

## **SASKATOON MINOR BASEBALL 11u DIVISION Rules for League Play – 2019**

Except as amended by the following, the rules of the Saskatoon Mosquito Baseball Division are those in the Baseball Canada Rule Book (latest edition) and the SBA Handbook (latest edition is available at [www.saskbaseball.ca](http://www.saskbaseball.ca)). In League play the rules outlined below take priority over the SBA Handbook which, in turn, takes priority over those in the Baseball Canada Rule Book.

**Please note these League rules do not apply to SBA Provincial Qualifier or Championship tournaments.**

**DEADLINES** 1. Provincial rosters, along with tournament fee, are to be sent to Regina (Sask Baseball) by each

individual teams. **The deadline will be around June 5th, still waiting for an update.** The league assumes no responsibility for registering teams for provincial play.

### **GAME START TIMES:**

**The Majority of games will be played at Kilburn Diamonds this year, so the following times will be scheduled**

May 1 to May 16 start times will be 4:30 pm & 6:30 pm

May 20th to end of season: Start times will be 5:00 pm & 7:00 pm

### **TEAM LINEUPS**

1. A, AA and AAA teams will play “everybody bats” with unlimited substitution and player re-entry throughout the season. **Each player must play a minimum of two defensive innings in the first four innings of a game.**

2. A team failing to field a minimum of 8 players within 15 minutes of the scheduled start time for the game shall forfeit the game. A practice game, using the assigned umpire should be played instead. Teams should share players in the practice game so as to have two balanced teams.

## **GAME RULES 1.**

In each game:

(a) The HOME team will occupy the third base bench; the VISITING team will occupy the first base bench.

(b) At all fields other than Kilburn, the VISITING team will mark the base lines and batter’s box, and place the bases before each game.

(c) The HOME team shall supply the game balls (3 balls in good condition).

(d) No equipment may be left or stored on the playing field at any time. Equipment must be kept in or behind the players’ benches.

(e) Each team is responsible for cleaning up its bench area and the spectator area nearby.

(f) The HOME team is responsible for returning the bases and other equipment such as rakes and lining equipment to the storage shed/boxes following the game. All storage boxes must be locked following each game. .

(g) Games will be cancelled or stopped when the temperature falls below 5 degrees C or when the time between a lightning flash and the sound of thunder is 30 seconds or less. A game stopped because of lightning may be resumed once the storm has passed if the field remains playable.

(h) A courtesy runner for the catcher will be used in all League games and League tournaments. Any time the catcher for the upcoming inning is on base or reaches base with 2 outs, a substitute runner shall take his/her place on base so that the catcher is ready to take warm up pitches as soon as the inning ends. The substitute runner shall be the last player put out in that inning. The intent of this rule is to ensure that the next inning begins quickly after the third out to allow teams to play as many innings as possible in the time allotted.

(j) **Bunting is not permitted.**

## **SCOREKEEPER**

1. The HOME team shall provide the scorebook, a scorekeeper and a second person to record pitch

counts on the sheet provided by each coach.

2. After the game, each team’s pitch count sheet is to be given to that team’s coaching staff for

their records.

3. The number and full name of each player must be recorded in the scorebook for all games.

## MERCY RULES

1. A 6-run per inning mercy rule will apply in the AAA and AA leagues and a 4-run per inning mercy rule will apply in the A league. The inning will stop once the sixth/fourth run has been scored. The exception to this rule is if there is an *over the fence home run*, then all runs will count
2. The 10-run mercy rule after 4 or more complete innings (3 1/2 innings if the HOME team is ahead) will apply in tournament play, **but NOT in league play**.

## PITCHING RULES FOR ALL CATEGORIES

1. Pitching limits will be determined by the Baseball Canada pitch count rules (see Appendix A).
2. These pitch count limitations will apply to all games played.

## REQUIRED DAYS REST DO NOT RESET TO ZERO FOR TOURNAMENTS

3. Pitch counts will be recorded and each team is required to enter its pitch counts online within 24 hours of the game being played. The head coach of a team failing to do so will be warned and will face suspension if subsequent infractions occur.

