, if the trash cans are full, then please look for additional trash bags and change the bag. If there are no trash bags to be found, then be sure to alert the primary field rep and/or league commissioner.
13. **After each game, rake the home plate area and the pitcher's mound and ensure that all holes or pits are filled in if no field rep is present.** This is the minimum amount of work that should be done on EVERY field. Most fields have rakes and tarps readily available. **If you are the last game on that field, then you will need to tarp them as well if no field rep is present.** Each field may have a specific criteria or method for doing this, so check the field responsibilities for that field first.
14. **If it begins to rain during your game, then please tarp the mound and plate as quickly as possible.** You do not need permission from a field rep to do this, just grab the tarps and cover the mound and plate if it is raining. However, if the rain stops and you are attempting to resume play, then get the field rep's permission before working on a wet field.
15. **If your game is rained out or canceled, then do not go onto the field or argue the decision.** It is not up to you or your players to second guess a field rep or head coach as to why a game was canceled. It could have been canceled for a good reason. It is up to you to keep your guys in check and back the decision. No one should be getting onto a field to investigate after a game is rained out or contacting the league to complain.
16. **Pick up and plug the bases after the last game if no field rep is present.** Most high school coaches want the bases picked up and plugged after the last game. If the plugs are available and a field rep is not present, then please do this.
17. **Check the league website for any specific list of responsibilities or rules at each field.** For the most part, a field rep will handle any opening or closing responsibilities that are not listed on this document. However, there will be certain occasions where a field rep will not be able to be present to open or close a field on some days. In these cases, the field rep will notify you and ask you to take care of some things. If this should happen, it is your responsibility to make sure



that you understand the responsibilities that he has entrusted to you and that you perform all the tasks that he asks.

18. **Be courteous to all school officials.** If anyone happens to come up to you or your team and asks who you are or what you are doing there, there is no need to receive their inquiries with spite, disdain, or rudeness. We do have a right to be on those fields, but it is still ultimately their fields, and they do have the right to find out who we are and what we are doing if they don't know.
19. **No practicing on any field without permission from the head coach, primary field rep, or the commissioner.** If you want to practice on a field, then just square it away with the commissioner first. He will find you a time and place to practice. All practice slots come with a field rental fee, and practice times will only be given to teams who are current on league fees.

Other than the rules outlined above, please ensure that you, your players, and your fans are generally respectful of all school/city/county property. If you see anyone violating or otherwise abusing the rules outlined above (whether willfully or unknowingly), it is your duty as a manager to inform them and try to make it right. All managers must constantly police the field, dugout, and parking lot for any behavior that violates the above rules or reflects on the league in a negative way.

18 Playing Music on Fields

There is no problem with playing music on the field before the game or between innings. However, any music that is to be played must be suitable for women and children and school officials in the audience. No profane or suggestive language.

19 Locked Facilities or No Umpires/Other Team

If you show up at a field and the facilities are locked, then call either the primary field rep or the league commissioner. Do not, under any circumstances, hop the fence or force your way into the facilities. If your scheduled game time comes and you have no umpires or no other team, then first check the league website to see if your game was moved or cancelled. If your game is still scheduled for the same time and location, then call the league commissioner.

20 Field Reps and Their Responsibilities

Being a field rep has its rewards in terms of scheduling preferences and the ability to have increased freedom with facilities (like for practices, etc.). However, a field rep also involves a lot of added work and carries a much larger burden of responsibility. This is why not every manager is cut out to be a field rep. Here is a brief list of responsibilities involved for field reps:

1. You must meet with the head coach (if a high school field) before the season starts to go over any ground rules for the field or special instructions.
2. You must report back to the league all closing responsibilities and any special instructions requested by the head coach.
3. YOU are ultimately responsible for the field being opened on Sunday mornings and being ready for the first game, and YOU are ultimately responsible for the field being cleaned up at the end of the day and being closed down and locked... **whether you played there or not.** If you are not playing there one day and there is not another manager on the field that you trust to handle

these duties, then you must go back over to the field and check to make sure that everything was done properly yourself. One big mistake can end up in the league losing a field for a year or permanently.

4. **Field Reports by 10:00 AM:** As a field rep, it is your responsibility to get up early every Sunday morning and phone or text a field report back to the league secretary or commissioner by 10:00 AM. This report is to make sure that the field is in playable condition. This is especially important on days when there has been rain recently to make sure that the field is not too wet. However, inclement weather is not the only reason for this. We have had instances where it has not rained in a week, but a water pipe burst and a field was flooded, or a construction project was scheduled at a field or new sod was scheduled to be put down and no one told the league. We cannot have two teams show up to a field and a field is not playable. Therefore, these field reports must be done EVERY Sunday and are of paramount importance.
5. You must inform all players who are to play on that field of all field rules (no pepper in front of dugout, no cleats in batting cage, etc.).

Being a field rep is not a right, it is a privilege. If there is evidence that a field rep is not fulfilling his responsibilities or is ignoring some of his duties, then this privilege can and will be taken away. If you are interested in becoming a field rep, then you need to speak to the league commissioner, and you must prove yourself to be a responsible and trustworthy individual.

