

## BENDIGO BASEBALL ASSOCIATION INC JUNIOR PLAYING RULES - INDEX

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# JUNIOR PLAYING RULES

## Adopted - March 2022

The JUNIOR competition rules are to be read in conjunction with the fixtures and the Official Australian Baseball Rules, published by the Australian Baseball Federation

### 1. MANAGERS RESPONSIBILITIES

- a) To complete line-up book in quadruplicate.
- b) To provide the scorers with his batting order and defense.
- c) Shall present to the Umpire-in-Chief and the opposing manager, any ground rules unique to his venue. If these rules are acceptable to the opposing manager, they shall be legal. If these rules are unacceptable to the opposing manager, the umpire-in-chief shall make and enforce any special ground rules he thinks are made necessary by ground conditions, which shall not conflict with the official playing rules.
- d) Home manager to provide an umpire in the event of the non-attendance of an umpire.
- e) To meet the umpire-in-chief at home plate when he arrives to start the game
- f) Will present the umpire-in-chief, and the opposing manager with his line-up.
- g) Home manager will provide the umpire-in-chief with appropriate match balls.
- h) During the course of the game, will be the only member of his team to approach an umpire, for a ruling or decision
- i) In the event of a protest during a match, ensure that the score book is noted with the exact time and game situation, if wishing to continue with the report, after the umpire is given the opportunity to consider it.
- J) Will ensure that his team and spectators comply with the Rules of Baseball, and the BBA governing discipline and behavior.
- K) At the completion of the game, will check and sign the Match Report Card, and, or Reported Person's Notices.
- L) At the conclusion of a match involving a protest, inform the Umpire-in-Chief, whether the protest is to proceed, and endorse the Match Report Card appropriately.
- m) If his team wins the game, will be responsible for ensuring that the Media Report is filled in and forwarded to the BBA Media Representative.

## **2. SCORERS RESPONSIBILITIES**

- a) Home team will supply a scorer for the match.
- b) No game shall commence until a scorer is present.
- c) To transfer the line-ups of both teams into the score book from the pink line-up sheet, prior to the commencement of the game, ensuring that first names and Surnames are recorded in full, and are accurate.
- d) To record their own team's line-ups only, onto the Match Report card, from the pink line-up sheet, ensuring that first names and Surnames are recorded in full, and are accurate.
- e) To score the match according to the "Official Scoring Rules of Baseball". The scorer shall have authority to rule on any point not specifically covered in these rules.
- f) If the teams change sides before three players are out, the scorer shall immediately inform the umpire of the mistake.
- g) If the game is protested or suspended, the scorer shall make note of the exact situation at the time of the protest or suspension, including the score, the number of outs, the position of any runners, and the ball and strike count on the batter.
- h) The scorer shall not make any decision conflicting with the Official Playing Rules, or with the umpire's decision.
- i) The scorer shall not call the attention of the umpire or of any member of either team to the fact that a player is batting out of turn.
- j) Must make all decisions regarding judgment calls within 24 hours after a game has been concluded.
- k) In all cases, a scorer is not permitted to make a scoring decision which is in conflict with the scoring rules.
- l) At the completion of a match, the scorer must note pitchers on the Match Report Card.
- m) At the completion of a match, the scorer must record the pitch counts of any pitcher who has not attained the age of 18 years, on both a pitch count sheet, and the Match Report Card.

## **3. UMPIRES**

- a) Refer to By Laws 21.
- b) No umpire is to umpire a junior match from behind the catcher, without using full protective equipment.

#### 4. COMMENCEMENT OF MATCHES

- a) The ground manager of the home club can declare the ground unsuitable for play, up until 15 minutes prior to game time.

They should do this if:

- There are pools of water on the playing surface, and it is raining.
- The surface is too slippery to be safe.
- The batting boxes, and or the base paths are unsafe.
- The ground does not pass a ground assessment.

- b) Unless the home club shall have given previous notice that the game has been postponed, or will be delayed in starting, the umpire, or umpires, and the Coaches of both teams shall enter the playing field fifteen minutes before the time set for the game to begin and proceed directly to home base. They will then decide whether or not the game is to be abandoned due to adverse weather.

