



MPSSAA GIRLS SOFTBALL BULLETIN

State Finals - May 23-24, 2014
University of Maryland, College Park

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

- A. The Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletic Association is the official governing body for the Softball tournament. Plans for the tournament were formulated by the Girls State Softball Committee and approved by the Board of Control.
- B. Schools choosing to enter the tournament have the responsibility for reading and adhering to the rules and regulations stated in the front section of this publication as well as those appearing within this Softball Bulletin.
- C. *Eligibility rules for all participants* are defined in MPSSAA Bylaw .02, found in the current Handbook.
- D. *General regulations for all state tournaments* are contained in MPSSAA Bylaw .07, found in both the current Handbook and in the front section of this publication.
- E. As per NFHS rules, an optic yellow ball is required for all contests. The Girls State Softball Committee IS REQUIRING the use of the Dudley SB12LND-FP Optic Yellow ball during both the region and state tournaments.
- F. All games, including doubleheaders, will be scheduled as seven inning games.
- G. As allowed in NFHS Rule 4-2-3, by state adoption, a game called for any reason, where a winner cannot be determined, or any game called at any time for mechanical failure (artificial lights, water systems, etc.) will be treated as a suspended game. If the game is to be completed, it will be continued from the point of suspension, with the lineup and batting order of each team exactly the same as the lineup and batting order at the moment of suspension, subject to the rules of the game.
- H. The Girls State Softball Committee has adopted the rule permitting the courtesy runners and a double first base for play all season long. **The double first base will be used in all regional and state tournament games.**
- I. **The Girls State Softball Committee has established a tiebreaker procedure as authorized by rule NFHS Rule 4-2-6, to determine the winner of a game that remains tied after seven innings of play. This procedure will be used during both the region and state tournaments. Individual school systems are encouraged to adopt this procedure during the regular season for both varsity and junior varsity games.**

Beginning with the eighth inning, each half inning will begin with the last completed turn at bat from the previous inning (or her legal substitute or courtesy runner) on second base. [Note: Enforcement of an “automatic out” as described in NFHS Rule 3-3-8b or 4-3-1g shall never be interpreted to create an out before the extra inning is begun.] After the lead off batter has completed her turn at bat, any “automatic out” in the batting order will be an automatic out as prescribed in NFHS Rule 7-4-1.

2014 SOFTBALL TIME LINE		
	REGION TOURNAMENT	STATE TOURNAMENT
Mar 21First play date	May 8Sectional Quarterfinals (Rain date - May 9)	May 20Semifinals (RD-21)
May 6Draw for tournament bracket positions	May 12Sectional Semifinals (Rain date - May 13)	May 23-24Finals (RD-26)
May 7Last play date	May 14Sectional Finals (Rain date - May 15)	Jun 20Reimbursement request due
May 13Application deadline for tournament qualifiers	May 16Regional Finals (Rain date - May 17)	

SOFTBALL

- J. The MPSSAA no longer modifies Rule 3-2-11 regarding the use of metal cleats.

II. REGION AND STATE TOURNAMENTS

A. Tournament Organization

1. Every school is automatically entered into the region tournament unless the MPSSAA office receives written notification to the contrary. Request for withdrawal shall be by letter, signed by the school principal.
2. NO ENTRIES ARE TO BE SUBMITTED UNTIL THE SECTIONAL SEMIFINALS ARE OVER.
 - a. ONLY TEAMS THAT WIN SECTIONAL SEMIFINALS ARE TO SUBMIT ONLINE ENTRIES. Entries must be received in the MPSSAA office by 4 p.m. Tuesday, May 13 (day after the sectional semifinals).
 - b. The mailed photo must be postmarked no later than May 13.
 - c. THE ONLINE ENTRY METHOD MUST BE USED. The complete directions for submitting rosters and photos will be found on pages 6-7 in Section I of this publication.
4. Each region will conduct a single elimination tournament, with the champion advancing to state play.
5. Warm-up procedures
 - a. Both teams will warm up on the entire field for 15 minutes each.
 - b. The visiting team will warm up first unless extenuating circumstances cause a late arrival of the visiting team in which case the home team shall warm up first.
6. In case of inclement weather, athletic directors shall consult with regional directors before finalizing arrangements.
7. For region information, contact your region tournament director.

