

"THE BEST IN THE WEST"

WOODLAND/DAVIS MSBL

LABOR DAY TOURNAMENT

**THE WOODLAND/DAVIS MSBL INVITES YOU TO PLAY FOR YOUR CHANCE TO BE
THE BEST IN THE WEST!**

Tournament Location: Woodland, Davis, and Winters

Divisions: 25, 35, 45, 55, 60, 65+ and if at least four teams sign up a new 18 Division

Date: September 2nd - 4th, 2017

COSTS AND FEES

- **\$1,100 per team for up to 18 players**
- **\$1,200 per team for up to 20 Players**
- **\$1,300 per team for up to 22 Players**

DRAWINGS, HOTEL DISCOUNTS

- **Every player turning in his meal ticket at the B.B.Q., will receive a new raffle ticket for a special drawing for his choice of a player fee into the MSBL World Series or \$150 cash.**
- **Local Hotel discounts for tournament participants at Holiday Inn Express, Comfort Suites and Hampton Inn Suites (Woodland Locations Only)**

As usual the B.B.Q. will include a great meal, beer, raffle, vendors, music and always entertaining Home Run Derby.

Mark your calendars, build your team and join us for the 28th annual

Best in the West, MSBL Labor Day Tournament

Please confirm your team's entry ASAP.

Contact Nathan Passantino at 530-681-0755

Or Email at nathanpassantino@hotmail.com

September 2nd – September 4th

28th Annual Best In The West

MSBL Labor Day Tournament

Registration Form

(Please, Return this Form with your entry fee before the August 14th deadline)

ALL MANAGERS PLEASE READ!!! ENTRY FEE:

\$1,100 (up to 18 players)

Fees go up \$100 if not paid in full by August 14th. A \$500 non-refundable deposit will hold your team's spot until Monday August 14th. Any team wanting to enter after the August 14th deadline is not guaranteed a spot and will be accommodated only if there are is an even number of teams (for ease of scheduling), regardless of when your entry is received, before or after the deadline no more entries will be accepted once all divisions are full.

**All Managers, No Checks will be accepted after August 14th!! After August 14th, your team fee increases \$100 and you must make an arrangement with me to pay in cash or by money order...
Again, NO CHECKS accepted after August 14th.**

Note: This tournament will not allow participation by any player who has played any level of professional baseball within the last three (3) years. That means the 2014, 2015, or the 2016 season. No Exceptions!

If the tournament committee determines that such a player has illegally participated, the team in question will be suspended from further play, forfeit any games played, and forfeit any claim to a refund of any portion of their tournament fees.

Please call or email me with any questions or concerns.

Nathan Passantino, Tournament Director

530-681-0755

NathanPassantino@hotmail.com

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: WD MSBL

SEND THIS FORM AND CHECK TO:

Woodland/Davis MSBL

P. O. Box 915

Woodland, CA 95776

Team Name _____

Age Group, Check One, all divisions are wood bat:

25+ _____ 35+ _____ 45+ _____ 55+ _____ 60+ _____ 65+ _____

Team Manager _____ **E-Mail** _____

Address, City, Zip _____

Day Phone _____ **Night/Cell Phone** _____

2017 The Best In The West - MSBL Labor Day Tournament
Roster Form -- Due August 21st

Team Name and Age Division: _____

	Player Name	Signed Contract attached	Age as of 12/31/17	Regular Season Team Name and League Name
1	MGR:			
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				
21				
22				

All roster players listed above must be MSBL members, either under current membership or by submitting an additional \$26 for their MSBL membership to the Woodland/Davis MSBL. Only players listed on this roster are eligible to participate in The Best in the West Tournament, and rosters are capped at 22 players. Any discrepancy to the above stated information shall result in team forfeiture and player expulsion with no refunds.

Completed forms can be mailed or emailed to:

