



## 18U League Handbook

Revised 2025

The following rules govern Baseball Saskatoon 18U league play. Except for specific provisions mentioned in these rules, play will be in accordance with the current **Baseball Canada** and **Baseball Sask** regulations.

### A. General Information and Regulations

1. See 2025 18U league calendar in Appendix A.
  - Teams must confirm participation in Quinn Stevenson Memorial 18U Tournament as soon as possible.
  - All teams are automatically entered in the League Championship tournament.
2. Baseball Sask provincial rosters must be forwarded to Baseball Sask, Regina directly by the teams themselves. Deadlines for registration, fees, and roster forms may be downloaded from the Baseball Sask website ([www.saskbaseball.ca](http://www.saskbaseball.ca)). A Baseball Sask committee will use a ranking based on regular season and tournaments to place you in an appropriate tier.
3. Please read 'Baseball Saskatoon Code of Conduct.pdf'.
4. Game status because of weather and field conditions can be viewed at Field Conditions link on the Saskatoon Baseball website - <https://www.baseballsaskatoon.com/18u-field-conditions/>. You can follow *Baseball Saskatoon* on Twitter (@baseballyxe) to get field condition/weather updates.
5. The decision to cancel games for out-of-town teams (excluding S5) due to poor weather will be made by 3:30 pm. Weather cancellations for games played in city including city teams and S5 will be made by 4 pm.
6. The HOME team will occupy the 3rd base side; the VISITING team will occupy the 1st base side.
7. Teams can use McCourt and Waygood batting cages prior to games. The home team can use the first 20 minutes 1 hour prior to start of game, and visitors will have access the next 20 minutes. For example, with a 6:30 pm games start, home time can use cage 5:30-5:50 and visiting team can use cage 5:50-6:10.
8. Each team will be allowed a 10-minute infield, starting with the HOME team 25 minutes before game time and the VISITING team at 15 minutes before game time. Teams failing to start their infield on time will not be permitted to extend their designated time and delay start of the game.
9. Use of a courtesy runner for the catcher with 2 outs is permitted and suggested to speed up game. The runner shall be the last player out.

10. There is a 90 s limit between ½ innings to keep up the pace of games.
  - Ensure that your players hustle on and off the field.
  - The pitcher must complete and may not exceed 8 warm up pitches within the time.
  - Have somebody catch for pitcher if catcher is putting on gear.
  - When a new pitcher enters the game, they shall receive 8 preparatory pitches. The umpire has the discretion to extend this to 8 pitches under special circumstances, i.e. Cold weather or extraordinary long inning.
11. The start time for games is 6:00 pm up to May Long Weekend and 6:30 pm thereafter.
12. It is the responsibility of a team to inform the 18U Division Coordinator if a game must be cancelled. A **72-hour notice** is required for the cancellation of games not affected by weather. A team failing to have nine players for a game at the time of game start can play up to 20 min. An automatic out will occur for that 9<sup>th</sup> missing player during that 20 min. grace period. A team failing to field 9 players by 20 min after the scheduled game start time will forfeit that game and have a score of 7-0 recorded against it.
13. Only wood bats are allowed.
  - Exception is 18U women can use aluminum bats with a maximum diameter barrel of 2-3/4 inches with (i) a 1.15 BPF (Bat Performance Factor) or (ii) USA Baseball Model is permitted, and maximum length-weight differential of minus 5. (revised 2024)
14. If out of town teams can agree to play a scheduled game each other at their fields rather than Saskatoon, or if an out of town team can find a Saskatoon team willing to come play a scheduled game at their field, please let me know as soon as possible (at least a week in advance). For out of town games, the 18U League will not be responsible for assignment of umpires but will be willing pay for the cost of umpires up to the amount we get charged per game for umpires in Saskatoon.
15. Available practice times at McCourt and Waygood can be viewed at <https://teamup.com/ksq9emz6isosy5wggq>. Email Christa ([administrator@baseballsaskatoon.com](mailto:administrator@baseballsaskatoon.com)) to book a practice time.