B. Playing Rules

1. The tournament will be conducted under National Federation rules.
2. The official tournament game ball will be the optic yellow Dudley SB12LND-FP.
3. A game will be considered complete anytime after 4-1/2 to 5 innings when a team is 10 runs behind and has completed its term at bat.
4. In the event of a suspended game, refer to Section I, C on page 4 of this bulletin.

C. Officials

MPSSAA-certified officials will be assigned for each game. Two officials will be used for region games and three officials will be used for state games.

III. REGION TOURNAMENT

A. Tournament Organization

1. Responsibilities of region director
 - a. Notify schools as to their bracket position, site of upcoming contest, and starting time.

- b. Schedule the local officials board that services the designated home team.
 - c. Inform the state committee director and MPSSAA of the schedule established for competition.
2. A draw for bracket positions will take place Tuesday, May 6, in the MPSSAA office via conference call with the tournament chair. Tournament pairings will be posted on the MPSSAA web site <mpssaa.org> the same evening.
- a. A team must have played a minimum of 14 games by Monday, May 5 to be seeded for the draw on Tuesday, May 6.
 - b. Region directors will verify and submit the official win-loss records of all teams to the state committee no later than 8 p.m. on Monday, May 5.

- c. The top **two** teams in each **section** will be seeded **1-2** as determined by regular season winning percentage, excluding the one additional tournament and any city, county, or conference championship. Ties among the top **two** teams in a **section** will be first broken by head-to-head competition to determine the higher seed. This applies if all tied teams meet the criteria. If head-to-head does not break the tie, a coin toss will be used.
 - d. The remaining teams in each **section** will be placed on the bracket by a blind draw.
 - e. The higher-placed team is defined as one who occupies the lower-numbered line position (the favored position) on the bracket in any given round.
3. **All sectional games will be played at the site of the higher seed throughout the tournament. Unless a specific alternative plan has been approved, all regional championship games will be held at the home site of the school representing the designated host section. Section I will host in 2014, Section II will host in 2015. The option to conduct region and sectional contests at neutral or central sites remains.**
- a. **The MPSSAA executive director may grant permission for region games to be scheduled at a site other than the higher seed in sectional play or the school representing the designated host section in the regional finals. This may be done upon a written request of the region director, with approval by a two-thirds representative vote of athletic supervisors of schools in that region. Each athletic supervisor's vote will be weighed proportionally to the number of schools he or she represents in that region/section. The request must be received prior to April 10.**

- b. If circumstances render a home site unplayable and the game is scheduled at any alternate site, the designated home team will remain unchanged.
4. Postponed/suspended games may be required by the State Softball Committee to be made up as part of a double header.
5. All games must be played on a regulation softball field. The field must be skinned and cannot be a baseball field or one with a raised mound.
6. Weekday games will be played at 4 p.m. and Saturday games at 1 p.m. unless the region tournament director determines another game time.
7. The home team will provide two optic yellow Dudley SB12LND-FP game balls.

B. General Policies

- 1. Individuals 7 years of age and older will be charged an admission of \$5.
- 2. A plaque and 25 individual certificates will be presented to the region champion.
- 3. Region champions must complete the media information form online and submit it by 3 p.m. Sunday, May 18, by e-mailing Pat Gochnauer at patgochnauer@verizon.net.

4. Local MPSSAA districts will collect all revenue and pay all expenses. Site directors shall pay officials and required workers. When funds are not available, fees should be referred to the host district.