Woodland/Davis MSBL
P.O. Box 915
Woodland, CA 95776
PH: 530-681-0755

Web-site: WDMSBL.com Email: NathanPassantino@Hotmail.com

- 2.a All games are 9 innings -
Re: darkness - 7 innings complete – umpires discretion
Re: rain - 5 innings complete.
All league playoff games must be played to completion either by league standards, being a (7) inning or (9) inning game. The umpire may suspend, cancel or call a game if, in their opinion, the safety of the players is compromised due to rain, darkness or time limits.
- 2.b If there is a 15-run discrepancy at the end of 5 innings and the game has gone 2 hours and 30 minutes, the game can be ruled final at this point. This rule will not pertain in national and regional tournaments.
- 2.c Any games rained out will not be re-scheduled by the league, but may be made up at any time not conflicting with previously scheduled games. All make-up games must be agreed to by both managers and league notification must take place. Rain out games must be made up in order of cancellations. Tie games can be played to completion at a later date, again with the agreement of both teams and league notification. Final league standings will be determined by won/lost percentage. Ties will be decided by head-to-head competition first, followed by inter-division won-lost record.
- 2.d ~~In the event of rain, it is the responsibility of the scheduled home team to notify the umpires and opposing team of field conditions and possible cancellation of game, at least 4 hours before scheduled game time. In the event such notification does not take place, the home team will be responsible for any travel fees imposed by the umpiring organization.~~

3. Teams, Players and Lineups Return to Index

- 3.a A player is eligible to participate in an official league sanctioned game on the dates of either their 25th/35th/45th/55th birthday or 18th birthday for MSBL and MABL respectively. Individual local leagues can use the cut-off date as the calendar year.
- 3.b ~~All Players: The league shall control the assignment to teams of all new players who have contacted the league in response to advertising or who have been referred to the league by any means. A player who has not played in any league game in either the current or previous season shall be regarded as a new player. A new player acquired by a team through that team's own recruiting efforts shall be subject to the control of the team and not the league.~~
- 3.c Team rosters must be submitted to the local league by opening day, including league and player fees, proof of date of birth, player waiver forms and team medical waiver form. Rosters may not be changed after the first league game unless:
- The local league decides to extend dates for final rosters.
- 3.d All players, prior to participating in a game, must have signed a waiver form on file with the league.
- 3.e A team manager may bat as many players as he desires, with a minimum of 10 (subject to the number of players available, if less than 10). Batters cannot be deleted or skipped over, regardless of their batting position or when they were added during the game. If a team has only 9 (nine) players and therefore bats only 9, the opposing team will have the option of batting 9 as well. If a team has more than 9 players and still only bats nine, they will be assessed an out each time the 10th batting position is skipped. Batting only 9 players is NOT a protestable offense.
- 3.f A manager may add batters to the bottom of the lineup at any time but if a batter is pinch hit or run for (except under courtesy runners as outlined in section 5), the player may not re-enter the game as a hitter but may remain in the game as a fielder or pitcher. Added players to the bottom of the lineup may be added as individual hitters or as A/B. Each team has a hitting and a defensive lineup that are independent of each other. Players may play in either lineup or both.
- 3.g A team MAY declare at the time that lineups are exchanged prior to the start of play that any batting order position (i.e. 9, 10, 11, etc.) can be occupied by two (2) players in each such batting position. That is, 9A/9B, 10, 11A/11B, 12, etc. The first time that position 9 gets an at bat, 9A would hit and the next time this slot hits, 9B would be up. Then 9A hits the third time this spot in the order comes up, and so on, alternating between these two players throughout the game. Once a team declares the use of this A/B system, it must continue using it for the remainder of the game. Hitters in the A/B position may be pinch hit for, just as any other player.
- 3.h All teams must announce all offensive additions, substitutions, and/or changes to the home plate umpire AND opposing team manager and/or scorekeeper. Only after this has been done will the added player be deemed a legal substitution.
If a team fails to announce an offensive addition/change, the player will be called out as soon as he occupies the batter's box and the lineup will revert back to the lineup in effect prior to the player entering the game. The unannounced player will not have officially entered the offensive lineup and is therefore still available offensively even though an out has been assessed.
Example: Team A is batting 12 players and wishes to add a player to the bottom of the lineup (Player 13). Player 13 walks to the plate and is not announced to either the opposing team or home plate umpire. Once this player occupies his position in the batter's box, the umpire will immediately call him out for an illegal substitution and it will then go back to the number 1 position in the lineup. Player 13 is still available to be added to the lineup legally.
- 3.i If a player is forced to leave a game due to injury or ejection, a reserve player, not previously entered into the game as a hitter, must hit in the replaced hitter's place. If there are no reserves who can replace the individual, the spot is skipped and all hitters below that position move up. The first time this vacated spot comes up in the batting order, an out will be assessed, after that one time, no out will be recorded for skipping the spot vacated by the displaced player.
- 3.j A team must have 8 players for an official game and may borrow a player from an opposing team with the opposing manager's consent or may borrow a player from another team, also with the opposing manager's consent. If the team's 9th player arrives after the start of the game, the borrowed player reverts back to his team.
- 3.k All players may be substituted for defensively, at any time, without affecting the players offensive status in the line-up. If the pitcher is removed, he may re-enter to pitch only one time during the course of the game, but not in the same inning. The removed pitcher may play any other position after being removed or no position at all. The re-entering of a pitcher can only be done once a game.
- 3.l ~~No player may switch teams without the consent of both managers and the league president. If this does not meet with approval, the~~

