

## MWBL Women's Match Conditions for Finals – 2024

| SINGLE GAMES                            |   | DOUBLE HEADER GAMES   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| <b>Game Start Time</b>                  | <b>1:30pm</b>   | Double Header Game  | <b>12.00 pm for double header game but no earlier than 12.00pm</b>                                    |
|   |   | Last Game   | 30 minutes after completion of Double Header Game if a late finish but no <u>earlier</u> than 2.30 pm |
| <b>Game Finish Time</b>                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9 innings game or 2 hours with a Five minute rule (Whichever comes first)</li> <li>Extra innings if scores tied after 9 innings or after 2 hours with Five minute rule.</li> <li>Game to be played until completion or until umpire deems playing conditions unsafe</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9 innings game or 2 hours with a Five minute rule (Whichever comes first)</li> <li><b>Late</b> game to be played until Completion or until umpire deems playing conditions unsafe</li> </ul> |   |
| <b>Minimum Game Requirements</b>        | 5 innings or 65 minutes of play.<br>If a game is ceased after 65 minutes and the innings are uneven, and the HOME team is behind then scores will revert back to the last complete inning.  |   |   |
| <b>Interruptions</b>                    | A No-Result Rule applies to all games if Minimum Game Requirements are not met.   |   |   |
| <b>Washout or unplayable conditions</b> | If game not commenced by 2:30pm.<br>No Result Rule applies.   | Double Header game  | If game not commenced by <b>1.00pm</b><br>No-Result Rule applies                                      |
|   |   | Last Game   | If game not commenced by <b>3.30pm</b><br>No-Result Rule applies.                                     |

**Seven Run Rule:** 7 runs per innings rule applies.

**Extended Batting Line-up:** Refer to The MWBL Match Conditions Rule 20.

**Five Minute Rule Applies:** All games with a scheduled finish time shall be subject to the 'Five Minute Rule'. If, at the completion of even innings, from the call of 'side out' and there remains more than five minutes of time before the scheduled completion time, a further complete innings shall be played. If, at five minutes before the scheduled time of completion, and with the home team to bat, then: - If the **HOME TEAM** is **AHEAD** – the game ceases immediately - If the **HOME TEAM** is **BEHIND** or the game **TIED** – game continues until the winning run is scored or side is retired.

**Mercy Rule:** A team leading by 10 or more runs at the end of 7 complete innings, will be declared the winner.  
A team leading by 15 or more runs at the end of 5 complete innings, will be declared the winner.

**No-Result Rule:** Where wet or inclement weather or ground conditions prevent a game not achieving the Minimum Game Requirements (65 minutes or 5 innings) or reaching the maximum playing time without a result, the following procedure will apply:

**If Game Tied:** If in the event of a tied game that has met the minimum game requirements or has played out all available time as deemed by the Finals Match Conditions for 2023, the highest placed team moves to the next round, or next available time as determined by the MWBL Pennant Committee.

1. **SEMI FINALS:** If game is not completed on Sunday, then Highest placed team moves on
2. **PRELIMINARY FINALS:** If game is not completed on Sunday, then Highest placed team moves on
3. **GRAND FINALS:** In the event of a wash out or tied game, the following weekend will be used to replay the match.
4. **GRAND FINAL REPLAYS IF REQUIRED.** If week four washed out, dual premiers will be declared.

**Eligibility for Finals – refer to the MWBL Match Conditions Rule 19a – 19d.**

# MWBL Women's Match Conditions for Finals - 2024

## In General

- A Finals Series is to be played immediately following completion of home and away series.
- Finals Series Formats will be as arranged by the Pennant Committee.
- The Umpires will be the SOLE judges of fitness and marking of grounds.
- HOME team will be team that finishes higher on ladder at completion of home and away series.
- Semi Final games will be played on the ground of the team finishing higher on ladder at completion of home and away series, or as otherwise decided by the Pennant Committee. No correspondence with be entered into
- For Preliminary and Grand Finals, the Pennant Committee will decide venues.
- If away teams using their home ground - then they can use their usual dugout.
- All players and coaches must be in uniform of club – **no shorts.**
- **Match balls to be supplied by the competing clubs. Teams to supply a minimum of two match balls. If teams supply different brands then the clubs to agree on brand to be used and if cannot agree then the home team brand will be used. Teams to have a sufficient stock of balls on hand to complete the game in case of balls lost or damaged.**
- Bases, markers and line marking must be supplied by club on whose ground the match is played.
- On open grounds Home Run markers must be supplied and placed beyond the white line marked between the two foul lines.
- On open grounds one boundary rider to be supplied by each competing club, and in position when managers meet with umpires. In default, umpires will not start game until boundary riders are in position. If default occurs whilst game is in progress, umpires will suspend play for a maximum of 5 minutes. If play cannot resume defaulting club will forfeit game.
- **The winner of the second semi- final (1 v 2) will become the home team for the Grand Final**
- **A maximum of 15 players can be used by any team – whether substitute players or re-entry players from the earlier game**
- NOTE: For Preliminary and Grand Final games - the named home team will use the third base bench and the named away team will use the first base bench for neutral grounds
- NOTE: Pre Game Warm Up time on ground for ALL Finals  
The named HOME team shall be able to use the whole ground for pre- game warm up for 7 minutes commencing 20 minutes before scheduled game start.  
The named AWAY team shall be able to use the whole ground for pre-game warm up for 7 minutes commencing 13 minutes before scheduled game start. Umpires and Managers shall meet at home plate 5 minutes before scheduled game start.

## SPEED – UP RULE:

A substitute runner (SR) can be used for both the pitcher and catcher when they reach base.

The substitute runner shall be a bench player and may be a player substituted from the game or in the case of team having only nine players available the player last out can be used.

If there is none or one out it is optional to use a substitute runner for the pitcher or catcher when they reach base.

If there is two out, then it is mandatory that the pitcher and catcher be replaced with a substitute runner when they reach base.

If after reaching base the pitcher or catcher is not to continue in the role as the pitcher or catcher, then the substitution is to be advised to the umpire and that a substitute runner is not required.

UMPIRES: Umpires to be appointed by the MWBL or if non available then competing clubs to supply

- **Match sheets are required for Finals Series games and to be sent to the MWBL Administrator no later than 72 hours after the game - by the umpires.**  
If games are washed out, then match sheets are still required and umpires are requested to ensure that only names of players present at the game appear on the match sheet.  
**For the Finals Games Umpires are required to email the scores to the MWBL Administrator after the game by 8.00pm on the day of the game** Email: [scores@mwbl.com.au](mailto:scores@mwbl.com.au)

NOTE: If conditions arise that are not covered by these rules, then the matter to be referred to the Pennant Committee Chairman – David Rice  
0419 330 323