



BASEBALL

COMPETITION MANUAL

9TH MICRONESIAN GAMES

July 15-27, 2018

YAP MICRONESIAN GAMES ORGANIZING COMMITTEE
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2018 Micronesian Games

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Yap, FSM

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Technical Committee

The Micronesia Games Baseball Technical Committee shall consist of two representatives from the host Country/Territory, one representative from each of the competing Countries/Territories, all with voting rights, and a representative (or their nominee) from the International Federation. The Technical Committee may add other members but without voting rights. The Technical Committee shall elect its own chairperson.

The Technical Committee shall ensure that the Micronesian Games baseball competition is conducted in accordance with the technical rules and regulations of the International Baseball Federation, as well as to oversee the competition schedule and rule on any and all protests brought to its attention.

Technical Committee Meeting

The Micronesia Games Baseball Technical Committee Meeting will be held at 10:00am on Sunday, July 15th at Yap Sports Complex Baseball Field.

Competition Venue

The Micronesian Games baseball competition will be held from Monday, July 16th to Thursday, July 26th with Friday, July 27th make up games. The games will be played at the Yap Sports Complex Baseball Field.

Player Eligibility

In order to be eligible to compete at the Micronesian Games, an athlete must comply with one of the following criteria:

(1) The athlete must have been born in any state, country, or territory which is a member of the Micronesian Games Council -- that is, Palau, Guam, the CNMI, Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei, Kosrae, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, or Kiribati -- and must have lived in any of those states, countries, or territories for a period of three years up to and including the start of the Games; OR

(2) The athlete must be the child of at least one parent, or two grandparents, who were born in any state, country, or territory which is a member of the Micronesian Games Council (see above), without regard to residence; OR

(3) The athlete must have resided in any state, country, or territory which is a member of the Micronesian Games Council (see above) for a period of seven years up to and including the start of the Games, AND, resides in the state, country, or territory for which the athlete will compete, as of the start of the Games, without regard to ancestry.

The temporary absence of an athlete from the territory of a member of the Micronesian Games Council for purposes such as education, sports, training, military service, and health care, or other legitimate absences of a similar kind, are not considered as interrupting a previously-established residency.

In addition, athletes must:

- (a) Complete all necessary entry and participation forms;
- (b) Not be currently under disqualification or suspension by any relevant authority;
- (c) Comply with all relevant rules and regulations of the Micronesian Games Council, the MGC Constitution, and the World Anti-Doping Code.

It is the responsibility of each participating state, country, or territory to ensure that all competitors comply with these requirements.

These requirements apply only to athletes. There are no eligibility requirements for coaches or technical officials.

Entries by name must be submitted at least 30 days prior to the start of the Games. Late entries will not be accepted. At the close of entries, the Yap Organizing Committee will communicate a list of all named competitors to each competing state, country, or territory. Each competing state, country, or territory will have ten days to challenge the eligibility of a competitor. A \$100 bond is required for each challenge. The bond is refundable if the challenge is successful, but is forfeited if the challenge is unsuccessful.

The burden of proof of eligibility is on the sponsoring state, country, or territory, rather than the challenging state, country, or territory. In the event of a challenge, the sponsoring state, country, or territory must submit documents proving eligibility.

Challenges to athlete eligibility are made to the Micronesia Games Council Executive Board, not to the Pohnpei Organizing Committee, which will refer them for decision by a Disputes Tribunal, consisting of three persons appointed by the Micronesia Games Council Executive Board. All challenges to eligibility shall be decided at least 10 days prior to the start of the Games. The decisions of the Disputes Tribunal are final and may not be appealed.

A state, country, or territory whose athlete is successfully challenged and is deemed ineligible to compete will be liable for a penalty in the amount of \$100. Failure to pay the penalty means that the state, country, or territory will not be allowed to compete in the sport in which the ineligible athlete was registered.

