



SUMMER 2017-2018

FINAL SERIES RULES SUMMARY

The following **FINAL SERIES RULES** have been extracted from the MBL Rules v5.1

2.10 Eligibility for Finals Participation

All players, to qualify for participation in the **Final series games**, must have participated in at least five games in that team prior to the completion of the regular season.

Applications for exemptions to this rule will be heard by the MBL Executive Committee, but will only be allowed on strict guidelines.

3.2 Final Series Game Duration

In all **Final Series Games** or replays of such, the game shall not be deemed to be completed until such time as –

- Seven (7) innings of play has been completed for Seniors Division 1
- Seven (7) innings or three (3) hours has been completed for Seniors Division 2
- Seven (7) innings or two (2) hours has been completed for Seniors Division 3 and Over 35's
- Seven (7) innings or two (2) hours has been completed for Senior League
- Seven (7) innings or one (1) hour and forty-five (45) minutes has been completed for Junior League
- Six (6) innings or one (1) hour and thirty (30) minutes has been completed for Little League Majors and Little League Minors Player Pitch and Machine Pitch (Zooka).

3.3 Abandoned Finals

Junior Competitions

- For Semi-finals and Finals - if washed out on the designated day, the game shall be played on a day during the following mid-week.
- If Semi Finals and Finals are subsequently washed out, then the team finishing higher during the regular season shall advance and the lower team is eliminated.

- If the Grand Final is washed out on the designated day, the game shall be played 7 days later at the same ground and time.
- If the Grand Final is subsequently washed out the Executive Committee will make every effort to have the game played, however if this is not achievable then the team finishing higher during the regular season will be deemed the winner.

Seniors and Over 35's Competitions

- For Semi-finals and Finals if washed out on the designated day, then the team finishing higher during the regular season shall advance and the lower team is eliminated.
- If the Grand Final is washed out on the designated day, the game shall be played 7 days later at the same ground and time.
- If the Grand Final is subsequently washed out the Executive Committee will make every effort to have the game played, however if this is not achievable then the team finishing higher during the regular season will be deemed the winner.

3.4 Required Result in Finals Game

- In all **Final Series games**, except all Senior Divisions, no new innings shall be commenced within 10 minutes of the scheduled finishing time.
- If an innings has been commenced in a final series game, prior to 10 minutes of the scheduled finishing time the inning must be completed regardless of whether the scheduled game time has elapsed or not.
- In all **Final Series games**, if the normal playing time has elapsed and the score is tied at even innings, additional innings shall be played until a result is achieved.

3.5 Mercy Rule

In all regular season and **Final Series games** the ten (10) run mercy rule shall apply after: –

- Five (5) innings for all Senior Divisions, Senior and Junior League.
- Four (4) innings for all other age groups.

3.17 Batting Order for a Team Playing Short

- During the regular season games any team which is short of the required nine players at commencement of the game or during the game through injury or ejection, shall not be penalised while batting.
- During **Finals series games** teams may nominate the missing player's position in the batting order and an automatic out will be recorded if the player fails to take their turn at bat.

5.4 Batting Line-ups

Junior teams (including Senior League) to be allowed to bat up to 12 players in the batting line up.

11.1 Run Limits

Juniors and Seniors - All semi-finals, finals and grand finals are open innings.

11.3 Pitching Restrictions

- The following restrictions on innings pitched shall apply: -
 - Little League Minors 6 Defensive Outs
 - Little League Majors 6 Defensive Outs
 - Junior League 3 innings
 - Senior League 4 innings
- The following restrictions on the number of pitches shall also apply: -

LEAGUE AGE	MAXIMUM PITCHES	RESTRICTION
9 - 14	66	Must leave the game and take no further part in the game as a player.
15 - 16	76	Must leave the game and take no further part in the game as a player.
17 - 18	81	Must leave the game and take no further part in the game as a player.
18 and over	120	Must be removed from the mound and can continue to take part in the game in any position.

- Upon reaching these pitch limits, **the pitcher is permitted to complete the batter.**
- In all circumstances, a relief pitcher will get his full allotment of warm-up pitches.
- All junior pitchers (Little League Minor to Senior League inclusive) can pitch 'Curve' balls.
- In all regular season games and **final series games**, for Little League Minors and Majors, pitchers may only throw one (1) curve ball per batter maximum. If a second curve ball is thrown to the same batter it will be deemed a ball.

12.8 Mandatory Play for Juniors

In all regular season and **final series games**, for Little League Minor Machine Pitch, Player Pitch, Little League Majors, Junior and Senior League, all players named on the line-up must meet mandatory play requirements.

Mandatory Play for Little League Minor Machine Pitch, Player Pitch and Little League Majors is either:

- one (1) plate appearance and at least three (3) defensive outs, or
- thirty (30) minutes of continuous game time.

Mandatory Play for Junior League and Senior League is either:

- one (1) plate appearance and at least three (3) defensive outs, or
- forty-five (45) minutes of continuous game time.

Proven breaches of this rule will result in the coach being automatically suspended:

- 1 week for the first offence
- 3 weeks for the second and subsequent offences and a seven (7) to nil loss of the game.

OTHER INFORMATION

BALLS

Semi-Finals – Teams to provide as per regular season
Finals and Grand Finals – MBL will provide

Over 35's Division 1 – Teams to provide for Qualifying Finals and Semi-Finals.
Preliminary Finals and Grand Finals – MBL will provide

UMPIRES

Semi-Finals – Teams to provide as per regular season (see below)
Finals and Grand Finals – MBL will provide

Over 35's Division 1 – Teams to provide for Qualifying Finals and Semi-Finals.
Preliminary Finals and Grand Finals – MBL will provide

6.2 Duty Umpires

For age groups Aussie Tee-Ball to Senior League:

1. The home team for that game shall supply the plate umpire
2. The away team supplying the base umpire.

For Senior Divisions:

1. The home team of the early afternoon game shall provide umpires for the late afternoon game on that diamond;
2. The home team of the late afternoon game shall provide umpires for the early afternoon game on that diamond;
4. Where there is a single game only, the home team for that game shall supply the plate umpire with the away team supplying the base umpire.

**FOR ANY RULES NOT COVERED IN THIS FINALS SERIES RULE SUMMARY
– REFER TO THE MBL RULES v5.1**

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