



New Team Guidance Package

The Mabel League fosters a safe and fun environment for lesbians, bisexual women, queer people, trans people, and women allies to learn and play recreational softball. We are tickled pink that you are considering putting together a team within the Mabel League. The following guidance package is a tool to help you guide you and your team through the setup process.

Become familiar with the Mabel League website (www.mabelleague.com), as it contains: information about the League, about the Executive, lists of important dates, lists of teams, standings, the season's schedule, the Code of Conduct, links for reporting scores and injuries, and much more!



The Mabel League is divided into 3 divisions:

The Competitive Division involves teams and players who have a high level of skill and experience and, typically, have been playing their way through the league over the years.

The Intermediate Division involves teams and players who have a good level of skill and experience, and who may be striving to achieve a position in the Competitive division.

The Recreational Division involves teams with the broadest range of skill and experience— from new teams composed of beginners, to teams that have been playing for many years at a more casual level of competition.

As a new team, you may be automatically placed into the Recreational division, however you may request to be placed in the Intermediate or Competitive division based on your team's skill level.

If you're interested in starting a team, the deadline to submit is usually the second Team Rep meeting of the year (early March). There is some flexibility on deposits and roster.

What you need to build a team:

1. Build your team:

- **Players** - Most teams carry 15-20 players on their roster. Some folks start their teams with a few friends, and other teams have been created by the meeting of strangers at our first event of the season, Meet Mabel.
- **Meet Mabel** - Taking place on Saturday, March 3rd, 2018 @ 6pm @ Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood Pub. This event invites all current teams and interested players to meet, mingle, and do some recruiting! You can contact our Events Coordinator (mabel@mabelleague.com) to reserve a table so that new players can find you and inquire about playing on your team.
- **Recruitment** - Let our Registrar (registrar@mabelleague.com) know if you are looking for players either before or after Meet Mabel. They will email a list of interested players to all recruiting teams; this will continue throughout the season until teams indicate that they are no longer recruiting.

2. Team Rep: Designate a Team member to be your Team's representative. This person is required to attend monthly Team Rep Meetings. This is an information exchange, which keeps Team Reps aware of League information, as well as keeping the Executive Members aware of Team information. The Team Rep is responsible for passing on all information from the meetings to their team.

- Meetings are held at Britannia Community Centre's Rink Activity Room. The Rink is located at 1661 Napier Street. Be sure to sign in when you arrive as the team is awarded a participation point for each meeting you attend.
- Team Reps will be given a list of all important dates for the season, including monthly Team Rep meetings, social and competitive events, and deadlines for payment and rosters.

3. Equipment: Ask around to the other Teams to see where they get their equipment, or check out Abbie's Sports on Main Street. Mabel League Teams receive a 10% discount on equipment purchases.

- **Basics** - You'll need the usual balls, bats and gloves, as well as catcher's gear and batting helmets (you'll need at least five).
- **Bases** - Bases should include fastening pegs and a 1st base with an orange safety bag. You will also need a home plate, measuring tape, and a hammer. See the Slo-Pitch National rulebook for field dimensions.
- **Game Ball** - At the beginning of the season, the Executive will supply each team with 6 new game balls. The Home Team must supply a new (or near new) game ball to umpire prior to the game starting; the Visiting Team must supply an additional new (or near new ball) as well.
- **First Aid Kit** - Make sure you have one, and be sure it includes cold packs. Players with bleeds will not be permitted to play until bleeding has stopped or is bandaged.

- **Scorebook** - Each team is responsible for keeping score and reporting it on the Mabel League website after the game. Do not tear out pages once a game is done, because scorebooks are returned to the Registrar at the end of the season. Please be sure to only write proper names in scorebook and please do not indicate players by their alternate names or nick names. Teams are encouraged to review their scorekeeping with the team they are playing, and both teams are required to report the scores online (<https://mabelleague.com/reporting-schedules/scores/>).
- **Uniforms** - Uniform style and type is pretty casual, and teams are responsible for all orders and costs related to their uniforms. Teams must have approval of uniform colour(s) prior to purchase. The Registrar is the person who will provide uniform colour approval.

4. Money and Deadlines:

- All payments can be made by cash, cheque, or e-transfer to the Treasurer (treasurer@mabelleague.com).
- The team fee for the season is \$1200.
- March 12th, 2018 - Each team must pay a \$250 team registration deposit to the League (due at March's Team Rep Meeting)
- May 14th, 2018 - Each team has the option of participating in our mid-season Lil Tournament, which is an optional competition with an emphasis on fun. Results of the Lil Tournament do not count towards the results of the season. Team costumes are encouraged. If your team chooses to participate in the Lil Tournament, you must pay a \$350 participation fee to the League (due at May's Team Rep Meeting)

5. Team Rosters and Insurance:

- **Insurance** - In order to play any games in the league, each player must be added to the electronic roster by their Team Rep and provide their electronic signature for Slo-Pitch National insurance. This electronic roster and associated insurance is arranged through the Registrar after the March Team Rep meeting (March 12th) and is included in the team fees.
- **Team Roster** - Team Reps will receive a blank copy of the necessary roster form at the March Team Rep Meeting, and a completed roster is due at the May Team Rep Meeting (May 14th) along with your final team fees. Submitting your roster involves filling out the form with team member names, birthdates, contact information, and signatures. By signing the roster, team members are also agreeing to the alcohol-free playing policy.
- **Sub List** - If a team is running short on players for a given game, they can post on our Facebook group (Mabel Sub List) to see if any players in the league are available to sub in. Players from other teams can fill in if you are running short on players, but this should not be something you depend on. In addition, any players who sub in must be either at the same level of play or one above/below, as your team. That is, no Competitive Players can play with a Recreational team as a sub.
- **NOTE:** Players must be on a roster to play (either that of their team or, if they are a sub, the roster of another team). In order to compete in the Finals Tournament with a team,

players must have played a minimum of 5 regular season games (not including the Lil Tournament) with team.

6. Accident Claim Forms:

- Any time a player is injured, Slo-Pitch National's (SPN) Incident/Injury Report must be filled out and submitted to SPN within 24 hours of the injury.
- Forms can be found via the link on the Mabel League page or directly on the Slo-Pitch National website (<http://www.slo-pitch.com/content/insurance>)
- Please note that even though the form states that it is to be completed only by "Umpires, League Presidents and Tournament Conveners," it can be filled out by Umpires, Coaches, or Team Reps, but it is **NOT** to be completed by the injured person. Please contact the Registrar (registrar@mabelleague.com) for assistance in completing and submitting this form. Once we/you have submitted the incident report, we/you can request an SPN insurance claim form.

Questions? Contact the Registrar at registar@mabelleague.com and we'll do our best to help you!