



MUGS 2020 SPRING



SPRING SEASON 2020

Coaches:

Enclosed in this notebook are you Tournament & League Rules, a list of MUGS Board Members and a Schedule of Events and important dates. This notebook is considered part of your team equipment issued to you by MUGS. Please return the notebook at the end of the season with the rest of your equipment. Your season schedule will be given to you by your Division Coordinator.

Before your first practice you must:

- ✓ Hold a team meeting with your parents and players. Please go over the MUGS policies, rules, all stars, etc.
- ✓ Recruit your manager, chaperone, scorekeeper and fundraising representative. A list of duties for each of these is enclosed.
- ✓ Please review the spectator code of conduct and disciplinary action. Please be sure all parents and players understand the MUGS policies.

Prior to each game, you should fill out a line up card. One copy is for the umpire, one for the opposing coach, and one for recording your all-star votes for the opposing team. **You must turn in All-Star votes after each game.**

Thank you for choosing to dedicate your time and support to MUGS, your daughter, and the girls who love the game of softball. Your decision to Coach is an important one, and you have the power to teach, lead, and be a mentor to impressionable young ladies who hopefully will continue to play softball for a very long time. Please contact your Coordinator, or a Board Member with any questions you may have during the season.

We hope you have a wonderful season!

COACHING AGREEMENT

MUGS HAS INSTITUTED A NO TOLERANCE POLICY THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS

I agree to comply with the following rules and regulations of the Midland United Girls Softball Association. I also understand my basic duties as a coach and promise to meet them to the best of my ability.

**Head coaches will complete the ACE Coaching certification found on REGISTERUSASOFTBALL.COM
Background checks will be approved by West Texas USA Softball-District 26 Commissioner**

BASIC DUTIES OF A COACH

1. Help to organize the team
2. Inventory all equipment assigned to the team
3. Teach the rules of softball to all team members
4. Teach basic fundamentals to all players, without favoritism
5. Be patient and composed
6. Be neat in appearance
7. Inform team leaders (managers, chaperon, scorekeeper) of duties
8. Instill proper respect for:
 - The game of softball
 - Team members and opponents
 - Umpires and team leaders
 - Equipment (players' and MUGS')
9. Know the rules of softball and the League Operating Rules
10. Teach the softball and League Operating Rules to players
11. Promote safety at all times
12. Emphasize and exemplify good conduct
13. Attend required coaching clinic

RULES TO BE FOLLOWED

1. Attend managers and coaches meetings
2. Must not use alcohol or tobacco (in any form) on or near any practice fields or games. Do not show up to any team practice, any game at the complex, or any other team function with alcohol on your breath
3. Must not curse, use abusive language, or make derogatory remarks of any kind
4. A female adult (parent, coach, manager, or chaperon) MUST be present at ANY and all team functions, and until the last child is picked up from any practice, function or game. Male coaches are NEVER to be alone with any player(s), other than family member(s)
5. Do not touch girls in any manner other than for instructional purposes, congratulatory purposes, or to administer first aid
6. Must attend practices and games, or make proper arrangements
7. Must have knowledgeable scorekeeper available for home games
8. Must provide selections for opposing team's All Star votes after every game
9. Will provide players with a roster of their team, which includes all coaches, manager, chaperon,
10. Distribute to team manager, chaperon, and scorekeeper, fundraiser/concessions mom, his/her duty listing.

COACHING AGREEMENT **DISCIPLINARY ACTION TO COACHES**

1. The following offenses are subject to immediate dismissal:
 - ❖ Violation of alcohol policy
 - ❖ Unwanted physical contact with female players.
2. The following offenses are subject to MUGS Board review with discipline to be determined by the Board:
 - ❖ Violation of tobacco policy
 - ❖ Foul and/or abusive language
 - ❖ Displays of bad temper and/or poor sportsmanship
 - ❖ Any violation of Coaching Agreement

Board reserves the right for disciplinary actions.

COACHING AGREEMENT

I am aware that MUGS instituted a No Tolerance Policy. I have read these requirements for a coach, and am willing to comply with them while coaching at MUGS. I also understand the disciplinary actions that may be taken against me, should I violate these.

