



RULES COMMITTEE
APPROVED RULE CHANGES FOR 2008 SEASON

P2 SPECIAL PLAYING RULES

The Official Rules of Baseball shall govern all games except as provided in the playing rules below.

P2-1 REPORTING ABUSE

Any incident that is considered to be verbal or physical abuse of or by any participants in any OBA games shall be reported by the tournament convenor(s), OBA officials and/or the umpire(s) to the OBA Office.

P2-2 GIRLS BASEBALL

Only females are eligible to play Girls Baseball.

P2-3 PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS, ALCOHOL AND DRUGS

- a) Players, coaches and umpires in uniform must refrain from using any tobacco products during all games.
- b) Players, coaches and umpires in uniform must not be under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- c) Penalty for a) and b) will be immediate ejection for players or coaches and may result in loss of accreditation for umpires.

P2-4 COACHES AND MANAGERS

- a) All coaches and field managers, in order to be on an OBA roster after June 30 of the playing year, must have achieved one of the following:
 - i) NCCP trained status, which includes online initiation and workshop or
 - ii) NCCP Level 1, which includes technical, theory and practical.
- b) For OBA Elimination tournaments, coaches must meet the Baseball Canada certification requirements applicable to the national tournament they would attend if their team won the Elimination tournament.
- c) Managers and coaches will be responsible for the conduct of their players both on and off the field until departure from the park. An infraction may result in a suspension for the next scheduled game in that OBA Play-off or to further suspension depending on the severity of the circumstances of the incident at the discretion of the tournament host's protest and discipline committee. Nothing in this paragraph limits the application of P2-13.
- d) In Junior and below, at least one certified coach or manager listed in the Helpers Roster of the Local Association must be present and on the bench for each game. If there is no coach/manager present or the only coach/manager present is ejected, then the game is forfeited.
- e) All coaches and managers come under the jurisdiction of the umpires during games and are subject to penalties. The umpires shall see that the rules governing coaches and managers in all games are strictly enforced.
- f) As per the Official Rules of Baseball, in Minor Bantam and above, any team member in uniform may act as a base coach.

P2-5 UNIFORMS/EQUIPMENT

- a) In all games in all OBA series, all team personnel, including the manager and coaches, must be in complete baseball uniform.

Note: Complete baseball uniform shall consist of:

- corresponding tops or jerseys (with proper numbers),
 - corresponding (similar) baseball caps
 - baseball pants (no shorts)
 - corresponding stirrup or baseball socks.
- b) Provided the teams are completely uniformed the uniformity as laid down by the Official Playing Rules of Baseball will be disregarded and no protest will be considered by the OBA after the game has been played.
- c) The on deck batter, batter, base runners and batboy/batgirl must wear a prescribed protective helmet with flaps, covering both ears. This may not be changed except after the inning has been completed, or the player has been retired or has crossed home plate. In Rookie Ball, T-Ball, Minor Mosquito, Mosquito, PeeWee Girls, Minor PeeWee and PeeWee, helmet chinstraps are mandatory and will be worn as designed by the manufacturer.
- d) In Rookie Ball, T-Ball, Minor Mosquito, Mosquito, PeeWee Girls, Minor PeeWee, PeeWee and Bantam Girls shoes with metal cleats are prohibited.
- e) All catchers are required to wear a mask with throat protector, helmet, chest protector, shin guards, cup and a cup-type supporter.
- f) Any team member serving as a catcher to warm up a pitcher shall wear a mask with throat protector.
- g) In addition to wooden bats, metal bats shall be allowed in OBA play. Subject to the following sentence, these bats shall meet the dimensional requirements, specified in rule 1:10 of the Official Rules of Baseball. All bats used in:
- i) Bantam will not exceed 2 3/4" in diameter, and will not have a weight to length differential of greater than five ounces
- For all Minor Midget, Midget, Junior and Senior OBA play, only wood bats (including composite wood bats) shall be permitted. Metal/Wood bats are not to be considered wood bats.
- h) Pitchers will be allowed to wear Medic-Alert bracelets on the wrist of their pitching arm if such bracelets are locked or cannot be transferred to their non-pitching wrist.
- i) There is no visible jewellery allowed.

P2-6 APPROVED BASEBALLS

Insert chart here.

