1. **Timing**
2. **Equipment**
3. **Field of Play**
4. **Players**
5. **Play**

# **1. Timing**

# The **regular season begins the week after the Victoria Day long weekend and continues through the end of July.** The exact start date is dependent upon field availability as dictated by the municipality. **Playoffs will take place during August**. Games will be played **Tuesday and Thursday nights**. Additional weekend games and events may take place in June (Picture day or Tournament) and August (Playoffs & Finals). Make-up games for rainouts may take place on other days as needed, and are dependent on diamond availability.

# The official start time for all games shall be set as per the official schedule. **No new inning** shall begin after **1 hour and 45 minutes**. **Dead ball** is at **2 hours**. The umpire is, or shall designate, the official timekeeper. **Utilizing the grace period (15 minutes) shall have no effect upon the official start time, or the dead ball time** (games end 2 hours after scheduled start time rather than actual start time, unless start time is delayed by weather).

# All games shall be seven [7] innings in length. Three and one half [3½] completed innings, with the home team leading, shall constitute a game in the event of adverse conditions. The final score for curfew or suspended games will revert to the last complete inning. When a player is batting and curfew is reached, he/she must be allowed to complete their at bat.

# **2. Equipment**

# The ball used shall be one from the Baseball Ontario list of approved baseballs.

# **No metal cleats** are allowed.

# **Bats** may be **aluminum (alloy), composite, or wood**.

# **Players are not permitted to wear jewelry, and it must be removed.** Paper or fabric “camp” bracelets that cannot be removed are accepted if deemed by the Umpire as not to present a hazard**.**

# **3. Field of Play**

# **Baselines shall be 82 feet in length** and the **pitching rubber** shall be located **55 feet directly in front of home plate** (measured from the tip).

# **4. Players**

# A team shall forfeit with fewer than seven [7] players, after a *grace period* of 15 minutes from the scheduled start time. If neither team can field the minimum number of players, both teams shall forfeit the game

# **Within the first 4 innings, all players must play an infield position at least once.**

# **Players shall bat in their proper rotation.** The batting order cannot change after the game commences. Players who arrive late must be added to the bottom of the batting order.

# Pitchers may pitch for a maximum of nine [9] consecutive outs OR the pitch count of fifty [60] for the day. Pitchers may be changed at any time during the course of the game or inning. However, once a pitcher is removed from the mound, he may not pitch again in that game.

# New pitchers are permitted eight [8] warm-up pitches; returning pitchers are permitted five [5] warm-up throws at the start of a new inning.

# Coaches will be permitted two [2] visits to the mound per pitcher to confer with their player. The third [3rd] such visit to the same pitcher will result in the player being removed from the mound.

A mound visit occurs when any coach or manager:

a) crosses the foul line

 or

b) has any interaction with the pitcher that causes play to be delayed.

 vii) Players may be called up from a lower house league division (13U), but not

 from another team in the same division. A call-up player may not play the

 catcher or pitcher positions.

**5. Play**

1. Pre-game infield warm-ups are permitted; however, they must be completed for both teams prior to the plate conference involving managers and umpires.

#  ii) **Bunting is permitted**.

 iii) **Lead offs and stealing are permitted.**

 iv) **One warning will be given for a balk to each team**. Subsequent balks

 will be called and enforced by the Umpire.

 v) A **two out catcher rule** is in place to maintain pace of play. If a catcher is

 on base with two outs, **he shall be pinch run for by the last player to be**

 **called out on his team.**

 vi) The infield fly rule is in effect.

 vii) A runner that needs to leave the base (injury, bathroom break or other

 urgent requirement) they are occupying during an inning may be

 **replaced by a pinch runner**. The pinch runner shall be the **last**

 **player that was called “out”** on the team up to bat during that inning.

 viii) The maximum number of runs scored in innings 1, 2, and 3 shall be six [6];

 however, **the remaining innings are open and as many runs as**

 **possible may be scored during those innings.**

 ix) The **Mercy rule** can end a game under the following scenarios:

1. 12 run lead after 4 complete innings

 or

 b) 10 run lead after 5 complete innings