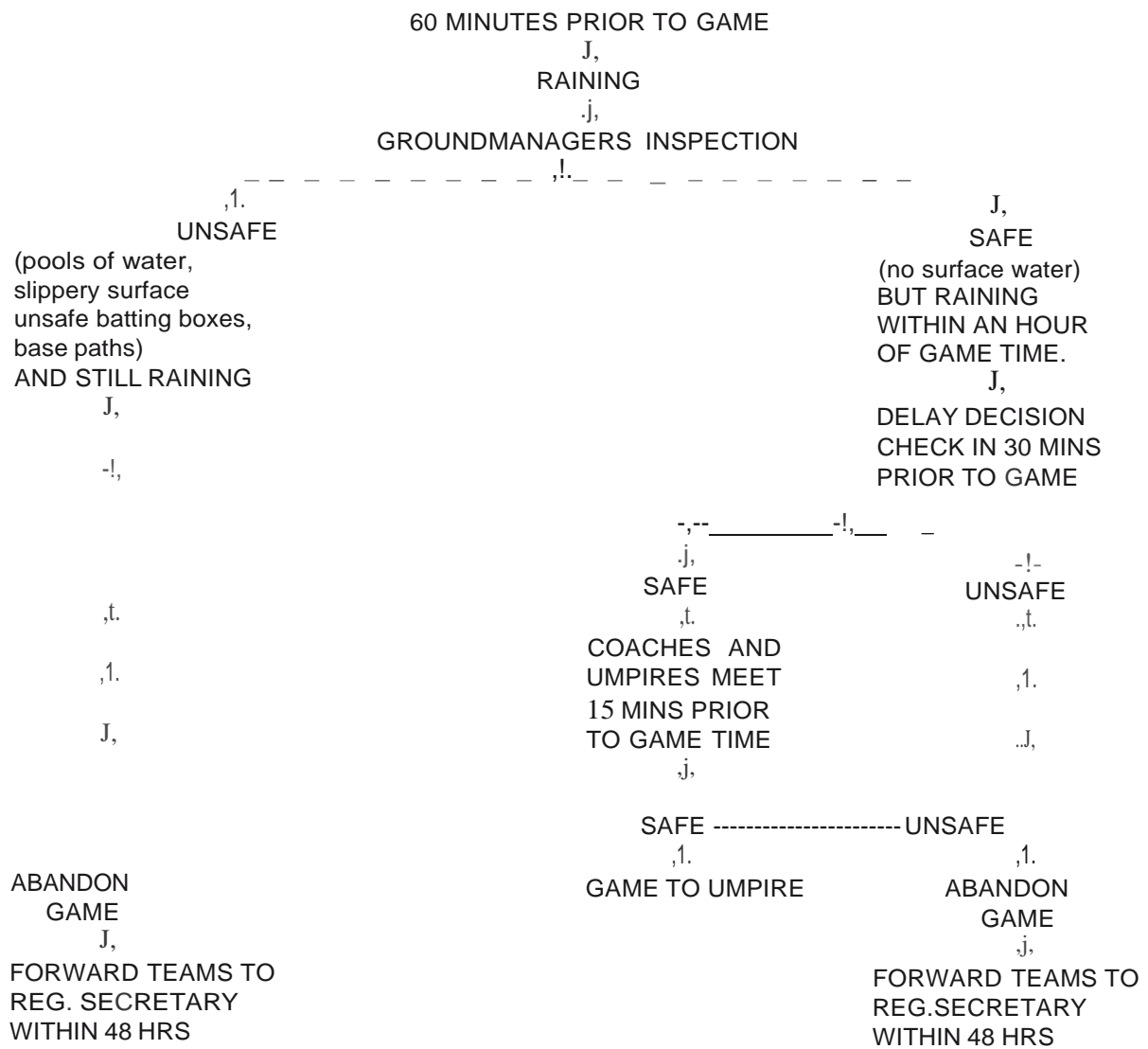
- c) Matches which are washed out (abandoned), will result in a draw, equal match points, and a score of 0-0 being recorded.

- d) If the umpire/umpires and the coaches of both teams declare the ground suitable, then control of the game goes to the umpire.

- e) Once a game is started, the umpire has sole control of decisions regarding the weather, but should be guided as follows:

- if the rain increases acutely, and affects visibility, the game should be halted.
- if the rain continues, and becomes hard enough to cause pools of water on the ground, the game should be halted.
  - i. No attempt should be made to clear water from the ground while it is raining. If the rain stops, the home team is to be instructed to remove all the water from the playing surface.
  - ii. If they are able to accomplish this within 15 minutes, the game can resume.