## B. The Game

1. All games are 7 innings long with the following exceptions:
  - **There is NO time limit for game**, except for mercy situations and inclement weather conditions. Inadequate light, cold (e.g., < 5°C), other weather conditions (e.g., smoke), or poor diamond conditions (e.g., muddy and slippery) can be considered as sufficient reason to cancel or stop a game. If there is less than a 30 sec. interval between a lightning flash and the sound of thunder, games will be suspended until the storm has passed or the game is called. The decision to stop a game due to weather, light, or diamond conditions should be discussed by coaches and officials, but officials ultimately have the final say if parties cannot agree.
  - Game mercy rules for both Tier 1 and 2 (**revised 2025**):
    - 6-run limit per inning for tier 2 and 8-run limit per inning for tier 1.
    - Run limit applies to ALL innings.
    - A game is considered complete if a team is up 15 or more runs at the end of 3 innings.

- A game is considered complete if 5 complete innings have been played or the home team is ahead 10 runs after 4 1/2 innings. 10-run mercy rule becomes effective for the VISITING team after the HOME team has batted five times (5 complete innings). When the HOME team scores the 10th run in its at-bat in any inning after 4½ innings, the game is complete, and the inning will not be finished. A game is also considered complete if the HOME team is ahead after the VISITING team has batted in the 7th inning OR when the HOME team scores the winning run in the bottom half of the 7th inning.
  - Regular season league games ruled incomplete or cancelled due to weather or light conditions will not be rescheduled except for League Championship games.
2. Games will be played as “Everybody Bats” and with unlimited substitution and re-entry of players.
  3. **Line up cards NEED to be presented** to the plate umpire at the pre-game plate meeting.
  4. The HOME team will provide sufficient game balls, scorekeeper, and the scorebook. Teams are welcome to use GameChanger as an official scorebook. The official scorebook regardless of whether it is paper form or electronic must show an accurate account of scoring for the game as it will be the official record for the game.
  5. The VISITING team will provide the pitch count forms and pitch count keeper. After the game, the pitch count forms are to be returned to the respective teams for their records. Each team is responsible to correctly enter their own pitch count in the TeamLinkt app under ‘Statistics’. Instructions to enter pitch counts: <https://help.teamlinkt.com/en/articles/6187334-submitting-pitch-counts>.
  6. The HOME team is responsible for entering the game score in the TeamLinkt app no later than 24 hours after finish of the game. Instructions to enter scores: <https://help.teamlinkt.com/en/articles/4938724-how-to-submit-scores-to-the-league-for-team-admins>.
  7. The HOME team is responsible for **returning the bases to the lock box or pup** after the game and ensuring that the lock box or pup is locked.
  8. No balls will be hit into the screen, and teams will clean out their dugout at the conclusion of their game. Any damage or excessive clean-up costs at any facility will be directly billed to the team responsible.

### C. League Format

1. League play includes 18 games.
2. The 18U league is divided in two tiers (**revised 2025**). Teams are drafted into the two tiers at the discretion of each zone. The tiers will have separate schedules and playoffs.
3. The win % from all league games is used to rank teams for playoffs. For the teams that have same ranking, run differential (runs for minus runs against) will be used to break tie; more positive run differential will have higher ranking.

**D. Pitching Regulations**

1. Pitch count rules are as per Baseball Canada and Baseball Sask pitching regulations. **Ultimately, out of date league pitching regulations will default to the most up to date Baseball Canada and Baseball Sask rules.**
2. Pitching thresholds for 18U are as follows in the table on right.
3. A rest day commences at 12:01 am and ends at 11:59 pm of the next calendar day. 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.
4. Once a pitcher has been removed from the mound, he/she may not pitch again in that game but may play in any other defensive position except catcher.
5. Pitchers may have 2 appearances on the same calendar day provided no more than 40 pitches are thrown in the first appearance and the total pitch count for the day does not exceed the maximum pitch limit. An appearance is defined as one pitch or more thrown in a game. Pitchers will not be permitted to exceed the maximum daily allowable number of pitches in any two-day period. Pitchers may throw 3 consecutive days in a row provided the combined number of pitches thrown on the first two days does not exceed 40. A player cannot pitch on 4 consecutive days even though 40 or less pitches were thrown on each of the previous days. e.g., A 18U pitcher throws 40 pitches on Day 1 (Friday). On Day 2 (Saturday), that pitcher is limited to 65 pitches. The pitchers two-day total is now 105 and this combined total over 2 days is the number to be used to determine Days of Rest. In this case, the Pitcher cannot pitch again for 4 days starting at 12:01 AM Sunday.
6. When a pitcher reaches the maximum number of pitches allowed for a threshold (pitch count threshold table), he/she can complete the at-bat without penalty on days of rest, if he/she does not pitch to another batter. At thresholds less than the daily maximum, the coach must declare to officials 1 pitch prior threshold that he/she will finish the batter. In this situation, the number of pitches corresponding to the threshold reached will be recorded on the pitching log. If the number of pitches is the daily maximum, it is up to the coach to be sure that pitch counter is aware that the pitcher is on his last batter and that pitch counter records 105 pitches. It may be advised to declare this to the officials even though it is not required. In these situations, it is not required that the pitch counter let the coach know the pitcher in question is near to daily maximum, but as a matter of courtesy, if asked by coach, pitch counter can give a heads up when pitcher is close to 105.
7. Intentional walks will be included in pitch count totals. Four pitches will be assigned to pitch count for the intentionally walked batter. If the batter has already seen some pitches, the number of pitches added to pitch count will be the difference of 4 minus the number of balls in the count (e.g., if 2-0 then 2 pitches added).
8. Pitching violations are to be reported to the 18U Coordinator who in turn will refer them to the Baseball Saskatoon Discipline Committee. As per Baseball Sask rules, any violation of any part of the pitch count rule, will result in the Head Coach being ejected from the current game and receive an additional game suspension. Should this violation not be caught during the game, the Head Coach will receive a 2-game suspension to be served immediately. The OFFENDING team will also forfeit by a score of 7-0.