DIVISION: _____

TEAM #: _____

Coach's Name (PLEASE PRINT) _____

Coach's Signature: _____

Date: _____

**This form must be signed and returned to your Division
Coordinator prior to your first practice**

**RETURN THIS PAGE
KEEP THE FIRST PAGE FOR YOUR RECORDS**

COACHING RESPONSIBILITIES

- If you can not control your words and actions during a game, you shouldn't be leading children. If you do not have self-discipline to hold you tongue, that should tip you off that this is not the spot for you.
- If a player on your team starts to swear or make derogatory comments or cheers, you can take her aside and explain gently but firmly than, "This is my team and when you're on my team, I don't allow anybody to talk that way." Take time to remind youngsters that using profanity or derogatory comments or cheers is always poor sportsmanship – and that umpires are trained not to let those kinds of words be used in a game. If the player doesn't cooperate, simply remove her from the game.
- If one of the team parents on the sidelines makes a spectacle of himself/herself with foul language or derogatory comments or cheers, then you have every right (and responsibility) to ask him/her to tone it down or stop. You have a much better chance at getting a cooperative response than does an umpire or league official.
- If the opposing coach, players or parents are at fault, you best bet is to complain to the umpire or league official.
- All Coaches will need to have their ACE Certification, Background Check and SAFE SPORT. Please go to registerusasoftball.com to obtain that. The ACE Certification and background check badge will need to be displayed at all times while in contact with the players.
- All Coaches, Assistants, or Dugout Mom, or anyone that will be working with the players will need to have a background check. Go to registerusasoftball.com to get your background check. These will need to be displayed at all times while in contact with the players.

Spectator Code/of Conduct

- ✓ Display respect for officials, coaches, players, and opponents.
- ✓ Exhibit good sportsmanship at all times.
- ✓ Appreciate good efforts and skill of all participants.

SCOREKEEPER DUTIES

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Be consistent in attendance of games
- Attend the scorekeeping clinics, if you are unfamiliar with the proper way to keep a MUGS scorebook
- Know the rules.
- Be prepared at game time (i.e. colored pencils, sharpener, eraser, etc.)
- Be able to record the following information in the score book:
 - Starting line-ups (both teams), and all changes during games
 - Starting game time
 - Plate umpire's name
 - Pitcher's outs (color coding)
 - Any/all protests
- Walks, hits, and errors
- Be impartial
- Obtain umpire name and/or names
- Clearly show final score of game.
- Report final score to the Division Coordinator
- Inform coaches of pitcher's outs

MANAGER DUTIES

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Attend managers and coaches meetings
- Be responsible to team coaches
- Record attendance at all practices and games and encourage promptness ***
- Know the game and be familiar with League Rules
- Regulate dugout (provide control and discipline) teach rules
- Be a source of assurance and understanding to players
- Be a source of correct information, squelch rumors
- Be a liaison between the girls and the parents
- Promote safety
- Encourage respect and good sportsmanship at all times
- Stimulate a proper attitude whether winning or losing
- Keep, at coach's discretion, a scorebook in the dugout to provide quick access to score, pitcher's outs, next up to bat, etc.
- Provide official scorekeeper with line-up sheet

** Attendance must be kept and should be available for reference when making a request for disciplinary action due to attendance.

BASIC DUGOUT RULES

- Players are not allowed to make derogatory remarks or do cheers which belittle the opposing team or its members.
- No player should be allowed to leave the dugout without the team chaperon accompanying her, unless a parent or guardian is removing her from the remainder of the game to leave the MUGS complex.
- No one, other than team members and the coaching staff, is allowed in or near the dugout (on the cement pad) at any time during the game.

CHAPERON DUTIES

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Administer first aid to the players
- Assist in team control.
- Keep the dugout neat
- Keep control of dugout during games.
- Escort players who must leave dugout during games
- Teach and enforce dugout rules
- Assist coaches and manager
- Promote respect and good sportsmanship
- Promote cooperation
- Be a liaison between girls and parents
- Be a source of correct information, squelch rumors
- Know the game and be familiar with the league rules

BASIC DUGOUT RULES

- Players are not allowed to make derogatory remarks or do cheers that belittle the opposing team or its members.
- No player should be allowed to leave the dugout without the team chaperon accompanying her unless a parent or guardian is removing her from the remainder of the game to leave the MUGS complex.
- No one, other than team members and coaching staff, is allowed in or near the dugout (on the cement pad) at any time during the game

MUGS All-Stars Nomination Procedures

All Star coaches will be selected, and approved by the Board of Directors of MUGS, and notified by the Division Coordinator. Coaches interested in being an All Star Coach should give the Division Coordinator prior notification (see form in Coach's Book), so as to be considered for that position by season's end.

In order for each Player to be eligible for an All Star Selection, they must receive a minimum of 5 votes for the Spring Fastpitch Softball season. There will be a 12 game schedule. A player does not have to play in all 12 games to be eligible, but they must garner at least 5 All Star votes during the season.

