



Coaches Handbook

Welcome

Welcome to the MBSL Program! Volunteer coaches are the backbone of our leagues. Whether you are a parent, grandparent, or community volunteer we are happy to have you on board!

MBSL started in 2017 after the collapse of the former volunteer-run baseball softball program. As an offshoot of the Miamisburg Parks and Recreation department, our program is unique in that our staff coordinates baseball/softball opportunities for all ages.

Our dedicated field staff work to prep fields and organize the facility so that coaches can focus on the game and the individual needs of their players!

MBSL Coaching Philosophy

Coaches have a tremendous level of influence over the experiences of their teams. At MBSL we challenge our coaches to exceed conduct expectations and help create a positive environment and memory!

Our participants know that a 9-year-old will not remember a bad call, they will however remember a bad reaction to that call. Coaches must prioritize respect and illustrate resilience.

The mission of MBSL is to provide quality player development in both skill and mental health. Our coaches know that increased confidence, small improvements in performance, making friends and physical exercise are more important to the future health of our children than winning.

MBSL coaches take pride in balancing healthy levels of competition with overall wellbeing. Of course, we want our teams to win; but we know that winning teams come from positive attitudes, perseverance, and dedication!

How it Works

To ensure participants have dedicated head coaches, MBSL opens head coach's registration before player registration each year for the upcoming season.

Registration numbers for players are then closely monitored to try and ensure each player has a team to join for the season

Individuals may head coach a maximum of 2 teams and teams must be in different age/sport divisions.

After registration, head coaches are emailed more information regarding important meeting dates, the background check, and upcoming program opportunities. After registration, a member of our staff will email you a discount code for one free player registration. Please allow 1-2 business days to receive this email. If you feel you have been missed, please email us at MBSL@cityofmiamisburg.com.

Assistant Coaches

Assistant coaches will be invited to complete a coach's registration form and background check form once selected by head coaches. These coaches are often not identified until the first or second week of practice.

Assistant Coaches must have their forms complete prior to the first game to receive a shirt and be considered a league approved assistant coach. Each team may have up to 2 approved assistant coaches.

Parents and coaches alike should be advised that background checks on assistants will likely not be back until the 1st game. Additionally, it is common for other parents and grandparents to help at practices and games as the team needs. These individuals are not background checked.

Parents/coaches should always use appropriate discernment in allowing others contact with their children such as carpooling or bathroom trips. The use of a background check cannot replace a parent's own discernment and vigilance.

~ Coaches Clinics are offered seasonally for those coaches wishing to advance their knowledge of the sport and/or gain practice ideas and coaching tips. Check the MBSL Website and Facebook pages for upcoming events. ~

Requirements to be a Coach

Qualifications to be a Head Coach

1. Able to attend games and practices regularly
2. Passed background check*
3. Ability to use email and Teamsnap software or provide a dedicated assistant coach to assist with this technology.
4. General knowledge of the sport and willingness to learn and grow
5. Completed Lindsay's Law Training (Ohio Law on Sudden Cardiac Arrest)
6. Completed Concussion Safety Training (National Federation of High Schools or similar accepted)
7. Agreement to maintain the highest levels of sportsmanship outlined in the Coach's Code of Conduct Form

Qualifications to be an Assistant Coach

1. Able to attend most games and practices

2. Passed background check*
3. Completed Lindsay’s Law Training (Ohio Law on Sudden Cardiac Arrest)
4. Completed Concussion Safety Training (National Federation of High Schools or similar accepted)
5. Agreement to maintain the highest levels of sportsmanship outlined in the Coach’s Code of Conduct Form

*League officials do not receive detailed information from your background check. Officials are only notified of a “pass” or “fail.” In this way your private information is protected, but we also cannot offer extra considerations or leeway as we are not privy to the full details of the report.

For the 2022 season, we will be using the Checkr background check software. After registration a link will be emailed to you to complete the Checkr form. This software is a subset of Teamsnap and does not come directly from the Miamisburg Parks and Recreation department or staff.

Communication

Each season, coaches will receive the updated league rules, a dates calendar, and copies of the participant codes of conduct. These forms are updated annually and are a supplement to the coach’s handbook. Coaches can expect to receive these at the annual draft.