Each team is responsible for submitting their own pitch count after each game. To submit your pitch count:

1. Visit: [www.teamlinkt.com/pitchcount](http://www.teamlinkt.com/pitchcount)
  2. Login with: Scores2web
  3. Complete the Form
4. Deliberate violation of the pitch count rules will result in the offending team forfeiting the game and a score of 6-0 will be recorded. The infraction will be reported to the SBA and the head coach of the offending team will be subject to disciplinary action.
  5. A pitcher who has reached his or her maximum pitch limit (75 pitches) while facing a batter will be permitted to continue pitching until that batter reaches base or is put out.
  6. Once removed from the mound, a player may not pitch again in that game or catch in that or another game played on the same day.
  7. No curve balls may be thrown.  
(A "curve ball" is defined as any breaking ball in which the pitcher deliberately breaks his or her wrist, or snaps the elbow in order to induce a forward or side-angled spin on the ball i.e. ANY breaking pitch thrown by the pitcher using arm action that causes the ball to noticeably change direction while in flight to the plate.)

8. A curve ball will be treated as an illegal pitch and penalties will be as follows:

- with no runners on base, the pitch will be called a ball unless the batter safely reaches first base. - with runners on base, the pitch will be considered a balk. The pitch will be declared a "no pitch", the ball is dead and runners will advance one base, except that if the batter reaches first base on a hit, an error, a hit batter or otherwise, and no other runner is put out before advancing at least one base, the play shall proceed without reference to the violation.

An umpire's judgment that a curve ball was delivered to a batter may not be appealed.

9. **There are no intentional walks allowed. (New 2019)**

## **GAME LENGTH**

1. Games are six innings long or 1 1/2 hours in length. A new inning shall not be started one hour and 15 minutes after the official game start time, unless agreed upon by **BOTH** coaches prior to the start of the game that 6 innings will be played . In this situation, the umpire must be notified as soon as the decision is made. On nice evenings full 6 inning games are encouraged, but are not mandatory.

## **RULES SPECIFIC TO THE MOSQUITO AAA LEAGUE**

1. **Prior to MAY 25**, \*\*\* scoring may only occur on a play initiated by a hit or a force play.\*\*\*

## **RULES SPECIFIC TO THE MOSQUITO AA LEAGUE**

1. All batters start with a 1-1 count. **This rule will be in effect all season. (New 2019)**

2. \*\*\* Scoring may only occur on a play initiated by a hit or a force play. \*\*\*

\*\*\* A RUNNER OCCUPYING THIRD BASE AT THE START OF THE PITCH, MUST BE HIT OR FORCED HOME (ON A WALK) TO SCORE. THAT RUNNER CANNOT SCORE ON ANY OTHER PLAY SUCH AS AN OVERTHROW OR PASSED BALL.

## **RULES SPECIFIC TO THE MOSQUITO A LEAGUE**

See Appendix

B.

## **CONDUCT OF PLAYERS AND COACHES**

### **1. PROTESTS ARE NOT PERMITTED IN MOSQUITO LEAGUE GAMES.**

There will be no arguing/debating with the umpires.

2. Any unsportsmanlike action shall be grounds for ejection. This includes swearing, any action designed to distract either team, over-aggressiveness, etc.

A PLAYER OR COACH EJECTED FROM A GAME MUST LEAVE THE PARK FOR THE REST OF THAT GAME. All ejections will be dealt with according to the current SBCI Discipline Guidelines.

### **3. A ZERO TOLERANCE policy exists for verbal and physical harassment of umpires by coaches, players, parents and spectators.**

(a) Any coach or player who argues any decision or harasses an umpire in any way will automatically be ejected from the game and subject to SBCI discipline guideline.

These ejections will also be reported to the SBA Commissioner. NOTE: This policy is not meant to prevent a coach from asking an umpire to explain a decision, but rather to prevent an argument or extended discussion of the decision (See also item 1 directly above)

(b) The team Manager and/or Head Coach will be held responsible for the conduct of the team's parents and fans. If the umpire judges that the spectator's behavior is detrimental to the conduct of the game, the umpire shall ask the Team Manager and/or Head Coach to inform the spectator(s) that the game will be called if such behaviour continues. Any spectator who continues to harass an umpire may be asked to leave the playing area. The game shall be stopped until the offending party has agreed to cease and desist or has left the field area. If at their discretion, the umpires feel the situation is not resolved in a timely manner the game shall be called. If the game is called the League will conduct a full inquiry, involving the umpire and coaches of both teams, and may issue suspensions to the coaching staff of either or both teams. Subsequent conditions may be placed on the offending spectators based on this review.

### **4. ALL COACHES MUST WEAR UNIFORMS. PANTS AND JERSEY (NO SHORTS)**

## **COACHING CERTIFICATION**

1. One coach of each team is required to have Initiation Coach and **the Respect in**

**Sport Core** module certification.

2. ALL coaches are encouraged, at a minimum, to have completed the on-line entry module at [www.coach.ca](http://www.coach.ca) and the **Respect in Sport Core** module at [www.respectinsport.com](http://www.respectinsport.com).