20.1 Field Rep – Choice of Dugout

As a reward for the hard work and added responsibility to being a field rep, there are certain perks that can be enjoyed. Those perks can include added freedoms at a field to use locker rooms or batting cages or the ability to schedule field practices. One big perk is that field reps ALWAYS get their choice of dugout. It doesn't matter if they are the home team or the away team for that game. If they are playing on their home field, they get their choice of dugout. They put all the hard work into maintaining the field, and they should enjoy whichever dugout they want. This is not negotiable.

21 Umpire Complaints

The league takes great measures to ensure that we have umpires that are knowledgeable on baseball rules as well as our MABL league rules, and to make sure that they are adequate and suitable to umpire games in our league. However, from time to time, an umpire may present himself as either uneducated on our rules or otherwise unfit to umpire in our league. If a team has a complaint regarding an umpire or umpire(s), then please email your complaint to the league commissioner and copy the league secretary. All complaints will be taken seriously and will be dealt with individually, and action may or may not be taken based on the severity of the complaint. **IMPORTANT:** this is not permission to go open the flood gates for managers to complain about every bad call carte blanche every weekend. If it was one or a few bad calls, then we don't need to hear about it. Those happen – especially on bang-bang plays. These are the types of things that we want to know about:

- If the umpire made many absolutely egregious calls during a game
- An umpire did not know our rules or baseball rules in general
- If an umpire had a bad attitude



- If the umpire acted in a way to “egg on” or was soliciting for confrontation with players or a manager
- If an umpire was acting in a threatening way toward anyone or made physical contact with anyone
- If an umpire was trying to end a game solely for the purpose of collecting his money and leaving, such as “everything is a strike” or “every play is an out”

There is a gray area in dealing with umpire complaints. Not knowing rules is one thing, but dealing with bad calls or bad attitudes is a matter of perception. What may be considered as an atrocious call to one person may have been a close call that could have gone either way to someone else. Also, what may have been an umpire “egging on” a manager may have been perceived as just trying to diffuse the situation to someone else. As a general rule of thumb, if a manager complains about an umpire every week, then that manager loses credibility with his complaints (like the boy who cried wolf). Therefore, only lodge a complaint to the league if there is truly something to complain about. All umpire complaints will be verified with the opposing managers and could also be verified with the umpire himself to get everyone’s side of the story.

22 Asking Umpires to Check League Rules

All managers are required to carry a set of our local Atlanta MABL rules and the National MABL rules with them to every game. Both rule sets can be printed from the "Shared Documents" section of our league website.

The Atlanta MABL has established the following policy: a manager has the right to ask an umpire to check our rule book in a situation where our rules are being misapplied or disregarded - and the umpire **MUST** comply. This is a mandatory requirement for all umpires that officiate in our league. Here are the guidelines:

1. Approach and ask the umpire **RESPECTFULLY** and **CALMLY** (example - sir, I would like to check our rules please).
2. Bring the other manager in on the umpire conference - if the other manager already knows that the rule is being misapplied, then just say so and move on.
3. This policy is **NOT** intended to check on major league baseball rules, just MABL rules and regulations that vary from MLB rules. For example - you are not allowed to ask an umpire to check the definition offensive obstruction. However, you can ask the umpire to check our ruling on illegal offensive substitutions or pitchers re-entering a game.

IMPORTANT: Judgment calls have nothing to do with our rules, so don't embarrass yourself or our league by asking an umpire to check a rule book on a judgment call (out/safe, ball/strike, balk, fair/foul, etc.). Here's another good example - on a collision at the plate, you are not allowed to ask an umpire to check our rules on whether or not he thought the collision was unavoidable or whether or not he felt the collision was flagrant. These are judgment calls. If the umpire does establish that the collision was unavoidable, then you can check our rules on the penalty imposed (runner is called out, but it is not an automatic ejection unless the umpire deems that it was flagrant).



Please do not abuse this policy by asking to check every rule in our book or by using this as an excuse to "show up" an umpire. The spirit of this policy is to maintain the integrity of our games by getting calls right and to avoid the cost and headache of a protest.

If a manager asks an umpire to check our rules, then the umpire must comply. If the umpire does not comply, then please report this to the commissioner via email after your game. Do not argue with the umpire. The commissioner will take administrative action.

23 Rules

There are three sets of rules that govern play in the Atlanta MABL. They are, in order of precedence:

1. Atlanta MABL Local Rules and Regulations
2. MABL National Rules and Regulations
3. Major League Baseball Rules and Regulations

Basically, anything printed in our Atlanta Local Rules takes priority over anything else. If it is not in our local rules, then anything in the MABL National rules takes priority. If it is not in our local rules or the national MABL rules, then Major League Baseball rules takes priority.

All rules can be printed from the "Shared Documents" section of our league website.