player must sit out one calendar year from competition, from the last date of his playing, or so enter the league's next draft making himself available to be taken for selection by the next team drafted during the season of release. All players with 8 years seniority in the league will be exempt from the draft. If a player is not invited back by his manager, he must be given his release or that he may go to the team of his choosing, or enter the draft. If a player is invited back to play and he desires not to play for his former team and cannot be successfully traded, he must sit out one entire year or so enter the draft, making himself available to all

3.m ~~When a player wishes to leave his existing team and form a new team, he may do so. No other player can be taken from the existing team without the consent of the existing team's manager. No other players may be taken from any other team without the respective team manager's approval.~~

3.n ~~Final lineups must have no less than 12 players.~~

3.o Last names must be used in the scorebook to allow for player identification for follow up inquiries that relate to playoff and national tournament participation requiring minimum playing requirements.

4. **Player's Behavior and Team Responsibility** **Return to Index**

4.a There will be no beer or alcoholic beverages permitted at the field before, during or after the game. The field refers to the general playing area and ancillary areas.

4.b The league has the right to suspend or expel any team member who abuses league rules or who does not exhibit a sense of sportsmanship or who plays without regard to the safety of the umpires or other players.

4.c An umpire has sole discretion to expel any player or manager from the game.

4.d Fighting among players or aggressive physical contact with an umpire will not be tolerated and players expelled from the game for either violation will be subject to suspension or expulsion from the league.

4.e The rules committee is concerned about possible unnecessary and violent collisions that may occur with the catcher at home plate, and with infielders at all bases. The intent of this rule is to encourage base runners and defensive players to avoid such collisions whenever possible.

a. When there is a collision between a runner and a fielder who clearly is in possession of the ball, the umpire shall judge:

- (1) Whether the collision by the runner was avoidable (could the runner have reached the base without colliding) or unavoidable (the runner's path to the base was blocked) or
- (2) Whether the runner actually was attempting to reach the base (plate) or attempting to dislodge the ball from the fielder.

PENALTY—If the runner, a) could have avoided the collision and reached the base, or b) attempted to dislodge the ball, the runner shall be declared out even if the fielder loses possession of the ball. The ball is dead and all other base runners shall return to the last base touched at the time of the interference.

- (3) If the fielder blocks the path of the base runner to the base (plate), the runner may make contact or slide into, a fielder as long as the runner is making a legitimate attempt to reach the base or plate.
- (4) If the collision by the runner was flagrant, the runner shall be declared out and also ejected from the contest. The ball shall be declared dead.

b. If the defensive player blocks the base (plate) or base line clearly without possession of the ball, obstruction shall be called. The runner is safe and an immediate dead ball shall be called.

- (1) If the base runner collides flagrantly, the runner shall be declared safe on the obstruction, but will be ejected from the contest. The ball is dead.

c. **Decoy Rule**

Any fielder may use a decoy only if it serves a strategic purpose. For example, if a fielder, who sees a man attempting to steal second base during a hit and run, looks upward into the sky and says that he's got the pop-up when in fact the ball has been hit on ground is a legal decoy as it may cause the runner to retreat to first base and prevent him from advancing.

However, if a fielder fakes a tag, forcing a player to slide, when there is no strategic purpose or apparent play, the runner will be ruled safe and all runners will advance one base.

This is entirely an umpire judgment decision and not a rule that may be protested.

d. **Force Play Slide Rule**

The intent of the force-play-slide rule is to ensure the safety of the defensive player. This is a safety as well as an interference rule. Whether the defense could have completed the double play has no bearing on the applicability of this rule. This rule pertains to a force-play situation at any base, regardless of the number of outs.

a. On any force play, the runner must slide on the ground and in a direct line between the two bases.

Exception—A runner need not slide directly into a base as long as the runner slides or runs in a direction away from the fielder to avoid making contact or altering the play of the fielder.

batter will be forfeited for the balance of the game. The 30 second time limit will begin at the time the umpire calls for time to allow replacement for the runner.

6.

Pitchers

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- 6.a No player while pitching may wear white or gray sleeves, nor may a pitcher wear a batting glove or wristband while pitching.
- 6.b One intentional walk per game will be allowed. If a second intentional walk is attempted, a balk will immediately be called and all base runners will advance one base.
- 6.c If a pitcher hits 4 batters in any one game, the pitcher must be removed on the fourth hit batsman.

