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# 2014 18+ Amendments Draft

This document outlines the changes made to the 18+ division of the Boston Men's Baseball League rules for the 2014 season as voted on by managers and developed by the rules committee.

## Summary

General: Adjustments of league name from MABL to BMBL 18+ Division

1.06 Bats. Wood composites now allowed.

2.10 Mercy Rule (15 runs) after 5 innings.

6.02/03 Playoff Qualification with 8 teams including 4 wild cards.

7.02 Adding Players to the Roster up to 1-hour before game time (previously 1 day).

7.03 MSBL National Membership Fee no longer relevant.

7.05 Player Add Deadline removed. Relevancy decreased as there is no longer a per player fee. Provides managers with more roster flexibility by removing previous deadline.

7.07 Moving a Game. Timeframe dropped from 7 days to 4 days for the one yearly move. Also added flexibility for game moves over 30 days. Made penalties more specific for forfeits. Allows for an additional playoff move.

7.08 Cost of Moving a Game. Coupled with 7.07, provides financial disincentive for rescheduling a game within 10 days.

9.01 Prohibited Conduct. 2014 rule amended to include "come in contact with" to specifically include incidental umpire contact.

9.02 (e) Umbrella Suspension Rule. [9.02 (e) added in 2014 to close loophole where a player could be suspended in one BMBL age division and still play in another for serious offenses.

## Details

**1.06 Bats.** Wood bats, including bamboo are permitted without any weight limitations. Wood composite bats are allowed but must meet the BBCOR (Batted Ball Coefficient of Restitution) standard and be properly marked with the BBCOR logo.

*[2014 revision to allow bamboo and wood composite bats with a goal of decreasing player costs.]*

**2.10 Mercy Rule (15 runs).** If there is a 15 run differential after 5 innings or 4 1/2 if the home team is leading, the leading team will be deemed the winner. Applies to regular season games only.



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*[2.10 was added in 2014.]*

**6.02** Playoff Qualification. Eight (8) total teams will qualify for the playoffs based on highest point total. In the event of a tie for playoff spots see rule 6.04.

*[6.02 was adjusted in 2014 to account for an 11-team division]*

**6.03** Playoff Seeding.

- #1 seed is the division champ with the most points
- #2 seed is the other division champ
- #3 seed is the 2nd place team with the most points
- #4 seed is the 2nd place team from the other division
- #5-#8 seeds are wildcards, by order of point totals

*[6.03 was adjusted in 2014 to account for an 11-team division and to provide better competition for the lowest four seeds.]*

**7.02** Adding Players to the Roster. For a player to be placed on a roster once the season has begun, the following must occur prior to player appearing in the scheduled game.

(a) The player must sign a player waiver. Managers have 3 days to email/mail/show proof of the waiver to the league after the player appears in a game. AND

(b) The player must be placed on the roster in 400Hitter at least one (1) hour prior to game time.

*[Rule 7.02 was amended in 2014 to provide managers with more roster flexibility.]*

**7.03** MSBL National Membership Fee. Each team is responsible for paying a yearly membership fee with the MSBL National organization.

*[As of 2014, there is no longer a \$26 per player fee. Those costs have been converted to a flat team fee.]*

**7.05** Player Add Deadline. A team may add an eligible player to their roster on any date. Other rules such as 7.02 (Adding Players to Roster) and 6.06 (Playoff Qualification) still apply.

*[Rule 7.05 was amended in 2014 to provide managers with more roster flexibility by removing previous deadline.]*

**7.07** Moving a Game. A team may reschedule up to one (1) regular season game AND/OR one (1) playoff game based on reasons other than weather without the game being deemed a



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forfeit, as long as the following condition is met: the manager rescheduling the game notifies the League President, the opposing team's manager (or designee), and the Umpire-In-Chief at least four (4) days before the scheduled game. NOTE: A non-returned phone message or e-mail will not constitute notification.

Exception: With the agreement of the other manager, a team may reschedule a game with thirty (30) day's notice without the change counting towards the one (1) game change per season.

A team may also take a loss on a game if they will be unable to field enough players with the following results:

- 3+ days notice. A zero (0) point loss
- 0-2 days notice. A two (-2) point loss.

*[The 2014 amendment is designed to provide clarification, reduce reschedule timeframe (7 to 4 days) and to offer more flexibility around long-term game moves.]*

**7.08 Cost of Moving a Game.** These costs apply to the requesting team for rescheduling a game due to non-weather related reasons with less than ten (10) days of notice if the field cannot be reused by another team. These costs help cover the costs of unused fields and also serve as a financial penalty.

Field Cost for League Supplied Fields OR for Visiting Teams

- \$100 night game.
- \$50 day game.

All fees must be paid within seven (7) days or a team will be considered in default. Future games occurring after the originally scheduled game will be forfeited at zero points until the balance is paid.

*[The 2014 amendment is designed to protect the league from the added expense of unused fields and to discourage last minute game moves.]*

**9.01 Prohibited Conduct.** Players shall conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times. No player shall commit the following:

- (a) Lay a hand upon, **come in contact with**, shove or strike, or threaten an official. Players guilty of such conduct shall be immediately suspended from further participation in the game and shall remain suspended until the Board of Directors concludes their review of the matter. Players guilty of such conduct may be subject to suspension for the remainder of the season or expulsion from the league for life, at the discretion of the Board.



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[2014 rule amended to include "come in contact with" to include incidental contact.]

## 9.02 Penalties.

- (e) For serious offenses involving multiple game suspensions, player penalties are subject to the BMBL umbrella where the Board may apply suspensions across all age divisions. Under this umbrella policy, a player will not be able to play in another age division until the original penalty is served.

[9.02 (e) added in 2014 to close loophole where a player could be suspended in one BMBL age division and still play in another for serious offenses.]