Field Conditions

Field conditions are updated by 3pm on weekdays and 10am on weekends. You can check the status under the “Rainoutline” tab on Playmiamisburg.com.

You may also download the Rainoutline App and subscribe to notifications. Once on the app, simply search “Miamisburg” to find the Miamisburg Parks and Recreation Department page.

Email

For general inquiries, staff prefer that coaches email MBSL@cityofmiamisburg.com. This is a shared email inbox that is monitored daily throughout the season. This is the email address you will use to schedule make-ups.

Phone List

Person/Position	Role	Phone
Sports Program Manager	Overall Oversight of the MBSL Program	937-603-4687
Site Coordinator on Duty	Person on Duty at Rice Field	937-477-6712
Recreation Operations Supervisor	Sponsorships and Use Agreements	937-847-6475

Practices

Coaches choose their practice times at the Draft meeting. Practices continue until opening day. It is not required nor is it common to continue practices after opening day. However, if you feel that you need to hold a practice to address a safety or major concern, please email no more than 10 days in advance to schedule a practice and get a field.

Most coaches hold 2 practices a week leading up to opening day. T-ball coaches may hold 1 or two depending on the coach's viewpoint.

Games

Each age group is set to receive at least 9 games a season. Each team is purposefully over-scheduled to alleviate the need to get a bunch of make-ups scheduled.

Your game may be at Rice Field or at a field in the greater Dayton area. Due to low registration in some age groups, MBSL partners with other leagues to get an adequate number of games into the season.

Age groups that will travel are announced at the Draft each year, as they depend on the number of final registrants.

Make-up Games

The home coach should contact the away coach and choose 2-3 days and times that work for a make-up. The home coach then emails MBSL@cityofmiamisburg.com to set a makeup day. Giving staff multiple options helps ensure you get the make-up complete.

Teams are purposefully overscheduled and make-ups slots will be given priority to those teams with fewer completed games.

Staff will track games and any team not on track will be contacted to get games in. The department cannot be responsible for games that cannot be made up due to player shortages or the teams desire not to conduct a make-up.

Rules

Rules are evaluated and edited every spring. Once completed they are posted to the MBSL website. Rules are listed for league specific items.

All Star Teams

The league provides uniforms, practice time, and entry into the Miamisburg All Star Tournament for each age group 8u-14u. T-Ball and 18u teams will only be formed if a tournament can be found to host the team.

If you are interested in being an All-Star coach let us know! We will send emails in early May to solicit coaching applications. The MBSL board will then decide who will coach. Decisions will be made on both league standings and positive experiences. Coaches with conduct issues or warnings will not be accepted.

If an age group cannot be accommodated by the Miamisburg All Start Tournament (not due to coach or player scheduling), the league will provide registration to one area tournament for the team (up to \$300). Any further fees must be covered by the team. The Parks and Recreation Department will send in fees on your team's behalf. We must know what tournament you wish to enter at least 2 weeks prior to its registration close to get a check made in time.

Teams seeking to play in multiple tournaments must pay those tournaments directly. They may choose to fundraise or pay the fees among parents/coaches.

Fall Ball

MBSL Conducts a fall ball each season. Registration begins in July and play begins in August. Check the MBSL webpage for more details annually.

Special Programs

MBSL differs from other area leagues by creating a full line up of annual opportunities for players and coaches.

Participant development is very important to the league and therefore multiple coaches and player clinics are offered free or at little cost to participants. These clinics are intended to supplement development from coaching and play.

In addition, the league offers several family experiences each year. All programs can be found on the MBSL webpage and from there you can navigate to check out all Miamisburg Parks and Recreation Offerings.

Sponsorship

MBSL has the goal of collecting one jersey sponsor per team and 1-2 higher tier sponsors in accordance with our annual sponsorship package. Some coaches may have a business or work of a company that wished to sponsor their team. This is fantastic and staff is available to help coordinate your requests.

You may find the sponsorship package and form on the MBSL webpage. You may also email mbsl@cityofmiamisburg.com for more information.