The contents of this section are a summary of the relevant provisions of the Micronesia Games Council Constitution. While every attempt has been made to assure the accuracy of this summary, in the event of any inconsistencies between this summary and the provisions of the Micronesia Games Council Constitution, the provisions of the Constitution shall be controlling.

Roster Composition

In accordance with the Baseball Confederation of Oceania (BCO) Rules Section 5 (5.0) of the Senior Competition, the Organizing Committee is allowing a maximum of 22 players, 3 coaches and one trainer or UMPIRE/s for the baseball competition.

Individual Entries

Fully completed Entry by Name Forms for each potential competitor must be received from the participating countries by June 15th, 2018.

Final Entries

The names of competitors finally entered for each event shall be confirmed to the Organizing Committee within 12 hours of arrival for the Games or at the Delegation Registration Meeting but before the first Technical Committee Meeting of each sport in which there are entries.

Only those competitors whose names appear on the Entry by Name Forms shall be eligible for final nominations.

When a competitor is injured after being included in the Final Entry by Name Forms, a substitute may be nominated on production of a medical form certified by a doctor designated by the Games Organizing Committee provided this nomination is made before midnight preceding the opening event of the tournament in which the injured competitor would have taken part.

The substitute's name must have been entered in the Entry by Name Forms of that sport.

Competition Rules and Regulations

The 2018 Micronesian Games Baseball competition will be conducted in accordance with the International Baseball Federation Rules and Regulations. The Technical Committee may agree upon exceptions.

The Micronesian Games Council shall have complete control of the direction and control of the Games as stated in the Micronesian Games Charter and By-Laws; provided, however, that the International Federations of those sports on the program, in association with the Technical Committee, shall have technical control of the organization of their respective sports in accordance with the IF Rules. In cases of disputes, the Micronesian Games Council decision shall be final.

Competition Procedures

Reporting Time

Teams shall report to the Yap Sports Complex Baseball Field no later than one hour prior to their schedule game time.

Warm-ups

Teams shall be allocated 15 minutes of on-field practice (warm-up) prior to the start of their scheduled game. In the event of a game in progress, on field warm-up time will be limited to seven minutes apiece. The visiting team shall take on-field warm-up first, followed by the home team. A Field Specialist will be assigned to monitor and enforce warm-up times.

Lineups

Lineup cards shall be submitted to the press box 30 minutes prior to the start of the game. It will be mandatory that the original line-up card be given to the plate umpire. Line-up cards, in duplicate, shall also be provided to the HOME PLATE UMPIRE. Late changes should be avoided as much as possible.

However, in the event that such changes are necessary due to injury, no-show or other unforeseen circumstances, any such late change(s) should be reported immediately to the press box prior to the start of the game.

Player Substitution

All player changes must first go through the plate umpire and it is his responsibility to inform the other coach/manager and the official scorekeeper of such changes. Per Official Baseball Rules, once a substitution has been announced, the substitution may not be cancelled.

Mercy Run Rules

All round-robin games will be 7 innings with the following mercy rules: 20 runs after 2½ or 3 innings and 10 runs after 4½ or 5 innings to effectuate the mercy rule. The SEMI-FINAL AND medal round games will be played in 9 innings with the ten-run rule in effect after 6½ or 7 innings. In effect means that the run rules mentioned above will come into play at any time after the 2½ or 3 innings, 4½ or 5 innings or for 9 inning games after the 6½ or 7 innings. If a home run ends the game all runs scored on the home run shall count. If only a base hit then only the run that is needed to end the game shall count.

Equipment

The game's official baseball will be the PRO NINE OL. All bats must either be a wooden bat or a composite bat. Use of metal bats is strictly forbidden.