Each coach at the end of each game will be required to make their votes and turn them in to the appropriate box located by the concession stand, or to their Division Coordinator or Player Representative. If any coach is unsure of where to turn in their votes, they need to find their Division Coordinator or Player Representative. Remember, All Star voting is privileged information and should not be divulged to anyone.

- Each coach will be voting for the players on the opposing team.
- At least 3, but no more than 5 players must be selected from each team after each game.
- Only one set of votes may be turned in per team for each game.
- Please include first name and last name and if possible the players number.
- Also provide the Division number, team number, and date of game.

If a coach does not turn in an All Star vote list after each game for the opposing team, then the votes his players received from the opposing coach will be denied. When that list is turned in and made current, then his players' votes will be reinstated. Please do not take longer than the next scheduled game date. This is to institute fairness to all players, and give everyone an honest chance at being selected as an All Star. It will be up to the Division Coordinators and the Player Representatives to maintain a log of all votes.

At the end of the season, the appointed All-Star Coach(es) will have those nominated players to choose from. No player, without the minimum five (5) votes will be eligible for the All Star Selection. Each All Star coach will select twelve (12) players for his or her roster. There will be no alternates selected until it has been determined that a player already selected, cannot meet the commitment to be an All Star Representative. Every league team in each division should have at least one (1) All Star Representative. No more than FIVE (5) players from any one (1) league team can be selected for All Stars. A maximum of THREE players from the same league team can be selected to the same All-Star team.

The only instance where there may be other players selected, is if there are not enough players to fill the roster. Then the players with the most votes will become eligible. The five (5) vote minimum can be lowered to four (4) or three (3) votes by the coordinator when necessary due to a lack of players or votes. The appointed Board Members will select those players for consideration in the capacity of Division Coordinator and the Player Representative for that

division. It is recommended that it require both the Division Coordinator and Player Representative be present, so as not to have the possibility of any unfairness. If that is not possible, then at least two (2) Board Members should be present.

All-Star Selection Guidelines

The Executive Board with guidance from the Division Coordinator and Player Representative will determine which Head Coach selects first, second, and third (if applicable) in the draft. The player selection process is as follows:

1. Head Coach's daughter will be designated as the number three (3) pick on the roster.*
2. Assistant Coach's daughter (if applicable) will be designated as the number four (4) pick on the roster.*
3. Head Coach # 1 will then select two (2) players followed by Head Coach # 2 and then Head Coach # 3 (if applicable).
4. Picks five (5) through (10) will then be selected with Head Coach # 1 picking first followed by Head Coach # 2, then Head Coach # 3 (if applicable).
5. Picks 11 and 12 are scrutinized closely by the Division Coordinator, Player Representative, and Head Coaches to insure that at least one player from each league team is represented.

(* If the Head Coach and/or Assistant Coach do not have a daughter, that team will have first pick in rounds 3 and/or 4.)

MUGS 2019 All-Star Coaches

Please check below and sign if you are interested in being a head coach or assistant coach for a MUGS All-Star team this year. The tournament will be in Midland, Texas on **July 11-13, 2019**. The MUGS Board of Directors must approve these positions. Once approved, you will be required to attend all practices beginning approximately June 16, 2019.

THIS FORM IS BEING GIVEN TO ALL TEAM COACHES AND DOES NOT NECESSARILY INDICATE THAT YOU ARE ALREADY BEING CONSIDERED FOR ANY POSITION.

_____ Head Coach

_____ Assistant Coach

_____ Division

_____ Current Team Number

I wish to be considered even if my daughter does not make the team.

_____ Yes

_____ No

Name _____
(Please Print Clearly)

Signature _____

**THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED TO YOUR
DIVISION COORDINATOR BY _____ IN ORDER TO BE
CONSIDERED AS AN ALL-STAR COACH**

MUGS 2019 All-Star Player

The West Texas All Star tournament will be held in Midland, Texas on **July 11-15, 2019**. In order to insure that all girls selected as an All-Star will be available for practices and the tournament dates, we would like to ask for a commitment now. This commitment merely states that if selected, your daughter will be available for practices and the tournament scheduled for June 16 – July 15, 2019.

IF SELECTED, MY DAUGHTER WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PRACTICES AND THE ALL-STAR TOURNAMENT SCHEDULED

_____.

PLAYER NAME _____

DIVISION _____ TEAM # _____

PARENT NAME _____
(Please print)

PARENT SIGNATURE _____

THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED TO YOUR TEAM COACH BY _____.