Here are some brief highlights of some special important Atlanta MABL Local rules of which to take note:

1. Rule 4.4, Collision Rule: To protect the health and safety of our players, there is a non-collision policy in place for when runners are sliding into bases. Basically, the burden of avoiding a collision is placed upon the runner. If incidental contact is made by sliding directly into a base or the plate, then that is fine. However, any attempt to slide high or out of the baseline to make contact with a fielder will result in the runner being called out. If the umpire deems that the collision was flagrant or violent in nature, then the runner will be ejected.
2. Rule 4.5, Decoy Rule: To keep runners from having to slide unnecessarily, fielders are not allowed to fake a tag. If a fielder does this, then all runners will advance one base.
3. Rule 8.10, Free Agent Rule: If a player has been in the league for at least three consecutive years, then he is a free agent.
4. Rule 8.11, Acquiring Free Agents: No team can acquire more than one free agent from an existing team and no more than two total from within the MABL in a given season.
5. Rule 10.5, 10.6, and 10.7 – Forfeits: The league reserves the right to fine a team \$75 for each forfeit. If a team forfeits three games in one season, then they will be ineligible for playoffs.

24 Fines

Just like any other governing body, the league must enforce penalties for certain rule infractions of a negligent or willfully harmful nature. The league does not adopt the policy of, nor is it in the best interests of the league to hand out random fines for every little rule infraction. However, from time to time, based upon the nature of the offense, fines may be levied against managers or individual players. When a fine is given to a player or manager, that player or manager must reconcile the fine with the

league before they are again allowed to step foot on a field. Failure to comply with this policy could subject that player or manager to further fines, further suspension, or expulsion from the league.

24.1 The “F-Bomb” Fine

Any player that is reported by an umpire to have used the “f” word during the course of a game will be fined \$25 by the league. This is if the “f” word is directed at anyone, including but not limited to: an umpire, a teammate, an opposing team member, a fan, or yourself. Basically, if it was said loud enough so that the umpire could hear it, then the umpire may mark that player’s number down and report it back to the league. That player will not be allowed to play again until the fine has been paid to the league. We have families and kids and school officials that frequently attend our games, and there is no room for this type of language.

25 Website Usage

The Atlanta MABL runs and maintains a professional quality website for purposes of relaying league information and tracking the necessary items which need to be kept during the course of a season (rosters, schedule, standings, etc.). The following sections of this guide explain what you can find on the league website and how to use the site.

25.1 General Info and Announcements

The website is shared by several age divisions, and as such, both the MABL (18+ and 25+ age divisions) and the MSBL (35+ and above) use the site. The website has several tabs across the top. These tabs represent different leagues – all of which fall under the general umbrella of the Atlanta MABL or Atlanta MSBL. The far left tab is labeled as the “Home” tab. This tab just has general information about the Atlanta MABL/MSBL as a whole, and it typically has general important announcements that pertain to all leagues as well as announcements concerning tryouts for each league. Our league is the MABL Sunday league. Therefore, the tab that is labeled as “MABL Sunday” is our “home” page, and this guide will refer to it as our home page from here forward. Our home page has league announcements at the top, and a “Links” section on the upper right with league standings beneath the “Links” section on the right. In the middle body of the page, there are the following sections from top to bottom: upcoming games, recent game results, rescheduled games, and missing scores. On the left hand side of the page near the top, there is an area that contains links of vital importance to all managers. These links are for such items as the “Shared Documents” section, the schedule, teams, and fields.

25.2 Username and Password

Every manager in the league will be issued a username and a password to log into the website. It is your responsibility to keep up with this username and password. If for some reason you misplace your username or your password, then email the league secretary, and he will furnish you with your username and/or reset your password. Usernames and passwords will be issued in the beginning of each season just before the start of the season once the league knows what teams are in and what teams are out. If you have already been issued a username and password from previous season, then they will not be changed from season to season. You should keep up with them as you will continue to use the same logon credentials.

25.3 Logging on to the League Website

Our league website has a private section, and you must be logged in to view some of the private features that are only available to managers (not publicly accessible). These features include being able to access the “Rosters” page and being able to post scores on the website. To log into the site, you need to go to the far upper right hand corner of the screen and click the link that says “Sign In”. From there, you type in your username and password and click “OK”.

25.4 Changing Your Password

It is recommended that once you receive your logon ID and password from the league, you should change your password to something more personal and secure and something that you can remember. To change your password, follow these steps: Once you logon to the website using your league issued ID and password, click on your user name in the upper right hand corner of the screen. A drop-down box will appear. Click on “My Settings”. Then click on the link which says “Change Password”. Type in your old password in the first box, then your new password in the second box, and then confirm your new password in the third box. Then click “OK”.

25.5 Calendar

There is a calendar section on the home tab of the website. There is a link located in the upper left-hand side of the “MABL Sunday” tab that says “Calendar”. This will take you to a monthly calendar view with important league dates and deadlines, including manager meetings, fee deadlines, draft day, drop/add deadline, deadline to add new players, which weekends are holidays, etc. There is also a section on the right-hand side of the “MABL Sunday” tab which shows upcoming events in a list view.

25.6 Rosters

Once you log into the website, you will have access to the rosters page. From here, you can check your roster to see who has or has not filled out an online waiver. Remember, if a player has not filled out an online waiver, then he is not eligible to play (he is an illegal player). As a manager, it is your responsibility to keep up with who has completed online waivers for your team. You can also view other teams’ rosters to gauge who their players are and their eligibility. This page will be used to settle all roster disputes in terms of legal players. Also, this page is not intended to be used as a means for managers to try to pluck players from other teams. This is why no contact information is available for each player – you can only view player names.