7.

Ex-Pro Status and Regulations

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7.a A player must be out of pro-ball for 3 complete MSBL seasons before becoming eligible to participate in a MSBL league. This is a general rule meant to stand as an example for other local MSBL leagues to examine. Local MSBL leagues may establish their own criteria for ex-pros as its individual board and managers see fit. Pro-ball refers to major and minor leagues. Independent leagues are to be considered separately. For the World Series and Fall Classic, the following rules will pertain without exception:

A player must be out of professional baseball (A, AA, AAA, or Major League) for three complete seasons before becoming eligible to participate in MSBL/MABL National Tournaments. Therefore, for the 2013 World Series and Fall Classic, any player who received compensation AND participated with a professional baseball team (A, AA, AAA or Major League) during 2011 or more recently is ineligible unless given special permission to participate by the National Tournament Rules Committee.

A player who played in a Rookie League, Independent League, Foreign League or who was invited to a Major League Spring Training and then released without playing for a minor league affiliate will not be held to the requirements listed above.

A participant in the MSBL/MABL National Tournaments is NOT to be considered an "ex-pro" if:

- a. The player has been out of any level of professional baseball for eight complete MSBL/MABL seasons. ~~Except for Central and Cactus Divisions - See Below~~
- b. The player is 35+ years old and he has been out of pro ball for at least five complete seasons. ~~Except for Central and Cactus Divisions - See Below~~
- c. ~~For all Central and Cactus Divisions - If a player has played pro ball and has been out of pro ball for 20 years, that player would be eligible to play in the Central Division. For Cactus Divisions, Ex-Pro players are allowed to participate in the World Series and Fall Classic. If a player has played pro ball and has been out of pro ball for 20 years, that player would be eligible to pitch, even if they did not pitch in their pro careers.~~

~~Special Provisions~~

~~At least one player who appeared in AAA or Major League Baseball
 or at least one player who appeared in A or AA leagues~~

Division	Allowances of Ex-Pros
National	No limit on number of Ex-Pros
American	Two A Level & Two B Level Ex-Pros
Federal	2 B Level Ex-Pros out between 3-8 years
Mountain	1 B Level Ex-Pro out between 3-8 years
Central	Independent League players must be out at least 15 years if a player has played pro ball and has been out of pro ball for 20 years, that player would be eligible to play in the Central Division No ex-pro players and allowed independent league players would be eligible to pitch, even if they did not pitch in their pro careers
Cactus	No Ex-Pros regardless of time out of pro ball Independent League players must be out at least 15 years No ex-pro players and allowed independent league players would be eligible to pitch, even if they did not pitch in their pro careers

For National Tournament Play

- 18 and over - player becomes eligible on the date of his 18th birthday
- 25 and over - player becomes eligible on the date of his 25th birthday
- 35 and over - player becomes eligible if turns 35 during the calendar year
- 45 and over - player becomes eligible if turns 45 during the calendar year
- 50 and over - player becomes eligible if turns 50 during the calendar year
- 55 and over - player becomes eligible if turns 55 during the calendar year
- 60 and over - player becomes eligible if turns 60 during the calendar year
- 65 and over - player becomes eligible if turns 65 during the calendar year

8.

