

Mat-Su Softball Association

4900 Palmer-Wasilla Hwy, Ste 111

Wasilla, AK 99654

(907) 376-9050 matsusoftball@gmail.com

MSSA Team Managers Guide 2026

Welcome and Introductions

☐ 2026 MSSA Board of Directors

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| o Executive Director | Adam Imperato |
| o President | Dan Fleckenstein |
| o Vice President | Nic Williams |
| o Treasurer | Josh Schroeder |
| o Public Relations | Patrick Moore |
| o Secretary | Kerby Coman |
| o UIC | Don Ostrom |
| o Office assistants | Molly Fortunato |
| o Player Representative | Michael Gottschling |
| | Kacey Thompkins |
| | Davey Griffith |

Mat-Su Softball

2026 MSSA Season Preview

☐ Team and Player Registration

- o Online registration opened March 1.
- o Coed Player Registration is \$100 per player.
- o Men's Player Registration is \$100 per player.
- o Coed Player Registration for a 2nd Team is \$90.
- o MSSA offers a \$10 discount for seniors, and military service on their player registration.
- o For State tournament eligible roster all players must be registered by July 15. If any player registers after July 15, you are subject to a \$250 fine from USA Softball of Alaska.
- o **All players are required to register before playing.**

USA Softball Rule and Code Changes, Local Rules – UIC, Don Ostrom

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- o **Home Run Rule** – **Men’s C** - 2 and progressive; **Men’s D** -1 & Progressive; **Men’s E**- 1and Done; **Coed B** - Plus 2 (Matching HRs for Men & Women); **Coed C** - 2 & Progressive (Matching HRs for Men & Women); **Coed D**-1 & Progressive (Matching HRs for Men & Women); **Coed E**- 1 and Done(Matching HRs for Men & Women) ; **Coed F and Coed Rec** - 0. Additional home runs will be an out.
- o Batters begin each at bat with a **1 ball-1 strike count**.
- o Pitchers are required to deliver a pitch within 5 seconds of receiving the ball.
- o Minors are permitted to play with Parental Consent, which has to be completed every year. Each minor will be evaluated on an individual basis to determine eligibility for playing infield. If they are deemed eligible to play infield they must wear a batting helmet with a face mask. Minors are not eligible for **state** tournament play. Minors must wear a helmet on offense.
- o All players must wear a jersey with a six inch number on the back.
- o All lineup cards shall contain first and last name, defensive position, and uniform number of each player
- o **One Courtesy Runner** is allowed each half inning for each **GENDER**. A Courtesy Runner may be any rostered player of the same gender.
- o A **pitcher** may have a courtesy runner **provided the pitcher bats for themselves and reaches base safely** . The courtesy runner will not count towards the one courtesy runner permitted each half inning.
- o Any eligible player may be a courtesy runner once per inning for any player other than the pitcher. This player may also run for the pitcher whenever the pitcher is on base.
- o In the Championship game only, the undefeated team shall decide the home team. If there is more than one undefeated team or in the event of an “IF” game, the home team shall be decided by a coin toss.
- o The pitcher may take a position from the front edge of the pitcher’s plate to 6 feet behind the pitcher’s plate with both feet firmly on the ground **and with one or both feet within the 24-inch length of the pitching plate**.
- o **MSSA League Pick Up Player Rule** states that a team may pick up to 3 players as required for league play. Pickup players must be an MSSA registered player on the same night of play in the same division (Men’s, Women’s, Coed), and of the same class or lower. Teams may only pick up enough players to have a complete lineup (10) on the field. A Pickup Player must wear a jersey representative of the team they are registered on. If a late player(s) arrives they

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must be immediately substituted in for the Pickup Player(s). Borrowed Pick Up Players may return to their own team and are considered eligible substitutes.

- o **Bat Testing** – All bats must have a USA Softball certification logo. All associations hosting a State Tournament are required to have an USA Softball approved Bat Tester. Bat testers ensure that bats are within USA Softball performance safety standards. Certification stickers will be required for ASA certified bats to use in State tournaments. The same requirement will hold for all MSSA hosted tournaments. MSSA shall accept bat certification stickers from Anchorage Sports, Anchortown Sports, and Golden Heart Softball Associations and vice-versa.
- o **Music** - Playing music during games is subject to Umpire discretion. Music, when played, must not be loud enough to interfere with communications during the game. Music, if played, cannot contain vulgar or explicit lyrics. An umpire may completely forbid music from being played if he/she chooses. If a problem arises, discuss the issue with your umpire.
- o **2026 League Rules and General Information** is posted on the MSSA website.
- o **Dogs** - No dogs are allowed inside the complex during softball activities.
- o **Alcohol** - No alcohol may be brought into the complex. Beer and wine are available for purchase from Home Run Concessions.