Resolution of Ties

In case of a tie for position in the final team standing, a tie will be resolved by following, in order, the procedure set out below:

- Rank the tied teams by the results of games played against each other; a winner is placed ahead of the loser.
- Rank the tied teams in order of their total runs against each other; the team with the lowest runs scored against record is first.
- Rank the teams in order of their runs against record of all their round robin games; the team with the lowest runs scored against record is first.
- Rank the tied teams by random selection; the first team selected is first. For a team, the "runs against" is the total number of runs scored by their specified opponents.

Make Up Games

In the event of rain or other circumstances causing the cancellation of a game, or in the event that one game is declared a tie due to weather, that game shall be played as per Official Baseball Rules on the next available date. Statistics for a game declared a tie will be counted. In the event that a makeup game needs to be played, the time of the game shall be determined by the Competition Manager, WBSC Delegate, and Umpire Director with the advice from the Tournament Director.

Protests and Appeals

The Technical Committee will address questions relating to any violation of the rules. A manager who wishes to make a protest must do so immediately prior to the next pitch OR PLAY.

A protest must be made to the HOME PLATE UMPIRE who will notify the Official Scorekeeper. The protest must include the specific rule which is under protest. At that point, the Technical Committee shall consider the nature of the protest and make a ruling prior to the resumption of the game. All decisions made by the Technical Committee shall be final. If the Technical Committee upholds a protest, the HOME PLATE UMPIRE shall enforce the ruling and the game shall be resumed from the point of interruption. If a protest is denied, then the games shall be resumed from the point of interruption.

Appeals Committee

There shall be established an Appeals Committee for the Games in accordance with Article VII of the Micronesian Games Bylaws. Members of this Committee shall consist of five representatives from participating countries. The Appeals Committee shall decide on all matters of a non-technical nature. The Appeals Committee shall meet regularly throughout the Games.

Competition Clothing and Equipment

There shall be no advertising or publicity on personal equipment and competition clothing used or worn at the Games except that of the official sponsors as prescribed by the Organizing Committee. Identification of the manufacturer (name and/or logo) of the equipment and or clothing may appear, if not marked conspicuously for advertising purposes in accordance with the International Federation Rules and Regulations.

Homerun Fence

The baseball field is surrounded by an 8-foot cyclone wire fencing with galvanized pipes. The distance from home plate to left field fence is 350 feet. The distance from home plate to center field is 400 feet, and the distance from home plate to the right field fence is 350 feet (the fence is 8 ft in height).

Bullpen & Batting Cages

The bullpen and batting areas are located in four cages down the left field and right field foul areas.

Protective Screens

There are protective and batting screens available for use during practice.

Scoreboard

A scoreboard is located at center field.

Dugouts

Both dugouts are equipped with permanent benches with open space facing the ballfield.

Ice and Water

Ice water will be provided to each team during competition.

Foul Balls

It would assist if teams could allocate a player to help in the retrieval of foul balls that leave the playing area. THE HOST WILL PROVIDE BAT BOYS AND BALL CHASERS

Changing Room/Showers

Because the field has no changing rooms/shower facilities, it is recommended that teams scheduled to play change into their baseball attire prior to arrival at the field. Toilets and shower facilities are located in the nearby Indoor Gymnasium and teams are welcome to use this facility. However, the gym will be crowded as basketball and volleyball games are scheduled to be held simultaneously with the baseball games and the showers will not be available when teams are using the locker rooms.

Practice/Training Schedule

Teams will be provided with a training schedule. The Tournament Director will be responsible to disseminate the training schedule.

Competition Venue Medical Services

An appropriate level of medical services will be provided at each competition venue for athletes, teams and technical officials.

Doping Control

Athletes are advised that random drug testing will be conducted for the duration of the 2018 Micronesian Games.

It is the responsibility of the athlete to check the status of all medications and refrain from using prohibited substances. Any athlete that tests positive for a prohibited substance will be disqualified from the 2018 Micronesian Games.

Media

The media, to include personnel from the various newspaper outlets, television and radio stations, will be seeking audience with athletes and team officials before, during, and after each game and we encourage everyone to cooperate with the media.