25.7 Schedule

The league website holds the league schedule for the season. There is a link in the upper left hand corner of the screen that says “Schedule”. This section of the website contains the entire schedule for all leagues in the Atlanta MABL (18+CL, 18+AL, 18+NL, 25+AL, and 25+NL). Also, our home tab for the Atlanta MABL has a section for the next weekend’s upcoming games. PLEASE NOTE: the schedule is subject to change at any time during the course of the season due to field issues or teams with special circumstances. Therefore, as a manager, it is your responsibility to check the schedule on the league website EVERY WEEK to ensure that you know where and when you are playing your next game. If the league does have to change your game for any reason, then the league will make their best effort to call and notify all managers involved in a schedule change. However, the league cannot guarantee that they will be able to notify everyone involved. Therefore, it is your responsibility to check the league schedule every

week. The league will only move games if it is absolutely necessary. Also, the schedule that is posted on the league website is the final authority. When you see the schedule posted in the beginning of the season, do not copy this schedule and hand it out to your players without checking the schedule on the league website every week. If there is EVER a discrepancy between something that you printed out before and what is posted on the website currently, then what is currently on the league website always takes precedence. Again, what is on the league website is ALWAYS the final authority in the schedule.

25.8 Shared Documents Section

The “Shared Documents” section of the website is of utmost importance. This link is located in the group of links in the upper left hand corner of the screen, and this is available on the public portion of the website (you do not have to be logged in to view this section). This section of the website contains any league documents that are of importance to managers and to the running of the league. Here, you will find league rules, this manager guide, playoff brackets, draft procedures and draft orders, meeting minutes, and documents containing all league policies. As a manager, you need to take the time to familiarize yourself with this section of the league website and know what information is available there.

25.9 League Documents

The “League Documents” section of the website seems quite similar to the “Shared Documents” section, but there is one major difference – it is part of the private section of the site, and as such, you must be logged in to access it. The “League Documents” section is also located in the group of links in the far upper left hand corner of the screen, but it only becomes visible once you are logged in. This section of the site contains things that are of great importance which should not be made available to the general public, such as a manager contact list, field rep list, and the board member contact list.

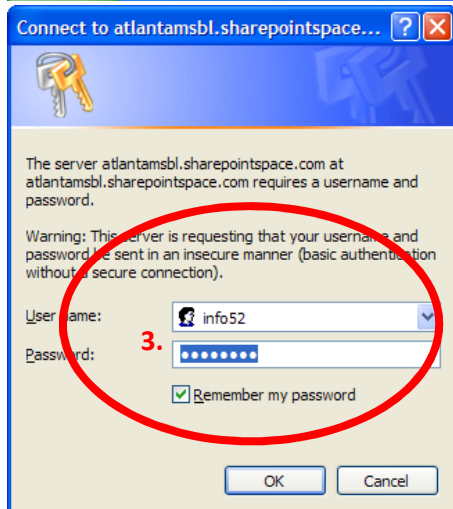
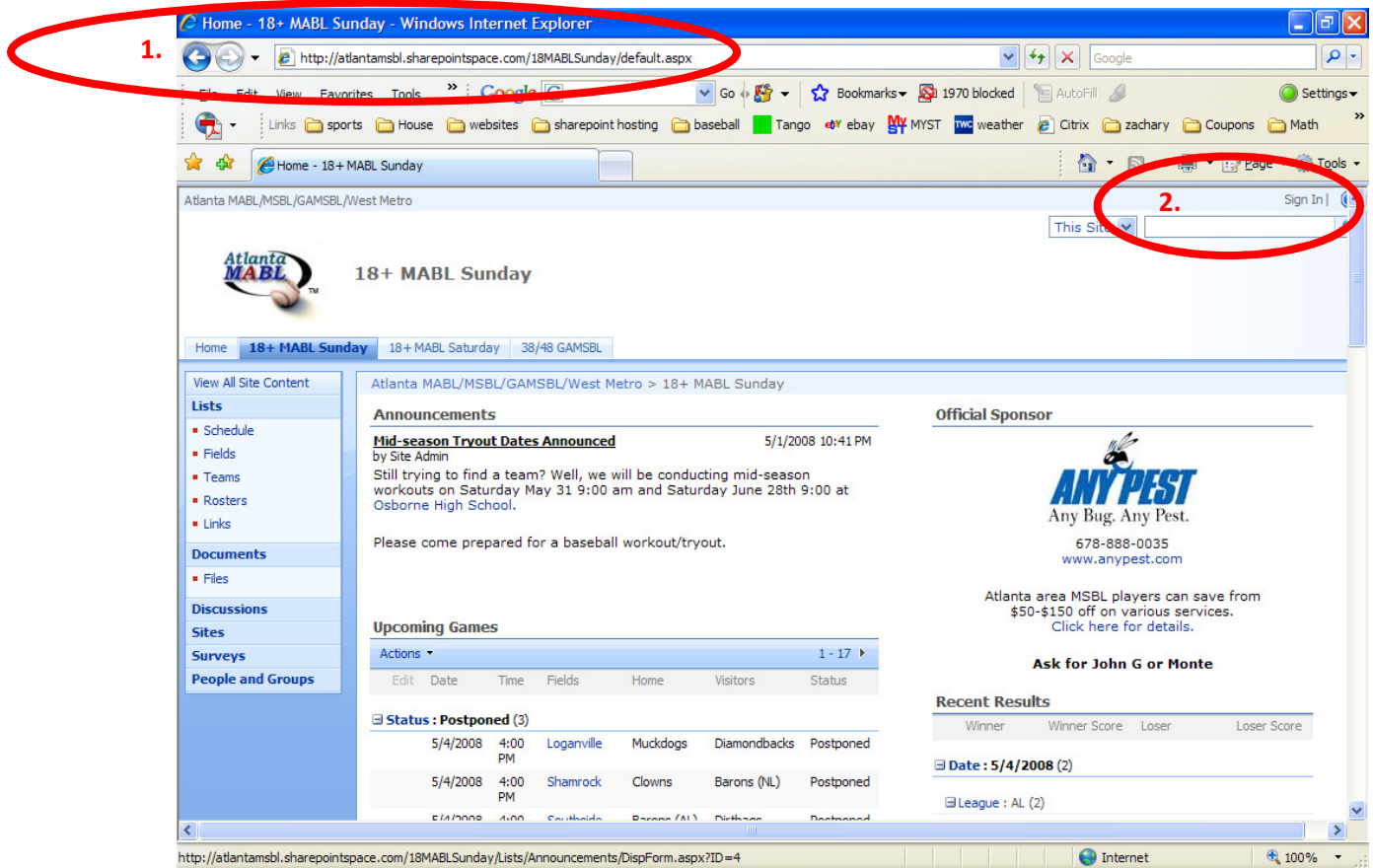
25.10 Posting Scores