DIVISION 8U (MACHINE PITCH) COACHES CAUTION - SAFETY FIRST – CAUTION

JUGS PITCHING MACHINES MUST BE USED ONLY UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF PERSONS INSTRUCTED IN THE PROPER USE OF THE MACHINES

- 1) Do not allow children to operate the pitching machines.
- 2) Have batter stand clear while at least one (1) ball is thrown when the pitching machine is first set up at the beginning of practice or after any change (speed, curve, or trajectory), to make sure the ball is thrown at the desired target.
- 3) Do not permit more than one (1) or two (2) persons around the pitching machine during operation.
- 4) Do not permit the pitching machine to fall on its wheel. This could result in non-warranty damage.
- 5) Check tightness of all bolts and nuts at regular intervals. If any looseness, vibration, or rattle is noticed, correct immediately before further use.
- 6) Always turn both dials fully counter-clockwise when throwing is completed, or temporarily stopped, and turn toggle switch to OFF position.
- 7) Keep tire pressure at 16 -17 pounds.

An extension cord of #16 gauge is best. Use heavy three-wire cord. If you use more than 150 feet of extension cord, there will be a slight drop in power, and the dial setting will have to be turned up to compensate.

FEEDING INSTRUCTIONS

The following feeding instructions should be used to insure accurate and efficient operation of the JUGS pitching machine.

- 1) Hold the ball the same way every time.
- 2) Hold the ball high in the air where the batter can see the ball. Then bring the ball down to the chute simulating live action so that the batter can time the call correctly. The whole feeding operation should be smooth and without interruption.
- 3) **VERY IMPORTANT** -The most important point is that before you place the ball in the feeding chute, you should look up at the batter and make absolutely sure the batter is watching you, and is ready to receive the pitch. It is extremely important that you make sure that the immediate area in front of the pitching machine and all the way to your target is clear before you feed the pitching machine.
- 4) Watch the ball in to the wheel, then look up at the batter.

CAUTION!!!

BATTING HELMETS MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES

**DO NOT THROW HIGH HOPPING GROUNDERS WITH THE JUGS
EQUIPMENT**

MUGS EQUIPMENT INFORMATION

**EQUIPMENT WILL BE ASSIGNED TO YOUR TEAM AS REQUESTED.
EACH TEAM MAY RECEIVE:**

Quantity	Item
4	Batting Helmets
1	Catcher's Helmet with Mask
1	Pair of Catcher's leg guards
1	Chest Protector
5	Practice softballs
Optional	Bats

1. You will be responsible for returning the equipment assigned to you after your final game of the season. If this equipment is lost or stolen, please notify a Board Member immediately. You will be required to replace it.
2. This equipment cost MUGS several thousand dollars. You will be required to sign an inventory when the equipment is issued and it will be checked against what you turn in at the season's end. We ask for your assistance in keeping it in good shape.
3. Please do not allow the girls to abuse the equipment. Throwing the helmets down after striking out damages the helmet, and is bad sportsmanship. Do not allow the girls to hit the bats against the dugouts, fence, plate, or ground.
4. If you need chin straps, leg guard straps, or need to exchange a piece of equipment, please contact a Board Member.
5. We encourage the Coaches to use the picnic area for weekend gatherings with their teams and parents. The area will be available on a first come - first serve basis. A calendar will be left at the Concession stand if you would like to reserve this area for your team. Be sure to clean up after your gathering.

If you have any questions concerning equipment, etc., please feel free to contact a Board Member.

INSURANCE

MUGS will provide insurance for each player as part of the player registration fee. This insurance is secondary or primary, if applicable. Accidents must be reported by the head coach, assistant coach (if head coach is absent), IMMEDIATELY upon occurrence of the accident.

The Division Coordinator will transmit claim forms to the head coach. MUGS will pay the deductible on the policy.

MAKE UP GAMES

Reasons for make up games will follow League Operating Rules:

- Rainouts or weather related only.

Only Division Coordinators will reschedule make up games. This will be posted on the Bulletin Board located by the Concession Stand.

Pitchers Outs

The make up game *is* part of the original two (2) game set in Divisions 10U through 14U, it should be played accordingly. Pitcher outs will include any outs pitched within the first or second game of the set. *EXAMPLE (Division 12U – 14U):* (a) if you had a girl that pitched fifteen (15) outs in the first game of the set, the second game was rained out, then the make up game is played, the girl would have six (6) outs left to pitch; or (b) first game is rained out if the girl pitches fifteen (15) outs in the second game of the set. When the make up game is played, she would have six (6) outs left to pitch.

