

**THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL 2012  
EMASS REGISTRANTS - PLEASE READ CAREFULLY**

**A. REGISTRATION REQUIRED:** No individual will be assigned to a team in any Division or be allowed to play in any EMASS game, practice or scrimmage, unless he/she has completed the online Registration Process and paid all applicable fees.

**B. AGE RESTRICTION - "GRANDFATHER" PROVISION:**

In order to become a Member of EMASS a player must have reached the age of **55** by December 31, 2012. Provided, however, any 2011 EMASS Member, who was on the roster of an EMASS Team in 2011, who has not reached the age of 55 by December 31, 2012, shall be considered "grandfathered" and may become a Member of EMASS in 2012 and subsequent years provided that such person continually maintains his/her status as a registered player in at least one of the Divisions for which he/she was registered in 2011.

PLEASE NOTE: PROOF OF AGE (photo driver's license or passport) WILL BE REQUIRED FOR ALL ROOKIES (NEW EMASS PLAYERS) PRIOR TO THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE 2012 REGULAR SEASON. INDIVIDUAL TEAM MANAGERS WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CONFIRMING AGE ELIGIBILITY.

**C. NEW PLAYER EVALUATIONS/MINIMUM SKILLS REQUIREMENT:** In order to properly evaluate NEW EMASS Members, each will be randomly and temporarily assigned to a Team(s) for the Pre-Season games and/or practices. This is a temporary assignment for evaluation purposes only. At the end of the Pre-Season, new EMASS Members will be re-assigned to their Regular Season Team(s). No new EMASS Member will be permanently assigned to a team in any Division without having been evaluated previously. In addition, All new EMASS Members (and those current EMASS Members with evaluation ratings below a to be specified level) must be able to pass the Minimum Skills Requirement Evaluation in order to be eligible to play in EMASS. The Minimum Skills Requirements can be found in the League Info/Rules and Regulations Section of this website.

**D. PLAYING COMMITMENT:** One of the most difficult operational issues which we face in EMASS is the problem raised by players' absences from games during the season due to (i) personal injury, health or other unexpected emergency events, or (ii) otherwise. We cannot anticipate or for that matter do anything about the former, such is life. However, the "otherwise" absences are certainly preventable. These types of absences have a very adverse effect on the entire competitive balance of the Divisions and the results are just not fair to the Members who consistently and regularly meet their playing commitments.

**BY COMPLETING THE REGISTRATION PROCESS, EVERY MEMBER AGREES (SUBJECT TO PERSONAL INJURY, HEALTH OR OTHER UNEXPECTED LIFE EMERGENCY EVENTS) TO PARTICIPATE IN AT LEAST 80% OF THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED PLAYING DATES (E.G. 20 OF 24 DATES IN 2012).**

**EXCEPT FOR INJURY, HEALTH OR OTHER UNEXPECTED LIFE EMERGENCY EVENTS, FAILURE TO MEET THE 80% PLAYING DATE PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENT IN ANY GIVEN SEASON, MAY RESULT IN A PLAYER BEING**

**REMOVED FROM HIS/HER ASSIGNED PLAYING ROSTER AND SUBSEQUENTLY DENIED PLAYING MEMBERSHIP IN FUTURE SEASONS.**

If you believe that you cannot make this commitment, BEFORE registering please contact the Commissioner, in order to discuss your personal situation.

**E. 2012 REGISTRATION SCHEDULE:** In order to operate more efficiently from an administrative standpoint and to begin the team formation process much earlier than in the past, registration for the 2012 Season will begin on October 1, 2011. There will be an "early bird" discount for anyone who registers and pays in full by November 13, 2011.

**PLEASE NOTE: GUARANTEED REGISTRATION FOR THE 2012 SEASON WILL CLOSE ON DECEMBER 31, 2011.**

**ANYONE REGISTERING ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2012 WILL BE PLACED ON THE EMASS "PENDING ASSIGNMENT" LIST. ALTHOUGH IT IS VERY LIKELY THAT MOST, IF NOT ALL, REGISTRANTS ON THE PENDING ASSIGNMENT LIST WILL BE ASSIGNED TO A TEAM, THERE IS NO GUARANTY. IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT THAT YOU ARE NOT ASSIGNED TO A TEAM BY MAY 1, 2012, YOU WILL BE SENT A FULL REFUND OF ALL FEES.**

**F. 2012 FEES:**

REGISTRATION COMPLETE AND ALL APPLICABLE FEES ARE PAID ON OR BEFORE 11/13/2011:

American Division:	\$110.00
National Division:	\$110.00
Atlantic Division:	\$ 75.00
Metro Division:	\$ 75.00

AFTER 11/13/2011:

American Division:	\$125.00
National Division:	\$125.00
Atlantic Division:	\$ 90.00
Metro Division:	\$ 90.00

In addition to the applicable Division Fees above, each registered player will be charged a Field Acquisition and Development Fee of \$25.00. There is only one Field Acquisition and Development Fee assessed regardless of the number of Divisions played. An explanation of the Field Acquisition and Development Fee can be found on the EMASS Website under League Info/Board Meetings/Miscellaneous Documents.

**G. 2012 SOFTBALL DIVISIONS:**

**AMERICAN DIVISION:** The American Division plays umpired doubleheaders on Saturday mornings (9:00) on various fields throughout Eastern Massachusetts. Except for specifically "grandfathered" returning EMASS Members, in order to be eligible to play in the American Division, **a player must have reached the age of 55 by December 31, 2012.** The American Division has the highest percentage of "younger" players and is the most competitive and skilled division. Returning and

new players are assigned each year to an American Division team by the Performance, Evaluation and Assignment Committee ("PEAC") based on evaluations from prior years or in the case of new players based on an evaluation made by the PEAC after the Pre-Season. The rosters of American Division teams change each year and are designed to be as equal skill wise as possible. We are anticipating a 4-6 Team American Division. In the unlikely event that there are not enough American Division registrants for 4 teams, we will assign those who sign up for the American Division into the National Division.

**ATLANTIC DIVISION:** The Atlantic Division plays umpired doubleheaders in Wayland and Sudbury (or other fields to be determined) each week on either Tuesday or Thursday mornings (10:00). Except for specifically "grandfathered" returning EMASS Members, in order to be eligible to play in the Atlantic Division, **a player must have reached the age of 55 by December 31, 2012.** The Atlantic Division has a higher average age than the National Division and in general is a less competitive and skilled division, although there are some American Division players who also play in the Atlantic Division. Returning and new players are assigned each year to an Atlantic Division team by the PEAC based on evaluations from prior years or in the case of new players based on an evaluation made by the PEAC after the Pre-Season. The rosters of Atlantic Division teams change each year and are designed to be as equal skill wise as possible. We are anticipating an 8 or 10 Team Atlantic Division.

**METRO DIVISION:** The Metro Division plays umpired doubleheaders in Wayland and Sudbury (and/or other fields to be determined) on Friday mornings (10:00). Except for specific players designated for play in the Metro Division by the PEAC, in order to be eligible to play in the Metro Division, **a player must have reached the age of 65 by December 31, 2012.** The Metro Division is specifically designed for older EMASS players who would like to play in a less competitive and skilled division. Therefore, no American Division player may play in the Metro Division without the consent of the PEAC and the Commissioner. Returning and new players are assigned each year to a Metro Division team by the PEAC based on evaluations from prior years or in the case of new players based on an evaluation made by the PEAC after the Pre-Season. The rosters of Metro Division teams change each year are designed to be as equal skill wise as possible. We are anticipating a 4-5 Team Metro Division.

**NATIONAL DIVISION:** The National Division plays umpired doubleheaders on Saturday mornings (9:00) on various fields throughout Eastern Massachusetts. Except for specifically "grandfathered" returning EMASS Members, in order to be eligible to play in the National Division, **a player must have reached the age of 55 by December 31, 2012.** The National Division has a higher average age than the American Division and is a moderately less competitive and skilled division. Returning and new players are assigned each year to a National Division team by the PEAC based on evaluations from prior years or in the case of new players based on an evaluation made by the PEAC after the Pre-Season. The rosters of National Division teams change each year and are designed to be as equal skill wise as possible. We are anticipating a 8-10 Team National Division.

**H. AMERICAN/NATIONAL DIVISIONAL ROSTER ASSIGNMENTS:** Although during Registration a member shall be asked to specify in which Saturday division (American or National) he/she desires to participate, please note that the PEAC reserves the right to assign a Member to a team in either the American or National

division based on such individual's skill level and the needs of the respective Divisions.

**I. ATLANTIC/METRO DIVISIONAL ROSTER ASSIGNMENTS:** Although during Registration a member shall be asked to specify in which weekday divisions (Atlantic and/or Metro) he/she desires to participate, please note that the PEAC reserves the right to assign a Member to the Metro Division if such individual is unable to demonstrate skill levels and/or physical abilities appropriate to the level of play of the Atlantic Division. In any such event, if the Member does not desire to play in the Metro Division, the Member shall have the right to request and receive a complete refund of any fees previously paid; otherwise he/she will be assigned to a Metro Division team.

**J. GENERAL DIVISIONAL ASSIGNMENT POLICIES:** In order to insure the health, welfare and safety of all participants, and in order to ensure the enjoyment of the majority of EMASS Members, the PEAC reserves the right to restrict the participation of an individual in a particular Division (i) if such individual is unable to demonstrate minimum skill levels and/or physical abilities appropriate to the level of play of the applicable Division; or (ii) if such individual's skills and/or physical abilities are of such a high level as to be inappropriate to the level of play in the applicable division and could reasonably be considered a risk to other participants.

In the event that any player is not available to play (due to winter vacation schedules) on the opening day of his/her Division, he/she will not be assigned to a team until such time as he/she returns and is so available to play on a full time basis as indicated on the registration form.

**K. UNIFORMS:** New EMASS playing jerseys (one blue and one red) will be provided to new EMASS Members. Returning EMASS Members will continue to use the playing jerseys provided in 2011. New playing jerseys will be provided every 4<sup>th</sup> year to returning players. For example, every EMASS Member who received new playing jerseys in 2011 will be provided a new set of playing jerseys in 2014. If an EMASS Member has lost or otherwise desires to replace a playing jersey, extra jerseys will be available for purchase. EMASS Members will not receive a hat but hats will be available for purchase.

**L. PRELIMINARY 2012 SCHEDULE:**

2012 Pre-Season: April 1, 2012 – May 4, 2012

2012 Regular Season: May 5, 2012 – September 30, 2012.

2012 Post Season: October 1, 2012 – October 13, 2012.

There will not be regularly scheduled EMASS games on Memorial Day Weekend and Labor Day Weekend or the weekend of the Cape Cod Senior Classic (week after Labor Day)