When a game is completed, it is the responsibility of the winning team to post the score to the league website. The manager of the winning team is required to post all scores no later than the following day by 5:00 PM.

The following procedure outlines how to post a score on our league website:

1. Go to <http://atlantamsbl.sharepointspace.com/mablsunday/default.aspx>
2. Click on Sign In - upper right hand corner
3. Put in your ID/Password – check the box for Remember by Password (optional)
4. Find your game on the home page under the upcoming games section, or go to the schedule page and scroll down to your game
5. Click the icon under the Edit column (far left of the table) which became available when you signed in
6. Put in the Visitors score and the Home score and then click on OK at the top or bottom

Please see the following illustrations below:



Home - 18+ MABL Sunday - Windows Internet Explorer

http://atlantamsbl.sharepointspace.com/18MABLSunday/default.aspx

File Edit View Favorites Tools Google Go Bookmarks 1970 blocked AutoFill Settings

Links sports House websites sharepoint hosting baseball Tango ebay MYST TWC weather Citrix zachary Coupons Math

Home - 18+ MABL Sunday

Files

Discussions

Sites

Surveys

People and Groups

Recycle Bin

Add new announcement

Upcoming Games

New Actions Settings 1 - 17

Edit	Date	Time	Fields	Home	Visitors	Status
Status: Postponed (3)						
	5/4/2008	4:00 PM	Loganville	Muckdogs	Diamondbacks	Postponed
	5/4/2008	4:00 PM	Shamrock	Clowns	Barons (NL)	Postponed
	5/4/2008	4:00 PM	Southside Comp HS	Barons (AL)	Dirtbags	Postponed
Status: Scheduled (218)						
	5/4/2008	4:00 PM	Campbell Middle	Barons (AL)	Diamondbacks	Scheduled
	5/4/2008	12:15 PM	Loganville	Diablos	Red Devils	Scheduled
	5/4/2008	12:15 PM	Lost Mountain	Ghosts	Bulldogs	Scheduled
	5/4/2008	4:00 PM	Lost Mountain	Mustangs	Black Sox	Scheduled
	5/4/2008	12:15 PM	Norcross HS	Bulls	Astros	Scheduled
	5/4/2008	4:00 PM	Norcross HS	Cherokees	Generals	Scheduled
	5/4/2008	12:15 PM	North Cobb HS	Lookouts	Longhorns	Scheduled
	5/4/2008	4:00 PM	North Cobb HS	Red Devils	Atlanta A's	Scheduled