IV. STATE TOURNAMENT

A. Tournament Organization

1. The MPSSAA will sponsor, conduct, and underwrite the tournament and will be responsible for expenses involving transportation, officials, and awards.
2. **2014 semifinal pairings: No. 1 South vs. No. 4 North, No. 2 West vs. No. 3 East.**
3. Dudley SB12LND-FP optic yellow game balls will be provided. Teams should provide their own marked balls for practice.
4. Photographers
 - a. Bachman Park: Authorized press photographers will be permitted ONLY on the field up against the fence, beyond the dugouts. Press photographers MUST use monopods and/or hand-held equipment only. Tripods are not allowed on the field.
 - b. University of Maryland regulations do not permit press photographers on the field.
5. **Semifinal site – Bachman Softball Park, Glen Burnie – phone 410-222-0017.**
 - a. **Directions from I-695 (Baltimore Beltway):** toward Glen Burnie. Take Exit #2 (Route 10 South) to Route 710 (second exit onto East Ordnance Road). Turn right at 3rd light. The Complex is behind the Detention Center and across from Home Depot. (If coming from the South or Eastern Shore, take I-97 to the Baltimore Beltway and follow the above directions.)
 - b. **Directions from the Northeast: I-95 south to I-695 East.** Take Francis Scott Key Bridge toward Glen Burnie, then follow directions above.
 - c. Individuals 7 years and older will be charged a \$6 admission to games at Bachman Park.
 - d. There are no dressing facilities available at either Bachman Park or the University of Maryland. Teams should come dressed ready to participate. Restroom facilities will be available.
6. **Finals site – University of Maryland College Park–Softball Complex.**

Directions from I-95/I-495 (Capital Beltway): Exit Rte. 1 South to MD. Rte. 193 (University Blvd.) - West one mile, turn left at light onto Paint Branch Parkway. The Softball Complex is located on the right directly behind the Comcast Center.
7. Individuals seven years and older will be charged an \$8 admission to games at the University of Maryland Softball Complex. **The Softball Fan Focus on mpssaa.org contains the latest information.**

B. General Policies

1. Awards will be presented at the conclusion of the tournament. The championship team and finalist team will each be awarded a team plaque and 25 individual awards.
2. Refreshments will be available for purchase at the sites.

We are looking forward to the cooperation of everyone in making our 39th annual Maryland Girls State Softball Tournament a success!

2014 MPSSAA Softball Region Directors

Region	Director	School	Office	Other
4A West	Colleen Kelly	Quince Orchard	301-548-8284	301-312-2124
4A North	Brian Radcliffe	Perry Hall	410-887-5108	410-592-6529
4A South	Luanne Smith	Central-PG	301-499-7080X274	301-583-7948
4A East	Linda Parks	Annapolis MS	410-267-8658	410-903-8983
3A West	Jody Tyler	Watkins Mill	301-840-3977	240-888-4115
3A North	Dave Scrivener	Franklin	410-887-1126	443-271-4527
3A South	Michael Johnson	Huntingtown	410-414-7036	410-586-1414
3A East	Jeannie Prevosto	Mt. Hebron	410-313-2885	410-960-5195
2A West	Steve Nibbs	Thomas Johnson	240-236-8233	240-285-6851
2A North	Jamie Izdebski	Lansdowne	410-887-1424	410-538-6014
2A South	Jeannie Prevosto	Mt. Hebron	410-313-2885	410-960-5195
2A East	Marianne Shultz	North County	410-222-6970	443-386-5876
1A West	Bill Sterner	Hancock	301-766-8191	301-988-0222
1A North	Kathleen Donaldson	Bel Air	410-638-4600	410-335-6335
1A South	Carla Barrera	Polytechnic	410-396-7023	443-562-0334
1A East	Kory Shiles	Mardela	410-677-5142	410-742-0744

Email addresses for regional directors can be found on the softball page of mpssaa.org.

SEMIFINAL GAMES - Bachman Park

MAY 21 Class	Game	Region	RAIN DATE - May 22 Field	Time
1A	#1 (H) vs. #4 (V)	S vs. N	#4	4 PM
	#2 (H) vs. #3 (V)	W vs. E	#6	4 PM
2A	#1 (H) vs. #4 (V)	S vs. N	#1	4 PM
	#2 (H) vs. #3 (V)	W vs. E	#3	4 PM
3A	#1 (H) vs. #4 (V)	S vs. N	#4	7 PM
	#2 (H) vs. #3 (V)	W vs. E	#6	7 PM
4A	#1 (H) vs. #4 (V)	S vs. N	#1	7 PM
	#2 (H) vs. #3 (V)	W vs. E	#3	7 PM

FINAL GAMES - University of Maryland Softball Complex

MAY 23-24 (RAIN DATE - May 26)
(Schedule to be determined following completion of semifinals.)

