

# Munster Girls Softball

Manager's Guideline: "How To Conduct A Game" – Instructional B

This document attempts to educate the manager on how to prepare for and conduct games that are efficient and positive for your players, coaches and fans.

## Season Plan

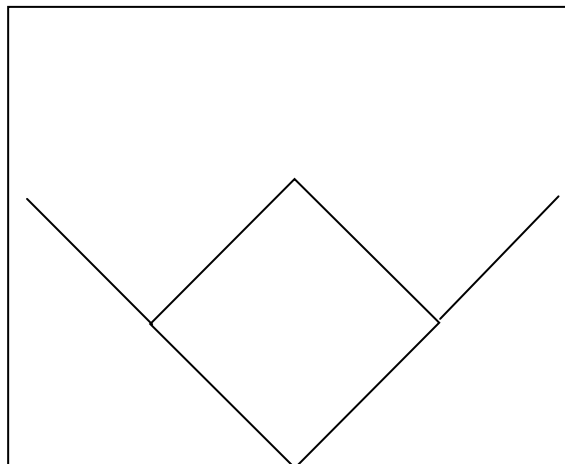
- Have someone collect for concession stand tickets – ensure they are purchased for each game. Remember that the concession stand switches from MGS to MLL in the middle of the season, and generally treat tickets from one are not honored by the other, so you don't want to buy the whole year in advance!
- It's a good idea to have a "Team Mom" – someone to attend to the players needs and also has the responsibility of getting the next batter ready to go.
- Generally, you get each player to gain experience at each position. During each game you should try to get players in both infield and out field positions.
- Recommend moving the players each inning – gets them use to looking at the drawing of the field, and finding their position.
- Manager should show up 30 minutes before game time to ensure the field is prepared for the game.
- Have players show up 15 minutes before game time.
- Have a warm-up routine – throw/catch, running in place, stretching, inspection

## Every Game Plan

- Make a game plan – in pencil. Know where you're going to play each player, every inning. You need to get your players onto the field quickly – you can't decide as you go.
- Give your plan to your coaches so they can tell the players where to stand.

## Defense

- Have each inning planned in advance. Have a sketch like this one and just write in your players' names where they will play. Draw the sketch four times for four innings. The trick is if players don't show up you'll have to make some quick adjustments.
- A defensive coach is needed on the field – but keep it to one or two.
- Play the players in their correct positions... don't fill the infield with players. Play all extra players in the outfield.
- Usually, players throw to first to get the runner. Getting force outs is a plus. Generally, nobody gets out and has to sit down.
- Last batter clears the bases – get the ball to the catchers after the throw to first and gently tag each runner. After the last runner is tagged at home, bring your players in quickly.



## Offense

- Batting is continuous order. Make a list of the players in the order they will bat and post it in the dugout. Most girls know how to read names and before you know it they will be getting themselves ready to bat.
- Do not have an on-deck circle – players don't need to warm up and a player swinging wildly could hit another player.
- Don't allow the players to hold the bats in the dugout – you pick up your bat and run out to the plate.
- Have coaches on first and third – talk to your runners continuously. It is important that they learn that the offensive coaches are standing by first and third.
- Do not encourage players to swing up – it's a bad habit. Get them to hit grounders and line drives.

## When the Game is over

- Line up your players and shake hands at the pitcher's mound.
- Pick up litter in the dugout
- Have today's special player pass out concession stand tickets.
- If you're the last game, put away bases, etc.