



AURORA KING BASEBALL ASSOCIATION
HOUSE LEAGUE RULES
15U DIVISION
2020

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

1. Timing

- i) 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.
- ii) 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).
- iii) 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

- i) The ball used shall be one from the Baseball Ontario list of approved baseballs.
- ii) **No metal cleats** are allowed.
- iii) **Bats** may be **aluminum (alloy), composite, or wood**.
- iv) **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

- i) **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

- i) 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
- ii) **Within the first 4 innings, all players must play an infield position at least once.**
- iii) **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.
- iv) **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.**

- v) 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.
- vi) 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

- i) 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:
 - a) 12 run lead after 4 complete innings
 - or
 - b) 10 run lead after 5 complete innings