In Division 10U, the total outs pitched for a two (2) game set is fifteen (15)

In Division 12U – 14U/18U, the total outs pitched for a two (2) game set is twenty-one (21)

PARTICIPATION AWARD
(ALL DIVISIONS – RECREATIONAL LEAGUE ONLY)

Participation awards will be given at closing ceremonies to every player in each division, who is listed as an active player on the team's roster.

All T-Ball players will receive the same participation award.

For Division 8U – 14U/18U, a player on a team ranking first, second, or third in their division for the season, their participation award will reflect their team season standing.

CLARENCE HILL MEMORIAL SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD (ALL DIVISIONS – RECREATIONAL LEAGUE ONLY)

Coaches:

Please read the following information to your players at the BEGINNING of the season:

This award is given each year to one girl from each team. It is given in memory of Mr. Clarence Hill, who was very active in MUGS several years ago, and was one of our biggest supporters until his death.

The girls on each team vote for this award. They choose the girl on their team who should receive it. The guidelines for this award are as follows:

The girl chosen for this award is not necessarily the best player on the team. She is not always your "best friend" on the team. The girl chosen should be the one with the best attitude towards the game, her teammates, and herself. She is the one who doesn't make fun of the girls who make mistakes, is a good sport, and always does what the Coach asks her to do without complaining. **She has a good time playing softball.**

The Division Coordinator will contact the Coach of each team. The Division Coordinator conducts the voting for this award.

PROTEST

RULE 1: PROTEST WILL NOT BE RECEIVED OR CONSIDERED IF THEY ARE BASED SOLELY ON A DECISION INVOLVING THE ACCURACY OF JUDGMENT ON THE PART OF THE UMPIRE. ONLY PLAYING RULES ARE PROTESTABLE. SITUATIONS THAT ARE NOT PROTESTABLE:

- 1) Whether a batted ball was fair or foul
- 2) Whether a base runner was safe or out
- 3) Whether a pitched ball was a strike or a ball
- 4) Whether a pitch was legal or illegal
- 5) Any other matter involving only the accuracy of the umpire's judgment

RULE 2: PROTESTS THAT SHALL BE RECEIVED AND CONSIDERED CONCERN MATTERS OF THE FOLLOWING NATURE:

- 1) Misinterpretation of a playing rule
- 2) Failure of an umpire to apply the correct rule to a given situation
- 3) Whether or not a player is eligible

RULE 3: THE NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO PROTEST MUST BE MADE IMMEDIATELY BEFORE THE NEXT PITCH.

- 1) The coach of the protesting team should immediately notify the home plate umpire of his intent to protest (before the next pitch). The umpire must notify the protest committee immediately.
- 2) The coach of the protesting team should notify the Division Coordinator immediately. Fifty dollars (\$50.00) cash must be paid at the time of making the official protest. If the protest is lost, the cash will be put in the general operating account, otherwise, returned to the payee.
- 3) No protest may be filed once the game has ended, and the home plate umpire has left the field.

TOURNAMENT PROTEST

THE SAME RULES APPLY FOR ALL TOURNAMENTS WITH THIS EXCEPTION.

ALL PROTESTS FILED WHILE PLAYING IN A TOURNAMENT AT THE MIDLAND UNITED GIRLS SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION COMPLEX WILL BE SETTLED PRIOR TO THE NEXT PITCH OF THE SOFTBALL. EACH TOURNAMENT WILL HAVE A TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR AND AN UMPIRE-IN-CHARGE. THESE TWO (2) PEOPLE WILL BE NOTIFIED AT ONCE AND A DECISION WILL BE GIVEN PRIOR TO THE NEXT PITCH.

GRIEVANCE

Grievance and complaints will be accepted when placed in writing. A complaint or grievance verbally given to any MUGS Board Member will not be acted upon. The Grievance/Complaint Forms will be kept in the Concession Stand at the complex. You must obtain the form and complete it in its entirety. Once the form has been completed, present it to the Division Coordinator or any Board member. You may request that the Grievance/Complaint Committee review the form at that time, if not, you will be notified within twenty-four (24) hours of a decision, or that the complaint has been taken in to consideration. The MUGS President will be notified about all grievances/complaints. A review of the grievance/complaint will be by no less than four (4) Board Members serving on the committee. You will receive a response by telephone or letter. If your complaint required that the MUGS Board of Directors meet to respond to the nature of the grievance/complaint, you will be notified within twenty-four (24) hours.

Grievance/complaints that you wish to keep anonymous may be turned in via this form or by email on the MUGS website. These grievances/complaints will be reviewed by the Board of Directors, but the specific action taken can not be communicated back to you.