P2-7 GAME LENGTH

- a) All games in an OBA Play-off or Elimination Tournament shall be 7 complete innings (6 1/2 complete innings if the home team is ahead), or until a winner is declared.
- b) In tournament play if a game is delayed due to curfew, darkness, light failure or weather related conditions at any point prior to completion, the game shall be resumed from the point of delay.
- c) In the case of bad weather or other emergency situations, the schedule may be revised at the discretion of the Tournament Committee.
- d) In home and home style OBA Play-off games called due to curfew, darkness, light failure or weather related conditions after becoming an official game shall be declared a complete and official game even if less than 7 innings were played. If the game is called prior to becoming an official game, then it is resumed from the point of delay.
- e) Time limits are not permitted in any OBA Play-off or Elimination games.
- f) In Open or Invitational Tournaments when a time limit or curfew is in effect in the tournament rules, it shall be interpreted as follows: No new inning may be started after the time limit or curfew.
- g) In all OBA games a 10 run mercy rule shall apply after 5 or more completed innings have been played.

P2-8 LINE-UP RULES

- a) Each manager will see that the umpire-in-chief is provided with a batting order card listing the batting order of his/her players for the commencement of the game. This card shall list (i.e., print legibly) each player's first and last name, his/her uniform number and position. It shall also list the substitute players, coaches and manager including their uniform number.

Bona fide players of either team, who arrive after the commencement of the game, may have their names added to the list upon reporting to the umpire-in-chief.

- b) In Minor Mosquito and Mosquito games, all players present at the game shall be listed on the team's batting line-up in the order desired by the manager/coach and bat in that order. Late arrivals shall be added to the bottom of this batting order.
- c) In Minor Mosquito and Mosquito games, If a player is removed from the game due to injury, illness or official ejection, the player's spot in the batting order shall be deleted. In the event a batter must be removed due to injury or official ejection during the time at bat, the next batter in the batting order shall come to bat assuming the balls and strikes count at the time the batter is removed. If the batter becomes an out, such batter shall then take his/her regular turn at bat.
- d) In Minor Peewee, Peewee, Minor Bantam and Bantam, teams may opt to utilize 10 batters in the starting line-up. The additional batter shall be deemed as the extra player (EP). The following rules for the EP shall apply:
 - i) The option to use the EP must be declared when handing in the line-up card prior to the start of the game.
 - ii) The EP may bat in any place in the batting order.
 - iii) The EP will be considered a defensive position and eligible for re-entry.
 - iv) If a team using the EP has any players ejected or injured and it results in the team having less than 10 players in the line-up the game shall continue with 9 players. The batting order will be shifted up to fill the void but otherwise remains the same.
Note: If the player starting in the EP is moved into a defensive position his place in the batting order does not change. The new EP will bat in the place of the player they replaced.
- e) A designated hitter may be used for a pitcher from Minor Midget to Senior as per the Official Rules of Baseball 6:10(b).

A designated hitter may be used in any OBA Elimination Tournament only if it is permissible at national level.

f) For tournament play the Tournament Convenor shall appoint an official scorer for each game (who may be the scorer of 1 of the teams playing). For all home and home style OBA Play-off games the home team score keeper shall be the official score keeper.

P2-9 SUBSTITUTIONS

- a) In Minor Mosquito and Mosquito games, unlimited substitutions defensively are allowed (including for injury or official ejection).
- b) In Minor PeeWee, PeeWee, PeeWee Girls, Minor Bantam, Bantam, Bantam Girls, Minor Midget, Midget, Women's and Junior ball any starting player may be substituted for and returned to the game, one time only. He/she must return to his/her original place in the batting order. Any further substitutions do not jeopardize the right of re-entry for the original/starting player. Any starting player returned to the game may pitch if he/she has not previously assumed that position.
- c) In Minor PeeWee, PeeWee, PeeWee Girls, Minor Bantam, Bantam, Bantam Girls, Minor Midget, Midget, Women's and Junior ball in the event that all players have entered the game and an injury(s) occurs, the opposing manager shall have the right of selecting any remaining player(s) as the replacement.
Note: This rule does not apply to ejections from a game.
- d) If a player re-enters or enters the game illegally: offensively, this shall be considered as a batter hitting out of order; defensively, the proper player shall replace him.

P2-10 PITCHING RULES

- a) Any player advancing to play in a higher series shall be restricted to the pitching rule of the series in which he/she is registered.
- b) In Minor Mosquito and Mosquito games, the number of trips to the mound by manager/coach shall not be limited except when the umpire rules that the purpose of the trip is to delay the game.