PROJECTED MPSSAA SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT DATES
2015 - May 22/23 2016 - May 27/28 2017 - May 26/27

2014 STATE SOFTBALL COMMITTEE

	Director	School	Office	Other
DIRECTOR	Lynn Pitonzo	North County	410-222-6970	410-437-3811
DISTRICT 1	Steve Nibbs	Thomas Johnson	240-236-8233	240-285-6851
DISTRICT 2	Jody Tyler	Watkins Mill	301-840-3977	240-888-4115
DISTRICT 3	Luanne Smith	Central-PG	301-499-7080	301-583-7948
DISTRICT 4	Michael Johnson	Huntingtown	410-414-7036	410-586-1414
DISTRICT 5	Linda Parks	Annapolis MS	410-267-8658	410-903-8983
	Jeannie Prevosto	Mt. Hebron	410-313-2885	410-960-5195
DISTRICT 6	Dave Scrivener	Franklin	410-887-1126	443-271-4527
DISTRICT 7	Kathleen Donaldson	Bel Air	410-638-4600	410-335-6335
DISTRICT 8	Kory Shiles	Mardela	410-677-5142	410-742-0744
DISTRICT 9	Carla Barrera	Polytechnic	410-396-7023	443-562-0334

RULES INTERPRETER

Al Palmer301-924-2464

Email addresses for committee members can be found on the softball page of mpssaa.org.