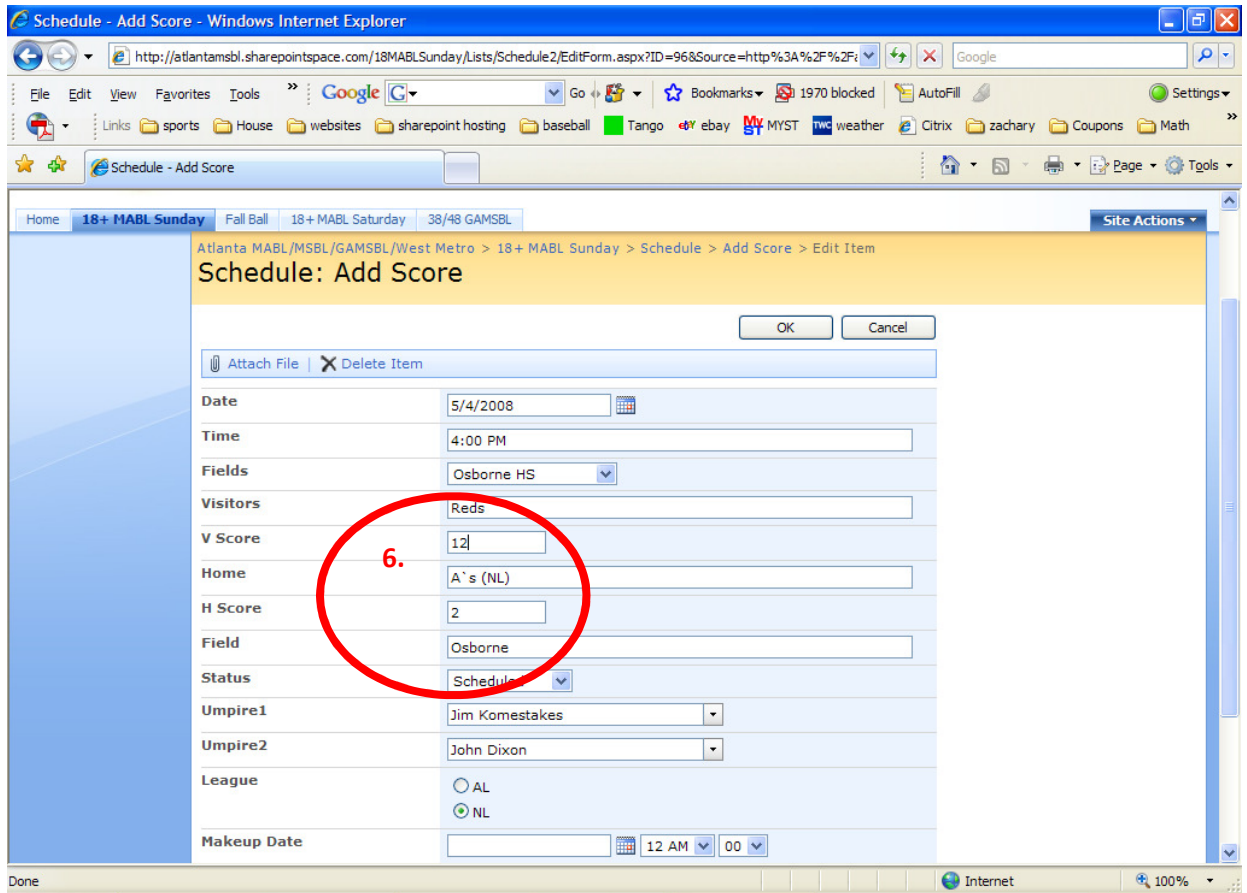
Atlanta area MSBL players can save from \$50-\$150 off on various services. [Click here for details.](#)

Ask for John G or Monte

Recent Results

Winner	Winner Score	Loser	Loser Score
Date: 5/4/2008 (2)			
League: AL (2)			
Ghosts	14	Bulldogs	13
Longhorns	19	Lookouts	6
Date: 4/20/2008 (17)			
League: AL (12)			
Atlanta A's	10	Lookouts	1
Barons (NL)	13	Braves	3
Black Sox	13	White Sox	11
Bulldogs	9	Mustangs	7
Cyclones	7	Red Sox	3
Dirtbags	18	Angels	1
Dodgers	7	Dragons	1
Longhorns	9	Ghosts	6
Muckdogs	6	Blue Demons	1
Nuts	6	Patriots	4
Sidewinders	7	Diamondbacks	3

Done Internet 100%



Atlanta MABL/MSBL/GAMSBL/West Metro > 18+ MABL Sunday > Schedule > Add Score > Edit Item

Schedule: Add Score

Attach File | Delete Item

OK Cancel

Date: 5/4/2008

Time: 4:00 PM

Fields: Osborne HS

Visitors: Reds

V Score: 6

Home: A's (NL)

H Score: 2

Field: Osborne

Status: Schedule

Umpire1: Jim Komestakes

Umpire2: John Dixon

League: ☐ AL ☒ NL

Makeup Date: 12 AM 00

NOTE: Standings will NOT automatically update once you post a score. Updating of the standings is manual and will be completed by a league board member once all scores have been posted.

Please be sure that when you are posting a score, you do not change any information that is located in the game module, such as the game time, date, or location. This information is for league use only, and changing any of this information could result in messing up umpiring schedules or other games. Also, DO NOT add any new games to or delete games from the schedule.

25.11 Checking for Rainouts

One of the most useful features of the league website is to report rainouts. The league will report any and all rainouts on Sunday morning by 10:00 AM. They will appear on our "MABL Sunday" home page. Any games that have been canceled due to rain will be clearly marked on this page. Please check this page of our website before you call any of the league board members. If you are still uncertain of a game's cancellation status, then call the primary field rep for that field before you call a board member (list of field reps will be located in the "League Documents" section of the website). Only after you have checked the league website, and have tried to call the primary field rep – if you are still uncertain, then call the commissioner or league secretary. If a game is rained out, then that's it. There is no argument or negotiation.