- c) In Peewee Girls, Minor Peewee and Peewee games, a third trip by a manager/coach to the same pitcher in the same inning shall result in the pitcher's automatic removal from the pitching position.
- d) In Minor Mosquito, Mosquito, Peewee Girls, Minor Peewee and Peewee games, a pitcher once removed from pitching, regardless of the number of trips to the mound by the manager/coach, may continue in the game at another position, but shall not be permitted to return to pitch in that game.
- e) From Minor Bantam to Senior, a second trip by a manager/coach to the same pitcher in the same inning shall result in the pitcher's automatic removal from the pitching position. The pitcher, once removed after the 2nd trip in an inning, may continue in the game at another position but shall not be permitted to return to pitch in that game.

Pitch Count Limitations

- f) A pitcher may not pitch more than the following limits in a calendar day. If the limit is reached while facing a batter the pitcher may complete pitching to that batter.
 Minor and Major Mosquito – 70 pitches
 Minor and Major Peewee - 80 pitches
 Minor and Major Bantam - 90 pitches
 Minor and Major Midget, Women - 100 pitches
- g) If a pitcher throws more than the following limits in a calendar day he/she cannot pitch the next day – the player must have 2 nights rest.
 Minor and Major Mosquito – 45 pitches
 Minor and Major Peewee - 55 pitches
 Minor and Major Bantam - 65 pitches
 Minor and Major Midget, Women - 75 pitches
- h) If a balk is called but the pitcher throws the ball it will count as a pitch thrown, even if it is not counted as a pitch for ball/strike purposes.
- i) The official scorekeeper shall designate the official pitch count recorder.
- j) The official pitch count recorder must provide the current pitch count for any pitcher when requested by either manager or the umpire.
- k) The official pitch count recorder should inform the home plate umpire when a pitcher has delivered his/her limit of pitches for the game. The home plate umpire will then notify the pitcher's manager that the pitcher must be removed.

Note: It is the responsibility of the manager to remove a pitcher when that pitcher is no longer eligible, even if the pitch count recorder and/or the umpire fail to notify the manager.

- l) If a team has no remaining players eligible to pitch in a game, the opposing coach may designate a player who has yet to pitch in the game. This pitcher may not throw more than 30 pitches.
- m) Illegal pitching penalty: Where a player throws more pitches than is permitted, the player's team shall forfeit the game. A second violation by a team will result in the manager/head coach's indefinite suspension.

P2-11 BASE RUNNING RULES

- a) In Minor Mosquito and Mosquito, base runners cannot leave the base until the ball leaves the pitcher's hand. If an infraction occurs, the ball will be declared dead and runners may not advance. 1 warning will be issued and for any further infractions thereafter, the runner will be called out. (Each team to receive 1 warning).
- b) In Minor Mosquito and Mosquito, if a runner is removed by reason of injury or official ejection from the game, the player last put out shall act as pinch runner for the removed player. By virtue of the rule there shall be no pinch runners allowed.

Malicious Contact:

- c) Malicious contact is to be penalized whether committed by an offensive or defensive player. Contact shall be considered malicious if:
 - i) the contact is the result of intentional excessive force, and/or
 - ii) there is an intent to injure.

- d) The umpire shall determine whether contact was avoidable or unavoidable. If the fielder blocks the base path, the runner may make contact, slide into or collide with the fielder as long as the runner is making a legitimate attempt to reach the base/plate.
- e) Runners are instructed to slide or attempt to avoid making contact with a fielder. A player who maliciously runs into another player is to be declared out (unless he/she has scored prior to committing the infraction) and is to be automatically ejected (whether or not declared out).
- f) If the defensive player blocked the base path clearly without possession of the ball, obstruction shall be called. The runner is safe and a delayed dead ball is called.

P2-12 FIELDING RULES

- a) A fielder may not enter the dugout or bench area to make a legal catch. Any such ball shall be declared dead.
- b) Where a fielder carries a live ball into dead ball area, the ball shall be declared dead and all runners shall be awarded 1 base without liability of being put out.

P2-13 EJECTIONS

Any player, coach or manager ejected by an umpire from any OBA Play-off or Tournament (Elimination, Play-off or other sanctioned tournament) game is suspended for 1 game, and this to be the next scheduled game in that tournament or Play-off. The player, coach or manager may be subject to further suspension depending on the severity of the circumstances leading to the ejection at the discretion of the tournament host's protest and discipline committee.

