



MPSSAA GIRLS SOFTBALL BULLETIN

State Finals - June 18, 2021

Bachman Sports Complex

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. **All information found in the MPSSAA Spring Bulletins for COVID-19 mitigation and the MPSSAA Return To Play Guidance are incorporated by reference into this document and shall be utilized to minimize the spread of COVID-19 during the Softball Tournament.**
- C. 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. Unless specifically stated, all rules and regulations stipulated in the NFHS Softball Rule Book will be followed.
- D. **School systems choosing not to enter the tournament, or schools eliminated during the course of the tournament, may continue with seasonal competitions under the direction of their local school system and in compliance with the weekly and seasonal limitations found in COMAR 13A.06.03.03.**
- E. **Classification and Regions: In order to administer opening round contests, the MPSSAA classification committee and approved by the Board of Control has divided certain regions into smaller pods of teams to ensure participation in the first two rounds remain in smaller geographic areas.**
- F. *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. *Eligibility rules for all participants* are defined in MPSSAA Bylaw .02, found in the current Handbook.
- G. 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 **SB12LRFY-FP Optic Yellow ball with red stitching** during both the region and state tournaments.
- H. All region and state tournament games will be a minimum of seven innings unless considered complete under Section II, item B (3.) on the next page.
- I. 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.
- J. The Girls State Softball Committee has established a tiebreaker procedure for games tied after seven innings of play. 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.

SOFTBALL

2021 SOFTBALL TIME LINE		
	REGION TOURNAMENT	STATE TOURNAMENT
June 3Last play date for seeding consideration	June 7Region Quarterfinals	June 14Quarterfinals
June 4Tournament Seeding	June 9Region Semifinals	June 16Semifinals
	June 11/12Region Finals	June 18Finals

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 submitted by the local supervisor of athletics.
2. Each region will conduct a single elimination tournament, with the champion advancing to state play.
3. 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.
4. In case of inclement weather, athletic directors shall consult with regional directors before finalizing arrangements.
5. For region information, contact your region tournament director.

B. Playing Rules

1. The tournament will be conducted under National Federation rules.
2. 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.
3. In the event of a suspended game, refer to item II. (C.) on page 3 in the front of this bulletin.

C. Officials

MPSSAA-certified officials will be assigned for each game. A minimum of two officials will be used for regional games. Three officials will be used for state games.

III. REGION TOURNAMENT

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 submitted by the local supervisor of athletics.
2. Each region will conduct a single elimination tournament, with the champion advancing to state play.
3. The tournament seeding will take place Friday, June 4 in the MPSSAA office via conference call with the State Committee Director. Tournament pairings will appear on the MPSSAA web site <mpssaa.org> later that day.
 - a. Region directors will verify and submit to the State Committee Director by 9 p.m., June 3, the official records of all teams for regular season games played through that day.
 - b. All teams in each **region** will be seeded as determined by regular season winning percentage, excluding the one additional tournament and any city, county, or conference championship.
 - c. There will be NO minimum divisor for seeding purposes.**

- d. Ties among teams in a **region** 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 to determine the order of seeding.
 - 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.
4. Unless a specific alternative plan has been approved, all teams in regional play will abide by the following guidelines.
 - a. All **region** games will be played at the site of the higher seed throughout the tournament.
 - b. All region championship games will be held at the home site of the school with the higher regular season winning percentage.
 - c. If circumstances render a home site unplayable and the game is scheduled at any alternate site, the designated home team will remain unchanged.
 5. Postponed/suspended games may be required by the State Softball Committee to be made up as part of a double header.
 6. 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.
 7. The home team will provide two optic yellow Dudley **SB12LRFY-FP Optic Yellow with red stitching** game balls.
- B. General Policies
1. Admission and number of spectators are subject to the local hosting jurisdiction.
 2. A plaque and 25 individual certificates will be presented to the region champion.
 3. 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.
 4. The use of noisemakers and other distractions that disrupts the orderly progress of the game, (i.e., use of noisemakers coinciding with a pitch being delivered), are prohibited.

IV. STATE TOURNAMENT

A. State Quarterfinals

1. The region champions from each classification shall advance to a State Quarterfinal round.
2. The eight region champions will be seeded 1-8 based on their regular season winning percentage used to seed each region. Ties among teams in the State Quarterfinals 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 to determine the order of seeding.
3. Unless a specific alternate plan has been approved, all State Quarterfinal games will be played at the site of the higher seed.
4. Schools hosting a State Quarterfinal game must be mindful of other school activities and provide appropriate travel time. Local Supervisors of Athletics shall be contacted and make the final decision when conflicts occur.
5. A three-person officiating crew from the association local to the higher seeded team will be assigned to the State Quarterfinal contest.

6. 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.

B. State Semifinals

1. The winners of the State Quarterfinal round shall advance to the State Semifinals.
 - a. The winners of the No. 1 versus No. 8 seeded game will play the winners of the No. 4 versus No. 5 seeded game.
 - b. The winners of the No. 2 versus No. 7 seeded game will play the winners of the No. 3 versus No. 6 seeded game.
2. Unless an alternative plan has been approved, all state semifinal games will be played at the site of the higher seed.

C. State Championships

1. The winners of the State Semifinal round shall advance to the State Championships.
2. Finals 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. There are no dressing facilities available at Bachman Park. Teams should come dressed ready to participate. Restroom facilities will be available.
3. Two games will be played on separate fields at 11 a.m. and two games will be played at 2:30 p.m.

D. General Policies

1. Admission and spectator capacity will be determined by the MPSSAA in consultation with the facility and in compliance with local and state policies.
2. **Dudley SB12LRFY-FP Optic Yellow with red stitching** game balls will be provided. Teams should provide their own marked balls for practice.
3. Photographers at State Tournament sites are prohibited by NFHS rule from being in live-ball area. There will be a designated area for the media in dead ball territory at each site.
4. 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.

We are looking forward to the cooperation of everyone in making our 45th annual Maryland Girls State Softball Tournament a success!

2021 ALIGNMENT FOR SOFTBALL

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

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