



FINAL SERIES RULES SUMMARY

The following final series rules have been extracted from the MBL Rules v6

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).

3.4 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.

6.2 Duty Umpires

In all **SEMI-FINAL** games umpires shall be supplied by: -

For age groups Zooka 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.

MBL WILL PROVIDE UMPIRES FOR ALL FINALS AND GRAND FINAL GAMES

6.6 Protest of Umpire's Ruling

- Any protest of an Umpire's ruling must be made and entered in the scorer's books and must be noted by the umpire before the next pitch is made.
- The Umpire shall advise each team that the game is then continued "Under Protest".
- Such protest once made cannot be withdrawn and must be confirmed and signed by the umpire and a representative of each team within fifteen (15) minutes of the completion of the game in both scorebooks and on the result sheet.

6.7 Permissible Umpiring Protests

Only protests on points of law may be made.
No protest on a judgement call shall be allowed.

6.8 Method of Protests

The team protesting must submit a written protest letter outlining: -

1. The complete account of all incidents, which are being protested, and
2. a list of all witnesses who will be asked to give evidence.

This letter must be in the hands of the R. P. & D. Chairman by no later than twelve (12) midnight of the Monday following the Friday or Saturday game, or by twelve (12) midnight of the Wednesday following a Monday night's game, in which the protest occurred.

\$20.00 must accompany the letter and this shall only be refunded should the protest be upheld.

11.1 Run Limit for First Three Innings – Junior's

This rule shall not apply to any semi-final, final or grand final.

11.2 Run restrictions – Senior's

This rule shall not apply to any semi-final, final or grand final.

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.

Any player effected by a breach of these restrictions must meet the shortfall of Mandatory Play as a starter in the line-up of the next game played including **final series games**.

14. LITTLE LEAGUE MINORS – MACHINE PITCH (Zooka)

For all Zooka rules please refer to MBL Rules v6 – pages 37 & 38

15.3 Unlimited interchange Over 35's

- Teams will be allowed to bat 12 people in the line-up.
- Teams will have the ability to move players on and off the field over the period of the game with the 12 players on the line up.
- A pitcher can only pitch one assignment and cannot be interchanged until he is moved to a fielding position. Once this has occurred he can be interchanged but is unable take the mound again.
- If a team has more than 12 players the additional players can be used as substitutes and the players that are substituted are unable re-enter the game.

16.14 Consumption of Alcohol and Tobacco

No Alcohol is to be sold or consumed at any junior games.

No Alcohol is to be consumed by any player, coach or official prior to or during their game.

The use of Tobacco products on the playing field or in the dugouts is expressly forbidden at any time. Club leaders and coaches should assist umpires with the vigorous enforcement of this rule.

Any person found to be in violation of this rule will be subject to immediate ejection and suspension of at least one game.

BALLS

Semi-Finals – Teams to provide as per regular season.

Finals and Grand Finals – MBL will provide.

WASHOUT INSTRUCTIONS

All information in relation to wet weather game disruptions will be posted on the MBL Facebook page and Club Presidents will be notified.

The Wet Weather advice service and website will be updated as required.

Wet Weather Line – 0401 055 106.

NO HOSTING CLUB WILL WASHOUT GAMES BECAUSE THEIR FIELD IS CLOSED.

GAMES WILL BE RELOCATED WHERE POSSIBLE.

3.3 Abandoned Finals

ZOOKA, PLAYER PITCH, MAJORS, JUNIOR & SENIOR LEAGUE

Semi-finals and Finals

If the host venue is washed out on the semi-final game day or final game day, MBL will make all efforts to relocate the games the same day to other suitable venues.

If a semi-final or final game is officially washed out the game will be rescheduled on a day during the following mid-week.

If the rescheduled semi-final or final game is subsequently washed out the following rule will apply:

- the team finishing higher during the regular season shall advance and the lower team is eliminated.

Grand Finals

If the Grand Final is washed out, 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

Semi-finals and Finals

If the host venue is washed out on the semi-final game day or final game day, MBL will make all efforts to relocate the games the same day to other suitable venues.

If Semi Finals or Finals are subsequently washed out, then the team finishing higher during the regular season shall advance and the lower team is eliminated.

Grand Finals

If the Grand Final is washed out, 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.

Macarthur Baseball League Contacts

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