P2-14 PROTESTS

- a) Protests based on umpires' judgment decisions will not be permitted.
- b) A protest based on an umpire's interpretation of the rules must be lodged with the umpire before the game resumes, and the opposing team must also be advised by the umpire before the game resumes.
- c) No protests will be entertained regarding coaches or managers being listed on a roster team. A coach or manager signed with 1 team in an organization may act as coach or manager for any other team in that organization.

Tournament Style Play-offs:

- d)
 - i) A Protest Committee shall be established by the host Local Association.
 - ii) The Protest Committee has the right to rule whether a protest will be heard.
 - iii) All protests must be ruled on at the time of their occurrence by the Protest Committee.
 - iv) If the protest is heard and denied, the team will be billed \$50.
 - v)

Home and Home Style Play-offs:

- e)
 - i) Protests are to be mailed to the Protest Chair postmarked within 48 hours of the end of the game under protest. The \$50.00 fee will accompany it.
 - ii) Copies of the protest are to be sent to (1) the OBA President (2) the OBA Office (3) the Series Chair and (4) the manager of the other team.
 - iii) The Protest Chair will decide on behalf of the President, whether there is reason for holding a protest meeting.
 - iv) The site and time of the protest meeting will be decided by the Protest Chair.
 - v) Results of the protest hearings will be sent by the Protest Chair to the OBA President, both teams, the OBA Office, the Series Chair and the Overall Series Chair.
- f) Once a protest has been dealt with by the OBA or a committee delegated to act in such matters by the OBA, any ruling handed down must be considered as final by the OBA. No further action will be taken.
- g) The Protest Chair has the power in a home and home style OBA Play-off to appoint a committee to handle all protests which must be disposed of 5 days from the time the Protest Chair receives the complete protest, etc.
- h) Each team may be represented at the hearing by 2 representatives, only 1 of whom shall be permitted to speak. Where Direct Entries, Local Associations, Affiliated

Associations or teams are only called in to give evidence they shall not be required to deposit a defence fee.

- i) All correspondence regarding protests and defence of appeals must be forwarded by registered mail.
- j) Even if it is held that the protested decision violated the rules, no replay of the game will be ordered unless in the opinion of the Protest Chair the violation adversely affected the protesting team's chances of winning the game.
- k) Teams or players which knowingly play against ineligible players and do wilfully conceal this knowledge from the OBA until it shall suit their convenience to use it in any protest which may arise shall be considered equally guilty with the offending team or players and shall be dealt with accordingly.

Emergency Situations:

- l) In an emergency situation the protest will be dealt with by the Series Chair in consultation with the OBA Protest Chair and the OBA President.

P5 OBA PLAY-OFF PROCEDURES

- a) The OBA shall conduct and assist the different Affiliated Association representatives to meet and play off to determine the OBA champions.
- b) The OBA Board of Directors shall appoint a Series Chair to handle each series OBA Play-offs.
- c) In order to be eligible to participate in the OBA Play-offs, teams must represent a city, town or municipality within the boundaries of the Province of Ontario. Players must be bona fide and continuous residents of the province in accordance with the OBA Rules and Regulations.
- d) Whenever possible, the OBA Play-offs shall be a tournament. If no host is found by the July meeting of the OBA Board of Directors, then that series shall become a home and home style OBA Play-off. Except for Minor Mosquito, Minor PeeWee, Minor Bantam and Minor Midget ("minor age series") OBA Play-off Tournaments will be comprised of 1 team from each Affiliated Association, which has classified a team for such OBA Play-off Tournament, plus a host team. At a minor age series, the OBA Play-off Tournament may, at the discretion of the OBA Board of Directors, be a tournament open to all teams of the minor age series registered with the OBA. If a minor age series tournament is to be such an open tournament in any year, the provisions of section 2.04 o) of the OBA Constitution and By-Laws shall not apply to such minor age series for that year.
- e) The Junior A OBA Play-off will be the Junior OBA Elimination Tournament.
- f) Coaches must have a copy of their OBA approved roster with them in case it is required during the tournament. The coach must write their OBA roster number in the space provided on the sign-in sheet. Failure to do so will result in the team being assessed a fine of \$200.
- g) Barring extenuating circumstances, if 1 team is not able to start a game within 30 minutes of the scheduled starting time for such game, the game will be forfeited to the other team and in tournament style OBA Play-offs, the offending team will not be allowed to continue in the tournament. The game will count as a game played and not count as a bye in the tournament and the published chart shall not be changed.
- h) Any team failing to play a game when ordered will automatically forfeit their right to continue in OBA Play-offs. This causes a \$500.00 fine to be assessed to the team forfeiting. A team that has been suspended shall have the right to appeal to the OBA Board of Directors for a hearing. All appeals must be accompanied with a fee of \$50.00.
- i) The OBA Tournament Chair shall provide, immediately, to the Affiliated Associations a listing of any and all disciplinary problems with managers, coaches, players or other team personnel, as reported by the Series Chair.
- j) In all OBA Play-off games, the diamond must be properly laid out; the batter's box marked; the pitcher's mound properly built up and the playing field kept sufficiently clear of spectators and obstructions for the proper performance of the players.