18U	Rest Required
1-40	None
41-55	1 day
56-70	2 days
71-85	3 days
86-105	4 days
105	Maximum

9. Pitch counts do not roll over and start at 0 for tournaments and tournament pitch counts carry through to league play after tournament. You are expected (honor system) to allow proper rest for pitchers leading into and following tournaments.

#### **E. Affiliates**

1. Players (affiliates) may be used/borrowed from another team for a maximum of 5 regular season games (tournament play is not included) unless arrangements approved by league are in place; e.g., small team sizes dictating numerous games needing affiliates. In all circumstances, that player must be cleared by the coach of his regular team to play. The affiliate player is not allowed to play on a different team if his team is scheduled to play or is playing in regular league play that day. The affiliate player can be 18U or 15U player from any tier but cannot be 18U AAA or 18U AA (PBL). The affiliate player cannot pitch or catch. Coaches not complying with this policy will be disciplined by Saskatoon Baseball.

#### **F. Coach Certification**

1. Baseball Saskatoon strongly recommends that coaches have Local Respect in Sport and Online Coach Initiation module certification (see <https://www.baseballsaskatoon.com/coaching-information/>).
2. If your team is planning to attend Provincials see Baseball Sask Provincial Coaching Requirements.

#### **G. Discipline**

1. All players and coaches are expected to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner. Umpires have the full support of the league in discouraging the throwing of equipment, abusive or profane language, or any action deemed detrimental to the game. Abusive fans will be the responsibility of the team they are supporting, and team managers will be held responsible for maintaining control.
2. When a player is ejected in a game, his position in batting lineup shall be considered an out for the remainder of the game. If ejection leads to less than 9 player, the game is defaulted (7-0 win) to the other team.
3. Any ejections from a game will be forwarded to the 18U Coordinator for review and possible further action.

#### **H. Playoff Rules**

1. All regular season league rules apply with the following exceptions.
2. All games are seven innings and there is no time limit. If games end up tied after seven innings, extra innings will be played with International rules – the last 2 outs will be placed on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> base, inning starts with 0 outs. The 18U Coordinator will make rulings (e.g., game will be continued next day) if a game that is called due to lack of light or weather.
3. Sask Baseball Tie Breaking Procedures (Section 15) will be used instead of a tie-breaking game if ties exist after round robin play.

- 4.** All game scores (Home team) and pitch counts (each team individually) will be entered on TeamLinkt. A game summary sheet must be completed by the Home team and at least verified by both coaches. The Home team should email/text me (fcs3847@gmail.com or 6393178498) a picture of the game results sheet with the score and the number of innings at bat for each team, and the pitch count for each team. Please keep online pitching records for your pitchers up to date.

**APPENDIX A**

# BASEBALL SASKATOON 2025 18U SEASON SCHEDULE

May 1	OPENING DAY – All Divisions
May 23-25	Quinn Stevenson Memorial 18U Midget AA Open Tournament
July 1	NO PLAY – Canada Day
July 7-18	13U AA, 18U League Playoffs
July 25-27	18U Tiers 1-5 Provincial Championships– Locations TBA