SUGGESTIONS

MUGS encourages anyone to submit suggestions for any reason. All suggestions will be reviewed by no less than four (4) Board Members. A committee will review your suggestion and response as soon as possible by telephone or letter. The MUGS President will be notified and informed of any suggestion. Forms for suggestions will be kept in the Concession Stand at the complex. After the suggestion form has been completed, return it to the Concession Stand or to a Board Member.

Suggestions that you wish to keep anonymous may be turned in via this form or by email on the MUGS website. These suggestions will be reviewed by the Board of Directors, but the specific action taken can not be communicated back to you.

MUGS GRIEVANCE FORM

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

Daughter's Name: _____

Daughter's Coach _____

Team Number: _____ Division: _____

Date of Incident: _____ Location: _____

Complaint Against Whom: _____

Reason for Complaint: _____

Witnesses to Incident (Names & Telephone Numbers

Required): _____

Description of Incident (Attach additional Sheets if Necessary):

Signature of Complaining Party

Date

DELIVER COMPLETED FORM TO ANY BOARD MEMBER

MUGS INCIDENT/PROTEST REPORT

Date _____ Time _____ Field No. _____

Name of Player/Coach/Spectator Involved: _____

Description of Incident: _____

Ejection: Yes: _____ No: _____

Witness to Incident: _____

Phone Number of Witnesses: _____

Name of Umpire(s): Plate: _____ Base: _____

Field Conditions: Good _____ Fair _____ Poor _____

Injury: Yes _____ No _____ Ambulance: Yes _____ No _____

How injury occurred: _____

Name & Phone No. Of Person Reporting Incident: _____

Name of board member (s) Receiving Report: _____

Date Received: _____ Action Necessary: _____

Signed: _____

SHARA HULL MEMORIAL CITY TOURNAMENT RULES FOR MUGS TEAMS
ALL DIVISIONS – RECREATIONAL LEAGUE ONLY

1. **Entry deadline for MUGS teams is _____.**
2. Every MUGS team is required to play in the City Tournament. Team roster must be turned in to your Division Coordinator on or before the deadline.
3. In addition to the General Tournament Rule (See Coach's notebook), all MUGS teams must comply with the following:
 - a) The Team roster must be filled out whether or not your team participates
 - b) Every girl on your team must sign the roster next to her name, and designate whether she will or will not play in the tournament by checking "yes" or "no" in the space provided. Once a player has checked her preference, she may **not** change her mind on the roster form after it has been turned in.
 - c) In order to be eligible to play in the tournament as a team, you **must** have the designated minimum number of players on your regular MUGS team willing to play for your team. The minimum number of players for T-Ball, Divisions 8U, 10U and 12U are eight (8) players, and the minimum number of players for Divisions 14U and 18U are seven (7) players. If you have the minimum number of players you must play as your team.
 - d) If there is more than one (1) team that does not have enough players to enter the tournament, with Coordinator's permission, teams may combine and participate. You must turn .your team roster in before obtaining permission from the Coordinator, and
 - e) Number of Pick-up Players - Maximum of two (2), for example:
 - 1) If your regular league roster is full (twelve (12) players), you may not pick up a player
 - 2) If your regular league roster has eleven (11) players, you may pick up one (1) player, (may be a pitcher), and
 - 3) If your regular league roster has ten (10) or less players, you may pick up two (2) players, only one (1) may be a pitcher
4. **The City Tournament will be played June 10 – June 15, 2019.** Closing Ceremonies are scheduled for_____. The Awards Ceremonies normally follow the Championship games. Awards will be given:
 - a) Division 8U – 18U, All-Stars teams will be announced.
 - b) A participation award will be given for each MUGS player in all Rec. divisions.
 - c) Clarence Hill and Shara Hull Memorial Awards will be given to players in Divisions 8U – 14U/18U for Rec. league only.
 - d) Division 18U scholarship awards will be announced.
 - e) All divisions will be awarded trophies for first, second and third place in the City Tournament
 - f) Division 8U – 14U/18U will be awarded trophies for first, second and third in the league standings.