Tournament Style Play-Offs

- k) When the number of entrants to a tournament-style OBA Play-off is restricted by other organizations, such as those tournaments played during the Ontario Summer Games, a preliminary round(s) shall be arranged to provide the necessary representatives. Where such preliminary rounds are required to reduce the number of entries, the names of all Affiliated Associations with teams in that Series shall be entered into a draw to determine the pairing(s) of the preliminary round(s). Where such preliminary rounds are required to increase the number entries, the names of all teams in that Series (after the determining the Affiliated Association representatives) shall be entered into a draw to determine the pairing(s) of the preliminary round(s).
- l) Each Affiliated Association shall notify the OBA Series Chair by Tuesday midnight in advance of the start of the first game of the OBA Play-off Tournament, of its representative in that series and classification. Failure to make such information available by the required deadline, to the Series Chair, shall result in the Affiliated Association forfeiting its place in the OBA Play-Offs, subject to P5 g), plus any other penalty that might be imposed by the OBA.
- m) A committee shall be formed in each Affiliated Association to make the draws for all tournament style OBA Play-Offs within that Affiliated Association.

- n) The host shall designate a Tournament Convenor to convene the tournament. The Tournament Convenor shall not be a member of the host's team in such tournament.
- o) No team may play more than 3 games in a calendar day, without written consent of the team.
- p) Before distribution to the teams by the Tournament Host Association the complete schedule must be forwarded to the OBA Tournament Chair at least two weeks prior to the tournament for approval.
- q) Teams must be prepared to play on the Friday no earlier than 1 p.m. if necessary. In all series up to and including Bantam, no game shall start after 9:30 p.m. on any day and no new inning may begin after 12:59 a.m. (or such earlier time as may be provided by local by-law).
- r) Where a team drops out of a tournament style OBA Play-off 7 or more days prior to the start of the tournament, the schedule for the tournament, if published, will be redone. If a team drops out of a tournament style OBA Play-off less than 7 days prior to the tournament and the schedule for the tournament has been published, any scheduled games not played due to teams having dropped out of the tournament shall be considered defaults and shall count as a game played and not as a bye in the tournament and the published chart shall not be changed.
- s) The OBA Play-off Tournament host convenor shall be responsible for obtaining a copy of all applicable team rosters and submitting the copies to the OBA Tournament Chair. Failure to comply with such provisions will lead to the OBA Play-off Tournament host being fined \$200. A team, not submitting to the OBA Play-off Tournament host convenor an approved roster, will be suspended immediately and a \$200 fine will be assessed.
- t) The tournament host is responsible for ensuring that each umpire is properly carded. The tournament host will maintain a sign-in list for all umpires used in the tournament and forward the sign-in list to the Tournament Chair with the Tournament Report.
- u) Teams must be given a minimum of 30 minutes from the time of completion of the last game that they played, until the start of their next game. If a team must travel from another location, appropriate travel time shall be added to the 30 minute period.
- v) Byes are to be awarded as follows:
 - i) No team shall receive a back-to-back bye in successive rounds.
 - ii) No team shall receive a second bye until all remaining teams have received their first bye.
 - iii) If more than 1 team is eligible for a bye, the undefeated team shall automatically receive the bye.
 - iv) If more than 1 team is eligible for a bye, the bye team will be determined by means of a draw with the first team drawn receiving the bye and the remaining teams drawn to fill each game slot from top to bottom as drawn.
- w) The OBA Convenor's Report and specified attachments must be mailed (postmarked) to the OBA Tournament Chair within 10 days following the tournament.