26 Using the Manager Contact List for Personal Advertisement

Under no circumstances is any manager to give out the manager contact list to any player in the league, to anyone outside of the league, or sell or distribute this contact list to anyone. Furthermore, under no circumstances is any manager, player, or person to use the manager contact list to distribute any advertisements for personal gain without the expressed written permission of the league commissioner. Also, under no circumstances is the manager contact list to be used for spam email, junk mail, jokes, or anything that could be deemed inappropriate, offensive, or outside the realm of baseball league and/or team communication purposes. Any manager that fails to abide by this policy will be dealt with harshly by the league, and could be subject to punishment including but not limited to fines, suspensions, or expulsion from the league.

27 League Insurance and Rules for Filing a Claim

The Atlanta MABL has medical insurance for all of its players. This is a perk that is offered to the members of the Atlanta MABL by the league as we realize that A) playing the game of baseball involves certain risks of bodily injury, B) the league cannot be held liable for any injury, and C) some of our players may not have their own insurance policies. Our league insurance is offered through Berkley Life and Health Insurance Company. You can find a copy of the current Atlanta MABL Insurance Policy and the Claim Form in the "League Documents" section of our website.

Every manager should have a few copies of the claim form with them at all games. This should be in your manager briefcase along with the MABL Local Rules, MABL National Rules, line-up cards, field rules/responsibilities, this manager guide, and a first-aid kit.

If a player gets injured on the field during a game (to the point of requiring medical assistance), then he must:

1. **See a doctor within 72 hours of the incident** or you risk the chance of your claim being denied.
2. **Notify the commissioner the same day of the incident**, or the commissioner will not sign off on the claim form (hence the claim form cannot be submitted to the insurance company).

Once the player is injured, the manager must pull out one of these forms and fill it out. The manager can fill out section A, and the player needs to fill out section B. However, the manager needs to take the form back and send it to the league commissioner so that the commissioner can sign the form in section A box #11 (Organization Official). Once the commissioner signs the form, he will send it back to you so that it can be sent to the Berkley Insurance Company to be filed. The form must be sent to the insurance company within 90 days of the incident, or the claim will be denied.

If the player that was injured already has medical insurance, then he must use his existing insurance as the primary insurance provider, and he has the option to use our league insurance as secondary insurance. However, if that player does not already have medical insurance, then he needs to use our league insurance as the primary. There is a \$500.00 deductible that must be covered out of that player's pocket, and the insurance will cover the rest of the cost of the incident.

The policy number is on page 1 of the "Atlanta MABL Insurance Policy" document. If anyone has any questions regarding this process, please feel free to contact the league commissioner.



28 Items that Every Manager Must Carry to Each Game

The following is a list of items that every manager must carry with them to EVERY game. As a manager, this is part of your responsibility:

1. Atlanta MABL Local Rules
2. MABL National Rules
3. This Manager Guide Book
4. A list of Field Rules/Responsibilities for all Fields
5. A list of Field Rep Contact Info
6. A List of Manager Contact Info
7. Line-Up Cards
8. Score Book
9. First Aid Kit
10. Copies of our insurance claim forms
11. Baseballs

It is recommended that every manager get some sort of briefcase or binder or something similar to house all of the documents items so that they may be transported easily to each game.

29 Scorebooks and Game Balls

Scorebooks and game baseballs will be furnished by the league. They will be handed out at the last manager meeting before the start of the season. As a manager, you are responsible for bringing these items to every game. Additional boxes of baseballs may be purchased from the league for the market rate if desired. Baseballs are most easily transported via some sort of canvas sack rather than by carrying boxes.

30 League Sponsors

The league works hard to form relationships with businesses in which they can partner to bring a mutual benefit to each other. Typically, these sponsors not only benefit the league as a whole, but they can also offer certain goods or services at special rates to the league members as well. Typically, the league sponsors tend to be companies that relate in some way to the game of baseball, such as sporting goods stores or uniform printing companies. Sponsors may change from time to time, so specific sponsors will not be listed in this manager guide. However, the league urges its managers and its player members to learn who the current sponsors are and to frequent their businesses as much as possible. In the long run, any business you bring to our sponsors pays off for the league and for you and your team.

31 Home Plate Meeting

Before each game, there will be a meeting at home plate. This meeting is between each acting manager and the umpires. At this meeting, the following will take place:

1. Managers will exchange lineups
2. Umpires will discuss ground rules for the field
3. Each managers is required to give the home plate umpire 3 game baseballs



4. Special circumstances will be discussed and decided upon, such as allowing an extra courtesy runner, allowing or disallowing the speed up rule, playing 7-innings instead of nine, etc.

At this meeting, it is recommended that each manager learn the name of the opposing manager as well as both umpires.

32 Playoffs

There will be a playoff at the end of each season to determine a league champion. Each individual league will have their own individual playoff and will crown their own individual champion – leagues will not intermingle in the post season. Playoffs will be a bracket style playoff, and seeding will be determined based upon their records at the end of regular season play. Not all teams are guaranteed to make the playoffs. The number of teams that make it to the playoffs is dependent upon the number of teams in that league during that year. Ideally, there is a 12 team league, and only 8 teams make the playoffs. Playoff brackets will be posted in the “Shared Documents” section of the website at the conclusion of regular season play. Every division winner is guaranteed a spot in the playoffs. Also, the final two rounds of playoffs are a best-of-three game series as opposed to a single elimination game.