3. All Coaches wishing to enter teams in Provincial Championships should check the Saskatchewan Baseball site ([www.saskbaseball.ca](http://www.saskbaseball.ca)) to ensure they have the required provincial coaching qualifications.

**NO EXCEPTIONS TO THE SBA REQUIREMENTS ARE PERMITTED.**

**SAFETY REGULATIONS**

1. The following safety regulations will be strictly enforced:

(a) Shoes with metal or plastic cleats or spikes are prohibited. Shoes with rubber studs or cleats are permitted.

(b) All players shall wear double earflap helmets while at bat, in the on-deck circle and on the base-paths in all age categories. Baseball Canada recognizes NOCSAE as their standard for Baseball Helmets. Baseball Canada recommends that no modifications to a helmet be made, other than what is done by the manufacturer or is completed at the explicit directions of the manufacturer. Batting helmets do not require Facemasks or Chin Straps, but this rule does not prohibit the use of them.

Baseball Canada Rule 3.08 (1.16)

(c) ALL PERSONS (including parents) receiving warm up throws from a pitcher while in the crouch position, whether on or off the field, must wear a protective mask.

(d) Catchers must wear a throat protector or a mask with extended throat protection.

(e) Bats may not exceed 32 inches in length, not more than 2 3/4 inches in diameter and may not be taped more than 16" from the handle.

These are Sask Baseball rules and the umpire may, at their discretion, eject players or coaches refusing to follow these safety regulations.

(f) Except for the batter, the base runners, the on-deck batter and base coaches, all members of the batting team, including coaches, must remain in the players' bench area.

**APPENDIX A**  
**SASKATOON MINOR BASEBALL 11u DIVISION PITCH COUNT RULES - 2019**

**NOTE:** A rest day commences at 12:01 am following the day the pitcher was used i.e. the number of nights of sleep a player is required to have before pitching again is always **one more** than the number of days of rest.

The following rules are also in effect:

1. Pitchers may throw on 3 consecutive days provided the **combined** pitch count for the first two days does not exceed 25 pitches.
2. Pitchers may have 2 appearances on the same calendar day provided no more than 25 pitches are thrown in the first appearance. An appearance is defined as one pitch or more thrown in a game.
3. Pitchers may not pitch on four consecutive days.
  4. A pitcher who has reached his or her maximum pitch limit while facing a batter will be permitted to continue pitching until that batter reaches base or is put out.
  5. Intentional walks are not allowed.
  6. Once a player has assumed the position of pitcher, he/she may not catch for the remainder of that day.
7. No curve balls are permitted.

**The scorekeeper should advise the coach when a pitcher is within 5 pitches of the maximum allowed.** Failure of a coach to remove that pitcher when the maximum pitch count is reached will result in the game being forfeited.

April 30 to end of season

# of pitches	#days rest	# of pitches	#days rest	# of pitches	#days rest
1-25	None	26-40	1 Day	41-55	2 Days

# of pitches	#days rest	# of pitches	#days rest	# of pitches	#days rest
55-65	3 Days	66-75	4 Days	75	Maximum

## **APPENDIX B Game Format and Rules for the 11u League**

IN MOSQUITO A DIVISION THERE IS A NO WALK RULE IN EFFECT FOR LEAGUE PLAY.

ONCE A BATTER HAS RECEIVED A COUNT OF FOUR BALLS, A MEMBER OF THE COACHING STAFF FROM THE HITTING TEAM WILL PITCH AN ADDITIONAL 3 HITTABLE PITCHES TO THE BATTER. IF THE BATTER DOES NOT HIT THE PITCHES, THEY WILL BE OUT AND RETURN TO THEIR BENCH.

There will be one home plate umpire for all 11u games this year. **(New 2019)**

**Rules for 11u Single A** - Player pitch from 40 ft. - **Batters start with a 1-1 count** - No bunting - No leadoffs or stealing bases - Players can go home only on a hit ball or by a force play - If a runner is put out at base or batter's fly ball is caught, player returns to bench - 4-run per inning mercy rule

Suggestions to Coaches - use a different pitcher and catcher each inning - when batting have hitting drills behind the backstop for players not on base or up to bat.

Single A will be required to submit pitch counts as well, at this level it may seem unnecessary, but it is a good habit to develop as you will probably be moving up in skill level the following year!