Home and Home Style Play-Offs

- x) The secretary of each Affiliated Association shall notify the OBA Series Chair as to the representatives of his/her Affiliated Association, after which all arrangements regarding OBA Play-offs are to be completed through the management of the teams and respective Series Chair.
- y) All series shall be the best 2 out of 3; except in the final series in any category, if both teams agree, a longer series may be permitted. The OBA Board of Directors shall reserve the right to order a sudden death game in any semi-final or final OBA Play-off.
- z) In order that the final game may be played within a reasonable time, all teams competing in OBA games will be required to play 2 or more games a week.
- aa) The home team shall have control of the arrangements for grounds, officials, convenors, etc. The said arrangements are subject to the approval of the OBA Series Chair.
- bb) Where the home team operates under floodlights they shall reserve the right to play any or all the OBA Play-off games under the lights.
- cc) No OBA Play-off game shall be scheduled before 1:00pm if the traveling team involved is further than 160 kilometres from location of said game.
- dd) No playing member of either team involved in any series will be allowed to act as convenor.

- ee) The Convenor making arrangements for OBA Play-offs must contact both teams personally regarding dates and times for all games and any further arrangements that might be necessary at least 48 hrs in advance of said dates and times.
- ff) The game convenor will be responsible for checking the rosters prior to the game and returning the rosters to the respective teams.
- gg) In all home and home style OBA Play-off games, the period for batting and fielding practice shall be: home team batting practice up to 45 minutes before advertised time of game; visiting team batting and infield practice for the next 30 minutes; home team fielding practice for the next 10 minutes. The home team shall be required to notify the teams of the termination of their allotted time for the various practices. It shall be the duty of the manager of the team at practice to order his/her team to vacate the diamond immediately. When a team is late for its allotted practice time they will forfeit their practice rights.
- hh) All statements and OBA Play-off forms must be mailed (postmarked) to the Series Chair within 24 hours after each game.

P5-1 FORMAT FOR OBA PLAY-OFF TOURNAMENTS
Insert schedules here.

P6 OBA ELIMINATION TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES

- a) The OBA Elimination Tournament is sanctioned by the OBA in order to produce an Ontario representative to the National Championship Tournament sponsored by the Canadian Federation of Amateur Baseball.
- b) All OBA Elimination Tournaments and OBA Elimination Tournament games shall be governed by the Constitution of the OBA, the Official Rules of Baseball, the OBA Tournament Rules and these OBA Elimination Tournament Rules.
- c) The OBA, the local Host Association and their respective officials accept no responsibility for any injuries to any player, team official, or any other person, either on or off the field during an OBA Elimination Tournament.
- d) Only OBA registered teams and players may participate in an OBA Elimination Tournament.
- e) Teams participating in an OBA Elimination Tournament shall automatically be classified by the OBA as follows:

PeeWee	AAA
Bantam	AAA
Midget	AAA
Junior	A
Senior	A

- f) Applications to enter an OBA Elimination Tournament must be at the OBA Office by June first. The entry fee (payable to OBA), written permission from the team's Affiliated Association and a photocopy of each coach's and/or manager's NCCP Level I certification plus Level II technical accreditation and NCCP passport number must accompany the application. Applications to enter an OBA Elimination Tournament received after June first, and prior to the draw being held for such tournament, shall be accepted if accompanied by a late fee of \$100.00 for each day after June first that the application is late.
- g) An information package, including a complete schedule of OBA Elimination Tournament games, rules and an OBA approved tournament chart, will be forwarded to each local host by the OBA Series Chair by June 15th.
- h) Where a team drops out of an OBA Elimination Tournament 7 or more days prior to the start of the tournament, the schedule for the tournament, if published, will be redone. If a team drops out of an OBA Elimination Tournament less than 7 days prior to the tournament and the schedule for the tournament has been published, any scheduled games not played due to teams having dropped out of the tournament shall be considered defaults and shall count as a game played and not as a bye in the tournament and the published chart shall not be changed. A team which drops out of an OBA Elimination Tournament after the draw shall forfeit its entry fee and shall not be classified for the OBA Play-offs.
Note: If possible a late entry team may be used as a substitute where applicable.
- i) The OBA Elimination Tournament shall be a double loss knock-out tournament and may require play-downs to be played from July 18-23, 2008 with the championship tournament being played from August 1-4, 2008. Notwithstanding the foregoing, at Midget only, the OBA Elimination Tournament shall be held June 27-30, 2008.
- j) The published chart for OBA Elimination Tournaments may provide for predetermined byes in early rounds (not exceeding the fourth round) of the OBA Elimination Tournament. Thereafter, byes are to be awarded as follows:
 - i) No team shall receive a back-to-back bye in successive rounds.
 - ii) No team shall receive a second bye until all remaining teams have received their first bye.
 - iii) If more than 1 team is eligible for a bye the undefeated team shall automatically receive the bye.
 - iv) If more than 1 team is eligible for a bye, the bye team will be determined by means of a draw with the first team drawn receiving the bye, and the remaining teams drawn to fill each game slot from top to bottom as drawn.
- k) A local host shall not use any special or local rules in any OBA Elimination Tournament or game(s).
- l) Teams must be prepared to play on the Friday, if necessary. In all series up to and including Bantam, no game shall start after 9:30 p.m. on any day and no new inning may begin after 12:59 a.m. (or such earlier time as may be provided by local by-law).