32.1 Determining Tie Breakers for Playoff Seeding

If at the end of the regular season, two or more teams have the same record, then tie breakers will be determined as follows:

If there is a two way tie

- Head to head results
- If both teams are in the same division and head to head does not break it, use divisional record. Otherwise, skip to next criteria.
- Results vs like opponents, starting at the strongest

If there is a three way or more tie

- Head to head results
- If all the teams are in the same division and head to head does not break it, use divisional record. Otherwise, skip to next criteria.
- Results vs like opponents, starting at the strongest
- Once the highest ranking team is determined, return to head to head with remaining teams (Continue until all tied teams are ranked)

33 All Star Game

To heighten the overall league experience for the players and managers, the league strives to have an All Star game every season. During some years, having an All Star game is not favorable due to financial constraints or field availability, so unfortunately, some years proceed without an All Star game. However, most years, the league will host one. The date of the All Star game is determined by the managers during the manager meetings before the season starts, and it is either held at some point during the middle of the season (typically on a holiday weekend such as Fourth of July or Father’s Day, etc.) or after the conclusion of the playoffs. Typically only the Central League and the American League have voted for the All Star game. Guidelines and deadlines are sent out to each manager as the All Star game approaches, but generally each manager is responsible for nominating their All Star selections. These All Star nominees from each team must be turned in to the league by the deadline or they risk not



being included in the All Star game. Typically, these selections are comprised of two position players and one pitcher from each team, but these requirements may change based upon the size of the league. The league asks that each manager verify with their selected players that they will be available to play in the game on that weekend before they submit their nominations (we do not want no-shows at the All Star game). The managers for the All Star game are decided by where the teams finished in the previous year. It is understood that sometimes this is not possible due to teams moving up or being in the same division, so the criteria for determining a manager is ultimately left up to the sole discretion of the league board members. The league will try to be as fair as possible when selecting managers for this honor.

There is also a Home Run Derby. The Home Run Derby is open to any players from any league in the Atlanta MABL (CL, AL, NL, or 25+). The only qualification is that you must have at least two regular season home runs by the time your manager nominates you for the Home Run Derby. Any less than two regular season home runs (tournaments and exhibition games do not count) renders a player ineligible.

The All Star game is meant to be, and typically is, a weekend to recognize the players that stand out. It is full of pageantry and excitement, and a fun time is typically had by all involved.

34 Tournaments

The MABL/MSBL hosts many national and regional tournaments throughout the year. These tournaments occur at varying times throughout the year and come with varying costs. Some of these tournaments are hosted in the Atlanta area. Tournament information will be announced either by the league or by MABL/MSBL national as the information becomes available. If you are interested in attending a tournament individually as a pool player and you are looking for a team, or if you are interested in taking your team to a tournament, or if you are interested in building a team to take to a tournament and you want more information, then contact the league commissioner or league secretary. Information on Atlanta based tournaments will be posted on our league website on the "Tournaments" tab, and announcements are frequently found on the "Home" tab as well. For information on all MABL/MSBL tournaments including local, regional, and national tournaments, check out the MABL/MSBL national website on the tournament page. Here is the link: <http://www.msblnational.com/TOR-Tournaments-Calendar.html>.

Please note that no team is allowed to enter a local Atlanta tournament, or no manager is allowed to enter a team in a local Atlanta tournament, if that manager's team still owes money to the league for league fees.

34.1 Rosie Shootout

The Atlanta MABL organizes and hosts one regional tournament each year, the annual Rosie Shootout tournament. This tournament is typically held over Labor Day weekend, and it is named for the late Steve "Rosie" Rosenberg. This tournament is played for a good cause as its primary goal is to raise funds for donations to local area high school and college baseball programs. This tournament is an open tournament which is available for any team that wants to participate, and it has both 18+ and 25+ age divisions (both wood and metal bat). Teams are playing for a chance to win the coveted Rosie Cup.

Here are the tournament details:

- Three games guaranteed: two games Saturday plus one game Sunday morning.



- Local team fee is \$750.00 (for 15 players), add \$25.00 for each additional player.
- Out of state team fee is \$750.00 (flat team fee regardless of number of players).
- Deposit of \$300.00 due on August 1st.
- Top 4 teams advance to the semi-finals. Semi Final to be held on Sunday evening. Championship game to be held on Monday morning.
- Tournament champions will receive coveted "Rosie Cup" plus championship t-shirts and \$100.00 in prize money. Runner-up will also receive \$100.00 in prize money.
- All proceeds are donated to local high school or college programs.
- Tournament t-shirts available through website for \$10.00 each.

For hotel reservations contact Don Pike.

Tournament Director:

Don Pike

Tel #: (770) 595-5120

Dpike3163@aol.com

Check or money order payable to: **Atlanta MABL**

Mail to:

Don Pike

1803 Corn Rd

Smyrna, GA 30080