General League Rules

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- 8.a ~~Teams forfeit by any team which fails to appear from the league with a minimum of four players for the scheduled date of play.~~
- 8.b ~~All disputes shall be decided by the league president or his designee. All disputes from the game from which the participant is suspended shall be decided by the league board of directors and/or protest committee.~~
- 8.c ~~Only MSBL and MABL leagues are eligible for all MSBL and MABL sanctioned regional and national tournament competition by national tournament committee.~~
- 8.d ~~Determination of eligibility to participate in MSBL regional and national tournament competition will be based solely on the decision of MSBL National Tournament Rules Committee. In general, no player will be allowed to participate in a regional or national tournament unless the player has participated in at least 50% of his regular season MSBL/MABL games.~~
- 8.e ~~In order for a player to qualify and participate in his team's local league playoffs, tournaments and post-season events, he must participate in at least 50% of his team's regular season games. In order for a player to qualify as a pitcher he must make two plate appearances in one half of his team's regular season games played as pitcher in 25% of his team's regular season total innings and pitch in 75% of his team's games. If such a player fails to meet the requirements due to injury, a letter should be submitted to the league president explaining non-compliance. Local leagues retain the right to their own qualifications for local tournament only.~~
- 8.f ~~In the case of a player whose team plays a regular season local league schedule that had 15 or fewer games, the player must play in a significant way in the greater of eight (8) games or 75% of the number of regular season games on the schedule. A player shall be deemed to have played in a game in a significant way if: (a) he has at least three (3) at bats in the game; or (b) plays at least three (3) innings in the field; or (c) plays at least three (3) innings in the field and has at least one at bat; or (d) plays at least three (3) innings in the field, has no at bats, but pitches the game. The National Rules Committee, and its conclusions, shall be binding.~~
- 8.g ~~Every year all players on the league's waiting list will be invited to a draft. The annual draft will be conducted in a manner to allow parity in leagues by having the prior year's teams with the lowest finishing records drafting first.~~
- 8.h ~~In regard to the Men's Adult Baseball League, players upon reaching the age of 25 do not automatically have to enter the older division. When desired, MABL players, unless entering as a full team, when reaching age 25 will enter the senior division draft. MABL players already entered into the league cannot be solicited to join senior division teams and when entering into the senior division must go through the draft, unless entering as a full team.~~

9.

Code of Conduct

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- 9.a Prohibitions. Managers and players shall conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times. No manager or player shall commit the following:
- (1) Lay a hand upon, shove or strike, or threaten an official. Players and managers guilty of such conduct shall be immediately suspended from further participation in the game and shall remain suspended until his conduct is reviewed by the board of directors. Players and managers guilty of such conduct shall be subject to suspension for the remainder of the season or expulsion from the league for life.
 - (2) Refuse to abide by an official's decision. Players guilty of such conduct shall be immediately suspended from further participation in the game and shall remain suspended until his conduct is reviewed by the board of directors. Players guilty of such conduct shall be subject to probation or suspension for the remainder of the season.
 - (3) Be guilty of objectionable demonstrations of dissent at an official's decision. Players and managers guilty of such conduct shall be subject to suspension from further participation in the game.
 - (4) Discuss with an official or officials the decision reached by such official or officials, except for the manager or his designee who are authorized to participate in such discussions. Players guilty of such conduct shall be subject to suspension from further participation in the game.
 - (5) Use unnecessarily rough tactics in the play of the game against the body or person of an opposing player. Players guilty of such conduct shall be immediately suspended from further participation in the game and shall be subject to probation or suspension for the remainder of the season.
 - (6) Be guilty of physical attack as an aggressor upon any player, manager, official, or spectator, before, during, or after a game. Players guilty of such conduct shall be immediately suspended from further participation in the game and shall remain suspended until their conduct is reviewed by the board of directors. Players guilty of such conduct shall be subject to suspension for the remainder of the season or expulsion from the league for life.
 - (7) Be guilty of verbal abusive attack upon any player, manager, official, or spectator, before, during, or after a game. Players guilty of such conduct shall be immediately suspended from further participation in the game and shall remain suspended until their conduct is reviewed by the board of directors. Players guilty of such conduct shall be subject to suspension for the remainder of the season.
 - (8) Consume alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs during the game or be upon the field of play at any time in an intoxicated condition. Players guilty of such conduct shall be immediately suspended from further participation in the game and shall be subject to probation or suspension for the remainder of the season.
 - (9) Smoke on the field of play or in the dugout. Players guilty of such conduct shall be immediately suspended from further participation in the game.

9.b

Penalties

- (1) The board of directors may, by vote of the majority of the directors, suspend any player or manager for such a period and upon such terms as it may propose, for the conduct with in its opinion is prejudicial to the welfare, interest, reputation, or charter of the league.
- (2) Except as otherwise provided, the commissioners shall determine the appropriate action required for violations of the codes of conduct, and shall report their decision to the player, manager and the board of directors.
- (3) A player found in violation of any provision delineated in the codes of conduct, after being placed on probation for the remainder of the season shall be suspended for the remainder of the season.
- (4) Any player found in violation of any provisions delineated in the codes of conduct, after being suspended from further participation in a game ~~shall be suspended for the remainder of the season~~

9.c

Grievances, protests, and appeals

- (1) Grievances may be filed by an individual player or by the manager of a team provided that a grievance is formally submitted to the commissioner or appropriate board. The commissioner shall adjudicate all such grievances and shall report any action taken to the board of directors.
- (2) An appeal of any action or ruling may be filed with the board of directors by an individual player or by the manager of a team provided that the appeal is formally submitted. However, all decisions by the board of directors are final and not subject to appeal.

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