- m) 18 players are eligible to be included on OBA Elimination Tournament rosters for Peewee, Bantam and Midget. For Junior and Senior rosters at OBA Elimination Tournaments 25 players will be allowed. (For Baseball Canada Championships, rosters for Peewee, Bantam, Midget, and Junior are limited to 18 players. The Senior roster for Baseball Canada Championships may include 21 players).
- n) Coaches must have a copy of their OBA approved roster with them in case it is required during the tournament. The coach must write their OBA roster number in the space provided on the sign-in sheet. Failure to do so will result in the team being assessed a fine of \$200.
- o) The tournament host will maintain a sign-in list for all umpires used in the tournament and forward the sign-in list to the Tournament Chair with the Tournament Report.
- p) Teams must be given a minimum of 30 minutes from the time of completion of the last game that they played, until the start of their next game. If a team must travel from another location, appropriate travel time shall be added to the 30 minute period.
- q) Barring extenuating circumstances, if 1 team is not able to start a game, within 30 minutes of the scheduled starting time for such game, the game will be forfeited to the other team and the offending team will not be allowed to continue in the tournament. The game will count as a game played and not count as a bye in the tournament and the published chart shall not be changed.
- r) The home team will be decided by a coin toss prior to each OBA Elimination Tournament game with the team from the municipality furthest away from the tournament site calling the toss.
- s) Awards shall be presented to the champions and finalists.
- t) The OBA Convenor's Report and specified attachments must be mailed (postmarked) to the OBA Tournament chair within 10 days following the tournament.

P7 EXHIBITION GAMES AND TOURNAMENTS

P7-1 PLAYING NON-REGISTERED TEAMS AND PLAYERS

- a) Any registered team or player shall automatically suspend themselves upon playing with or against any team or players which are not registered with the OBA without first securing written permission from the OBA Board of Directors or the OBA Office; except where an entire team is playing an exhibition game(s) with teams up to and including Midget age, permission may be granted by the secretary of the Affiliated Association to which the team belongs.
- b) Any OBA team participating in a non-OBA sanctioned tournament without permission of the OBA shall be liable for a fine of up to \$500 and may be suspended from further participation in any OBA sanctioned tournament and the OBA play-offs.

P7-2 EXHIBITION GAMES AND OUT OF PROVINCE PLAY

- a) All teams registered with the OBA, which desire to participate in exhibition games, must first secure the permission of their Local Association and Affiliated Association. (Any game or tournament that has not been sanctioned by the OBA is defined as an exhibition game. Local Associations and Affiliated Associations may approve exhibition games where their own member teams are playing against each other within their own boundaries.)
- b) Teams wishing to play an exhibition game(s) outside the Province of Ontario must first secure the permission of their Local Association and Affiliated Association and submit same to the OBA Office for approval.
- c) Teams wishing to play an exhibition game(s) involving a team(s) from outside the Province of Ontario must first secure the permission of their Local Association and Affiliated Association and submit same to the OBA Office for approval.
- d) In an exhibition game(s) teams may only use players who have signed OBA approved rosters. Except with the permission of the management of the team with which the player is rostered, a team may not use pick-ups in an exhibition game.
- e) Applications can be made to the OBA Board of Directors to make exceptions to the rule.

P7-3 OPEN, INVITATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES

- a) Any team, Direct Entry, Local Association or Affiliated Association, wishing to hold a tournament where 3 or more teams are competing, must first apply for permission to hold same from the OBA Board of Directors. A fee of \$50.00 must accompany each application

only if teams are from outside the area Affiliated Association. This application must have been approved by the Affiliated Association secretary in the area from which it came. If more than 1 series (e.g. Minor and Major) is held, a \$50.00 fee must be paid for each series.