Safety

- ☑ Safety for players, spectators and officials is the highest priority for Mat-Su Softball.
- ☑ Managers and players are advised to take active measures to increase safety when playing the game.
- ☑ MSSA encourages the use of facemasks for all infield players, especially **for pitchers**.
- ☑ USA Softball Rules and Regulations are designed to increase the safety of the game.
- ☑ Players under 18 must wear a batting helmet while batting

2026 MSSA Calendar of Events and Key Dates

- ☑ League games begin Monday May 18, weather and field conditions permitting.
- ☑ All players must be registered and paid prior to playing .
- ☑ **July 15th** is the last day to add a player to a team's roster. This is the last day that a player may register for state tournament eligibility. If any player registers after July 15, you are subject to a \$250 fine from USA Softball of Alaska.

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- ☒ All players must register prior to playing.
- ☒ MSSA Hosted Tournament Dates:
 - o **MVFCU Memorial** - \$425 - Coed B, Coed C/D May 29th - May 31st
 - o **DarkStar Diamond Duel** - \$425 - Men's C, Men's D/E July 17th - 19th
 - o **Coed C State Tournament** - \$450 - August 14th - 16th
 - o **Men's C State Tournament** - \$450 - August Aug 21st - 23rd
 - o **MSSA** hosts the **Coed C & Men's C State Tournaments**
 - o **2026 Statewide Tournament Schedule** is available on USA Softball of Alaska website
- Tournaments and events hosted at Bumpus 2026
 - o **Rally In The Valley**- Colony High School- April 29th- May 3rd (Depending on weather)
 - o **Polar Thaw**- Polar Fast Pitch- May 22nd- May 24th
 - o **June Jam**- WWA Sports- Men's C, Men's D/E- June 12th- June 14th
 - o **USSsA Tournament**- Brad Peterson- Men's- June 26th- June 28th (Tentative)
 - o **USSsA Tournament**- Brad Peterson- COED- July 3rd- July 5th (Tentative)
 - o **Solstice Search Team game - August 1**
 - o **Polar Freeze**- Polar Fast Pitch- August 7th- August 9th
- ☒ **2026 Improvement goals**
 - o Continue progress with the City of Wasilla to add two more fields and additional parking
 - o Paint and repair Concessions Building
 - o Refurbish and repair all dugouts
 - o Parking lot expansion and paving
 - o Refurish infield, add soil and improve drainage
 - o Expand and install improved security system
 - o Repair and improve fencing
 - o Install new public announcement system

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☒ 2025 Field Improvements

- o Installed new Bathrooms
- o Repainted all wooden bleachers
- o Installed new storm water drainage system
- o Installed new bases and improved the batter boxes
- o Repaired all fencing and dugouts on all fields

2026 MSSA Season Team Reclassifications

- ☒ Men's D to Men's C - Upper1

Sponsorship opportunities are still available, see details at www.matsusoftball.com

MSSA Website by SportsPlus

- ☒ www.matsusoftball.com

- ☒ Key Features and Benefits

- o News, Information, Links, Team Pages, Calendar, Schedules, Standings
- o Online Registration
- o SportsPlus Mobile App for Android or Iphone
- o **Signing up for text messaging updates is highly recommended**

MSSA Community resources

Mat-Su Softball Official Facebook Page

Mat-Su Softball Community Facebook Page

- ☒ **Work together, Play together, Know your Role, Stay in your Lane**
- ☒ Please help keep the facility clean inside and out, please clean your dugout when vacating, especially at the end of the evening

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2026 Matsu Softball Board of Director Nominations

Please have you and your team nominate someone that would want to be part of our Board of Directors.

Please turn in this sheet to Vice President Nicolas Williams before the week of July 4th.

Elections will begin when we return from July 4th break

Nominations:
