

Bloordale Mosquito Division Rules 2008

General Principles

Our goal at Bloordale is to provide children with an opportunity to enjoy the game of baseball and at the same time to develop their social and interpersonal skills.

For us as parents who volunteer to coach, it should be our goal to be fair to all children and to promote respect for all players, other coaches, umpires and other parents. We should forever be good role models by promoting sportsmanship and fair play at all times.

RULES

Though the general rules as set out by the OBA apply to house league baseball, there are some exceptions designed and adapted for the Bloordale Mosquito Baseball Division which need to be noted by all the coaches and umpires.

Pitching

A player can pitch a **maximum of 2 innings or 6 outs within the first 6 innings** of a game. If the game goes beyond 6 innings, then this same player may pitch to a maximum of 3 innings or 9 outs. For clarity, If a pitcher retires from pitching, **he can not go back in until 6 outs has elapsed** against his team. Say Player A pitches the 1st inning, and his team mate, Player B starts the 2nd inning, then Player A can not pitch until the beginning of the 4th inning.

Two of the first 4 innings (6 outs) must be pitched by a first year player, such player shall be defined as a player born in 1998 or later. It is the Head Coach's responsibility to notify the umpire and the opposing team's scorekeeper on the identity of the 1st year player prior to the start of the inning. A **5-run maximum mercy rule** will apply in each inning except the last inning.

7 warm-up pitches are allowed at the start of the inning or by a new pitcher entering the game.

A pitcher will be retired from his position if he fails to pitch the ball after the umpire's 'ready-to-play-ball' signal.

Player Rotation

No player may sit out a second inning in a game until ALL players have sat out at least one inning.

Coaches must ensure each player has a **reasonable balance** of playing time between **outfield and infield**. No player shall play the same infield position more than twice in the same game.

A team must field **7 registered players for the game to be official**. Any team unable to field the minimum level by 15 minutes after the scheduled start time will default the game.

Batting

Each Head Coach must submit a copy of the team's batting order to their opponent's scorekeeper at the beginning of the game with the batter's name and jersey #. **All players will bat consecutively** as listed in the batting order. No changes will be made unless it is mutually agreed to between Coaches.

Game Timing

The teams are encouraged to start the game on time. The umpire and scorekeeper are responsible for recording the starting time of the first pitch. **No inning may start beyond 1 hour and 45 minutes after the first pitch is thrown.**

Coaches should meet just prior to 1 hour and 45 minutes to determine and agree upon the number of completed innings for the game.

Flexibility should be given if the game is delayed for some unforeseeable or unusual reason beyond everybody's control, in any event, the end of the game should be mutually agreed upon by the Coaches and umpire, failing which the umpire's decision is final.

If 4 full innings are not completed within the normal time limit due to an interruption by rain or act of God, then the **game shall be rescheduled** to a later date.

Uniforms and Equipment

Players Managers and Coaches must wear issued Bloordale uniforms and hats at all times during the games.

Players are not permitted to wear jewellery, watches, neckchains or bracelets.

Players must have their shirt jerseys tucked into their pants. No short pants are permitted.

No metal spikes/cleats may be worn.

Home Team

The Home Team is declared as shown on the Mosquito Schedule.

The Home Team shall provide game balls and set up the field for play.

The Home Team's bench shall be next to the equipment box.

The Home Team shall pay the umpires' services at the end of the game.

The Home Team is responsible for returning all equipment to the equipment box after the game and ensures that the box is securely locked

Umpires

Once the game starts, the home plate umpire shall full control of the game. **Umpire's decision is final.**

If there are any disputes, then it is important for the Coaches to resolve same with the home plate umpire, failing which a written protest shall be addressed to the Convenor within 24 hours for review and resolution.

Stealing Bases and Bunting

No intentional bunting is permitted.

No lead-off is permitted, however **stealing** is permitted only **after the pitched ball crosses the plate** or if a defensive error was made by a defensive player.

Stealing home is not permitted except on a hit, error in the field, sacrifice fly ball or attempt to make a play on a runner on any of the bases. For clarity, there will be NO advances on a catcher's overthrow to the pitcher..

It is the responsibility of the base runner to avoid contact when there is a close play at any base including home plate. The runner must slide to avoid contact. If contact is made and the runner does slide he or she will be called out by the umpire. The base runner may be ejected if the contact is severe

Reporting Scores and Parking

The winning team is responsible for reporting the game score to the Convenors, Rosa Ragosta or Lorne Kirsch, at rosak@rogers.com

No parking of cars on the lot adjacent to the apartment building.