- b) Upon receipt of each of the items in a) above, the OBA Tournament Chair will consider the tournament request and, if approved, the OBA office will forward a tournament package to the tournament host.
- c) The OBA Tournament Chair shall have the power to appoint an OBA Representative to any OBA sanctioned tournament.
- d) A list of all OBA sanctioned tournaments will appear on our website, www.baseballontario.com.
- e) A declared representative from an Affiliated Association must first honour its OBA Play-off and Affiliated Association obligations before participating in a tournament.
- f) Any team not fulfilling its commitment to any OBA sanctioned tournament may be fined and/or suspended from further participation in any OBA sanctioned tournament and the OBA Play-offs provided that this information is provided to the OBA Tournament Chair in writing.
- g) Non-OBA teams registered in Ontario may compete in open, invitational or international tournaments, only if permission of the OBA Tournament Chair is requested. Such non-OBA teams must provide proof of accident and liability insurance to the tournament host prior to being permitted to play in the tournament.
- h) The Host Committee must notify each application of acceptance or rejection into the tournament within 10 days following the final deadline date. Failure to comply with such provisions may lead to the tournament not being approved the following year.
- i) A final date for applications for acceptance to the OBA sanctioned tournament must be in the hands of the Host Association at least 21 days in advance of the first date of the tournament.
- j) Before distribution to the teams by the Tournament Host Association the complete schedule must be forwarded to the OBA Tournament Chair at least two weeks prior to the tournament for approval. Failure to comply with such provisions may lead to the tournament not being approved the following year.
- k) The Complete schedule of tournament games must be sent to each participating team at least one week prior to the first game.
- l) Any special or local rules must be sent to the OBA Office and approved by the OBA Tournament Chair prior to distributing same. A copy of these rules must be sent to each team along with the tournament schedule. No local rules shall contravene any OBA playing rule or tournament rule.
- m) Where a tournament is cancelled prior to any game being played the total tournament entry fee must be refunded to all teams. Where a tournament is cancelled after games have been played the teams will be refunded on a pro rata basis for the games not played.
- n) No special concessions will be granted to any team(s) participating in any of these tournaments.
- o) The tournament host is responsible for ensuring that each umpire is properly carded. Teams may request that the umpires produce their umpiring card prior to the game to prove certification. Teams may not protest a game based on the carding of the umpires during or after a game.
- p) Prior to participating in any game of a sanctioned tournament all players and coaches must sign the approved OBA tournament sign-in form. These forms, following the tournament, shall be forwarded to the OBA Tournament Chair.
- q) Coaches must have a copy of their OBA approved roster with them in case it is required during the tournament. The coach must write their OBA roster number in the space provided on the sign-in sheet. Failure to do so will result in the team being assessed a fine of \$200. Teams entering tournaments without a roster approved by their affiliate association registrar may be permitted to play at the discretion of the tournament host so as not to disrupt the tournament. The host must advise the OBA Tournament Chair immediately following the tournament of any teams not having team roster numbers. Failure to comply with such provisions will lead to the tournament being fined \$200 and may not be approved the following year.

- r) No tournament game shall start before 8:00am on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, and no tournament game shall start later than 9:30pm on any night.
- s) Teams must be given a minimum of 30 minutes from the time of completion of the last game that they played, until the start of their next game, without jeopardy of forfeit. If a team must travel from another location, appropriate travel time shall be added to the 30 minute period.
- t) No team may play more than 3 games in a calendar day without its written consent.
- u) In tournaments where tie breaking rules are required, the following tie breaking rules will be used for each placement independently:
 - i) Winner of the head to head game will advance
 - ii) Team with smallest runs against ration (runs allowed / number of defensive innings played)
 - iii) Team with the highest runs for ration (runs scored / number of offensive innings played)
 - iv) Coin toss.
- v) The OBA Convenors Report and specified attachments must be mailed (postmarked) to the OBA Tournament Chair within 10 days following the tournament.
- w) If these rules are not adhered to, the tournament shall not be approved or, if already approved, the host association may be fined \$200.00 and the tournament may not be approved the following year.
- x) The OBA Tournament Chair shall provide, immediately, to the Affiliated Associations a listing of any and all disciplinary problems with managers, coaches, players or other team personnel, as reported by the tournament convenors.