LIZARD CLASSIC TOURNAMENT

DATE: _____

- 1) Entry deadline for MUGS teams is _____.
- 2) Team roster must be turned in to your Division Coordinator on or before the deadline. The entry fee for this tournament was paid with the registration fees.
- 3) In addition to the General Tournament Rules (See Coach's notebook), all MUGS teams must comply with the following:
 - a) The Team roster must be filled out whether or not your team participates
 - b) Every girl on your team must sign the roster next to her name, and designate whether she will or will not play in the tournament by checking "yes" or "no" in the space provided. Once a player has checked her preference, she may **not** change her mind on the roster form after it has been turned in.
 - c) In order to be eligible to play in the tournament as a team, you **must** have the designated minimum number of players on your regular MUGS team willing to play for your team. The minimum number of players for T-Ball, Divisions 8U, 10U and 12U are eight (8) players, and the minimum number of players for Divisions 14U and 18U are seven (7) players. If you have the minimum number of players you must play as your team.
 - d) Pick-up players are at the discretion of the Division Coordinator.
 - e) Rules for picking up players:
 - 1) Girls must play in their own division first. After all team rosters have been turned in to the Division Coordinators, a list of available pick-up players that **want** to play in the tournament (designated on the roster form) will be compiled by the Tournament Director.
 - 2) You may call the Tournament Director and tell him/her the number of pick-up players your team is eligible for, and he/she will give you the list of girls available to play.
 - 3) You may pick the necessary number from that list and get their consent. Then notify the Tournament Director of your choice, and he/she will add them to your roster.
 - 4) If you fail to contact the Tournament Director and your roster is full, he/she, the Division Coordinator, and the Player Representative will assign available players to your roster in order to make it complete.
 - 5) Prior to May 1, 2019, the Tournament Director will furnish you with a copy of your completed official roster.
 - 6) The reason for the additional rules for our MUGS league is that the Board of Directors wants every girl who desires to play in the tournament an opportunity to do so.

MUGS SCHOLARSHIPS

18U DIVISON ONLY

MUGS awards scholarships to selected Division 18U age player or volunteer who is graduating form high school, or currently enrolled in college and intending to further their education in the coming year. Criteria for selection are:

- Participation in the MUGS program
- Grades
- Financial need

Applications for these scholarships may be obtained from the Scholarship Committee, the Concession Stand, or the High School Senior Counselors, and must be returned

NO LATER THAN _____.

MIDLAND UNITED GIRLS SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
2020 LEAGUE PLAYING RULES

The following are the Midland United Girls Softball Association 2020 Recreation League Playing Rules which were adopted by the Board of Directors. All League play will be governed by the 2020 USA Rules, except as amended by these modifications.

Division 8 & Under

A. TEAMS

1. AGE: Division 8U will be machine pitch for seven (7) and eight (8) year old girls.
2. DRESS: Conventional playing clothes (MUGS issued uniform).
3. TEAMS: Rosters of teams should be approximately 12 or 13 players, coach, asst. coach, manager, and chaperone.
4. ROSTER: Each head coach will exchange rosters prior to the game. final scores will need to be noted on your line-ups and given to the Division 8U coordinator at the conclusion of each game.
5. FUNCTIONS: Games/practices will be limited to a maximum of three times a week and no more than 1½ hours per session. (Excluding tournaments)

B. THE GAME

1. BASES: Same as Division 10U
2. AN INNING: The side will be retired if five (5) runs or three (3) outs are made by the offensive team. There are no open innings unless tied at the end of regulation play.
3. REGULATION GAME: A regulation game will be five full innings or a time limit of 75 minutes, whichever comes first. In the event the game is tied after time expires finish the inning. The game may end in a tie. Once time has expired and a team is behind by more runs than they can score in their half of that inning, the game will be over by run rule.
4. TIME OUTS: No more than 1 time out allowed per inning for each offensive and defensive side, unless to care for an injured player.
5. MACHINE PITCH: The ball will be pitched from a machine. It will be the responsibility of the offensive team to supply an adult to run the machine.
 - a) A coach from each tem will meet with the umpire at the pitching machine before the game begins and agree on the machine settings. If coaches cannot agree, the machine shall be set at 35. These setting will not change throughout the game. There will be no practice pitchers after the game begins. At the umpire's discretion the machine may be reset if it becomes necessary during the course of the game.
 - b) A batted ball hitting the pitching machine shall be treated as if it hit the pitcher. The ball shall remain alive unless it lodges in the machine and is unsafe to play. If the play must be declared dead the batter-runner is awarded 1st base – no other runners advance unless forced.
 - c) If the pitching machine interferes with a thrown ball to the pitcher, the ball is dead.

C. Game Management

1. All players, when not on the playing field, shall remain in the dugout during the game. Exceptions shall be made by the team manager or coaches only.
2. The home team will provide the official scorekeeper. The visiting team will provide the operator for the scoreboard.
3. Home team will occupy the third base dugout.