SOFTBALL

2014 ALIGNMENT FOR SOFTBALL

CLASS 4A-WEST		CLASS 4A-NORTH		CLASS 4A-SOUTH		CLASS 4A-EAST	
SECTION I		SECTION I		SECTION I		SECTION I	
1. Bethesda-CC	Mtg	1. Catonsville	B Co	1. Bladensburg	PG	1. Arundel	AA
2. Churchill	Mtg	2. Dulaney	B Co	2. Duval	PG	2. Chesapeake	AA
3. Kennedy	Mtg	3. Kenwood	B Co	3. High Point	PG	3. Glen Burnie	AA
4. Montgomery Blair	Mtg	4. Perry Hall	B Co	4. Laurel	PG	4. Meade	AA
5. Richard Montgomery	Mtg	5. Mergenthaler	Balt	5. Northwestern (PG)	PG	5. North County	AA
6. Walt Whitman	Mtg	6. Southwestern	Balt	6. Parkdale	PG	6. Old Mill	AA
7. Walter Johnson	Mtg	7. Western	Balt			7. Severna Park	AA
SECTION II		SECTION II		SECTION II		SECTION II	
1. Clarksburg	Mtg	1. Howard	How	1. Bowie	PG	1. Annapolis	AA
2. Gaithersburg	Mtg	2. Blake	Mtg	2. C H Flowers	PG	2. Broadneck	AA
3. Magruder	Mtg	3. Paint Branch	Mtg	3. Dr. Henry A Wise Jr	PG	3. South River	AA
4. Northwest	Mtg	4. Sherwood	Mtg	4. Eleanor Roosevelt	PG	4. North Point	Cha
5. Quince Orchard	Mtg	5. Springbrook	Mtg	5. Oxon Hill	PG	5. Great Mills	StM
6. Wootton	Mtg	SECTION I		6. Suitland	PG	6. Leonardtown	StM
CLASS 3A-WEST		CLASS 3A-NORTH		CLASS 3A-SOUTH		CLASS 3A-EAST	
SECTION I		SECTION I		SECTION I		SECTION I	
1. Frederick	Fre	1. Franklin	B Co	1. Northeast (AA)	AA	1. City	Balt
2. Linganore	Fre	2. Milford Mill Academy	B Co	2. Huntingtown	Cal	2. Digital Harbor	Balt
3. Thomas Johnson	Fre	3. Parkville	B Co	3. Northern (Cal.)	Cal	3. Poly	Balt
4. Tuscarora	Fre	4. Towson	B Co	4. J. M. Bennett	Wic	4. Centennial	How
5. Urbana	Fre	5. Woodlawn	B Co	5. Stephen Decatur	Wor	5. Long Reach	How
6. North Hagerstown	Was	6. Westminster	Car			6. Mt. Hebron	How
7. South Hagerstown	Was						
SECTION II		SECTION II		SECTION II		SECTION II	
1. Damascus	Mtg	1. Aberdeen	Hfd	1. La Plata	Cha	1. Atholton	How
2. Einstein	Mtg	2. Bel Air	Hfd	2. Lackey	Cha	2. Glenelg	How
3. Northwood	Mtg	3. C. Milton Wright	Hfd	3. Thomas Stone	Cha	3. Reservoir	How
4. Rockville	Mtg	4. Edgewood	Hfd	4. Westlake	Cha	4. River Hill	How
5. Seneca Valley	Mtg	5. North Harford	Hfd	5. Chopticon	StM	5. Wilde Lake	How
6. Watkins Mill	Mtg	6. Dundalk	B Co	6. Crossland	PG		
7. Wheaton	Mtg	7. Patapsco	B Co				
CLASS 2A-WEST		CLASS 2A-NORTH		CLASS 2A-SOUTH		CLASS 2A-EAST	
SECTION I		SECTION I		SECTION I		SECTION I	
1. Mountain Ridge	All	1. Carver Vo-Tech	Balt	1. Calvert	Cal	1. Fallston	Hfd
2. Catocin	Fre	2. Dunbar	Balt	2. Patuxent	Cal	2. Harford Tech	Hfd
3. Middletown	Fre	3. Patterson	Balt	3. McDonough	Cha	3. Patterson Mill	Hfd
4. Oakdale	Fre	4. Loch Raven	B Co	4. Hammond	How	4. Elkton	Cec
5. Walkersville	Fre	5. Lansdowne	B Co	5. Marriotts Ridge	How	5. North East (Cecil)	Cec
6. Boonsboro	Was	6. Western STES	B Co	6. Oakland Mills	How	6. Rising Sun	Cec
7. Williamsport	Was						
SECTION II		SECTION II		SECTION II		SECTION II	
1. Century	Car	1. Chesapeake	B Co	1. Southern (AA)	AA	1. North Carolina	Cin
2. Francis Scott Key	Car	2. Eastern Technical	B Co	2. Frederick Douglass	PG	2. Kent Island	Qa
3. Liberty	Car	3. Hereford	B Co	3. Friendly	PG	3. Queen Anne's	Qa
4. South Carroll	Car	4. Overlea	B Co	4. Gwynn Park	PG	4. Easton	Tal
5. Winters Mill	Car	5. Owings Mills	B Co	5. Largo	PG	5. Parkside	Wic
6. Poolesville	Mtg	6. Randallstown	B Co	6. Potomac	PG	6. Wicomico	Wic
CLASS 1A-WEST		CLASS 1A-NORTH		CLASS 1A-SOUTH		CLASS 1A-EAST	
SECTION I		SECTION I		SECTION I		SECTION I	
1. Allegany	All	1. Carver A&T	B Co	1. Benjamin Franklin	Balt	1. Colonel Richardson	Cin
2. Fort Hill	All	2. New Town	B Co	2. Lake Clifton	Balt	2. Kent County	K
3. Northern (Gar.)	G	3. Pikesville	B Co	3. KASA	Balt	3. St. Michaels	Tal
4. Southern (Gar.)	G	4. Sparrows Point	B Co	4. Reginald Lewis	Balt	4. Bohemia Manor	Cec
5. Hancock	Was	5. ACCE	Balt	5. Maritime Academy	Balt	5. Perryville	Cec
		6. Bluford Drew Jemison	Balt	6. New Era Academy	Balt	6. Havre de Grace	Hfd
		7. FAET	Balt	7. W.E.B. DuBois	Balt	7. Joppatowne	Hfd
		8. FAST	Balt				
SECTION II		SECTION II		SECTION II		SECTION II	
1. Manchester Valley	Car	1. Chesapeake Science Point	AA	1. Douglass	Balt	1. Cambridge-SD	Dor
2. North Carroll	Car	2. Central	PG	2. Edmondson/Westside	Balt	2. North Dorchester	Dor
3. Brunswick	Fre	3. Croom Vocational	PG	3. Forest Park	Balt	3. Crisfield	Som
4. Clear Spring	Was	4. Fairmont Heights	PG	4. Northwestern	Balt	4. Washington	Som
5. Smithsburg	Was	5. Forestville	PG	5. National Academy (NAF)	Balt	5. Mardela	Wic
		6. Surrattsville	PG			6. Pocomoke	Wor
		7. Tall Oaks	PG			7. Snow Hill	Wor