4. All players and teams must warm-up only in designated warm-up areas.

D. PLAY

1. NUMBER OF PLAYERS

- a) Defensive team – 10 maximum (the 10th player is the rover and must play in the outfield.
- b) Offensive team bats the roster.

2. DEFENSIVE PLAY:

- a) A defensive player may not intentionally roll or run the ball to a base and the ball cannot be intentionally rolled or run to the pitcher. If, in the umpire's judgment, a ball is intentionally rolled to a base, the base runner will be safe. If the ball is intentionally rolled to the pitcher, the base runners will be given an extra base.
- b) A player will not be allowed to run down the batter/runner or base runner unless this would, in the judgment of the umpire, constitute a normal play.
- c) Each player present for the game must be given a position on the field, with substitutions made every inning. No player may sit out more than one inning per game until each player present has set out. Substitutes are to be marked on the batting roster form. A single player cannot play a position more than two (2) inning per game. (This is for league play only – does not apply to tournament play)
- d) A player, with the exception of the pitcher, may be moved from position to position during an inning without causing delay to the game. If the pitcher is removed from the circle during an inning, she cannot play the pitcher position again in that inning. She may play the pitcher's position the following inning.
- e) No infielder may be closer to home plate than the pitcher until the ball is hit. Outfielders must be on the outfield grass until the ball leaves the machine.
- f) If a fielder obstructs a base runner causing an out, the play is dead and runners advance to the base they were going to.

3. PITCHERS:

- a) The pitcher must stay within the circle, no closer than the pitcher's plate until the ball is hit.
- b) The pitching circle will be the same as Division 10U.
- c) When the ball has been thrown back to the pitcher and the pitcher has control of the ball with both feet inside the circle, the play is stopped by the umpire. If the pitcher runs through the pitcher's circle with control of the ball, the play will be called dead, unless in the judgment of the umpire she does so in an effort to make a normal play on a runner.
- c) The pitcher will not be allowed to run down the batter or base runner to any base except home. The pitcher must throw the ball to the base or the runner will be called safe.
EXCEPTION: If, in the judgment of the umpire, a tag would be the normal play on a base runner, the pitcher would not have to throw the ball.

4. CATCHERS:

- a) All catchers must wear their full catcher's gear at all time during the defensive inning.
- b) All catchers will be required to play in the catching position (a crouched position directly behind home plate, to catch the pitched ball).

5. COACHES ON THE FIELD

- a) The offensive team may have the head coach, assistant coach, or manager (maximum two) present in the coaching boxes at first and third bases.
- b) An adult from the offensive team will operate the pitching machine.
- c) Coaching will be allowed from the person operating the pitching machine until the ball leaves the machine.
- d) No defensive coaches shall be allowed on the field during play.

6. BATTING:

- a) The offensive team shall bat the entire team. Late arrivals should be added to the bottom of the roster. The batting order will be determined by the coach prior to the game and cannot be adjusted.
- b) Helmets must be worn by the batter, all runners and the player in the on-deck circle.
- c) Only the batter, base runners, and on-deck player can be outside the dugout.
- d) There will be a maximum of six (6) pitches allowed to a batter. If a batter has not hit a fair ball after receiving six pitches, she will be out.
- e) All foul and foul tips count as a pitch toward the six pitch limit.
- f) Fouls count as a strike except as the third strike.
- g) A batter may strike out on less than 6 pitches.
- h) There are no walks.
- i) The batter will NOT be allowed to bunt.
- j) If a player throws the bat during the game, the first offense shall result in a team warning. Each offense for that team thereafter shall result in the player being called out.
- k) When a batted ball is fielded and the defensive player makes an errant throw that remains within the playing confines, thereby remaining a live ball, the batter-runner may advance with liability to be put out no further than third base, regardless the number of errant throw that occur as a result of that at bat.
- l) The infield fly and dropped third strike rules does not apply in Division 8U.

7. BASE RUNNERS:

- a) Runners must stay in contact with the base until the ball leaves the pitching machine. If a runner is detected leaving the base too soon, she will be called out. Once a runner is detected as being not in contact with the base, she will be called out.
- b) The ball is dead if not hit and each runner must return to her base without liability to be put out.
- c) When the ball is thrown back to the pitcher and the pitcher has control of the ball with both feet inside the circle, the play is stopped by the umpire, unless the pitcher is making a play. At this time runners will go to the nearest base.
- d) The runner is also out by running out of the path to avoid a tag.
- e) There will be no stealing or sliding.
- f) If a base runner intentionally tries to run forcefully through a fielder, the base runner is out, regardless if the fielder is in possession of the ball or not