#### 4. COMMENCEMENT OF MATCHES (Cont.)



**WHERE:**

**SAFE =** NO RAIN, NO POOLS OF WATER, SLIPPERY SURFACE, UNSAFE BASE PATHS, OR BATTING BOXES.  
RAINING, BUT NO POOLS OF WATER, SLIPPERY SURFACE, UNSAFE BASE PATHS, OR BATTING BOXES.

**UNSAFE =** POOLS OF WATER, SLIPPERY SURFACE, UNSAFE BASE PATHS OR BATTING BOXES, AND STILL RAINING.  
RAIN HAS STOPPED, BUT GROUND CANNOT BE MADE PLAYABLE WITHIN 15 MINUTES AFTER START TIME.

#### 5. PRE - MATCH DIAMOND WARM UP

- a) Fifteen minutes (15) prior to the scheduled start time, the visiting team may use the diamond for a maximum of 5 minutes.
- b) Ten (10) minutes prior to the scheduled start time, the home team may use the diamond for a maximum of five (5) minutes.
- c) Five (5) minutes prior to the scheduled start time, the diamond is to be vacated. Managers from both teams are to meet with the umpires at the home plate to determine ground rules etc.

## **6. PRE - MATCH GAME WARM UP.**

- a) 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time, the visiting team may use the diamond for a maximum of 5 minutes.
- b) 10 minutes prior to the scheduled start time, the home team may use the diamond for a maximum of 5 minutes.
- c) 5 minutes prior to the scheduled start time, the diamond is to be vacated. Coaches from both teams are to meet with the umpires at the home plate to determine ground rules etc.

## **7. PRE-GAME LINE-UPS**

- a) The home manager shall give their batting order to the umpire-in-chief, in duplicate.
- b) Next the visiting manager shall give his batting order to the umpire-in-chief, in duplicate.
- c) The umpire-in-chief shall make certain that the original and copies of the respective batting orders are identical, and then tender a copy of each batting order to the opposing manager. The copy retained by the umpire shall be the official batting order. The tender of the batting order by the umpire shall establish the batting orders.
- d) There-after, no substitutions shall be made by either manager, except as provided by the Official Rules of Baseball, and the BBA playing rules.
- e) A copy of the batting orders is given to each scorer, by the managers.
- f) As soon as the home team's batting order is handed to the umpire-in-chief, the umpires are in charge of the playing field, and from that moment they shall have sole authority to determine when a game shall be called, suspended or resumed on account of weather or the condition of the playing field.

## **8. REGULATION GAME**

- a) A match will become a regulation game when the umpire terminates play due to adverse weather or unsuitable or dangerous ground condition, after 3 innings or 45 minutes for all junior age groups including TBall.
- b) If stoppages during the game determine that these requirements are not met, due to insufficient time being left, then the game should be declared a NO GAME.
- c) Games shall commence at times stated in fixtures and these Rules. Once the umpire has taken control of the playing field, the umpire shall be the sole judge of the fitness of the playing field, for the playing of the game, and for the resumption of play after any suspension. Where a team has less than the required number of players to commence a game, up to 10 minutes grace will be allowed. Play shall commence immediately even players are in attendance and may continue whenever there are at least seven players.
- d) For any game, up to 15 minutes grace can be allowed to correct ground markings to a reasonable standard before the game need be forfeited. If and when a diamond is declared unfit to play, 15 minutes can be allowed for the home team to complete a new diamond, or a "No Game" results. Umpires shall give at least 10 minutes notice before the scheduled starting time for any ground items requiring attention.
- e) An Umpire must be in attendance at the ground at the scheduled time of commencement. This ruling does not prevent the BBA abandoning a round due to weather, etc.

## 9. DURATION OF GAMES

- a) Tball matches are to be played for 60 mins
- b) U12 matches 90 mins or 6 inns  
U14 matches 90 mins or 7 inns  
U16 matches 90 mins or 7 inns  
U18 matches 105 mins or 7 inns

## 10. PITCHING RULES

- a) Under any given day or same round of matches a junior shall only pitch:

- Under 1,2 60 pitches maximum.
- Under 13 - 60 pitches maximum
- Under 14 - 70 pitches maximum
- Under 15 - 70 pitches maximum
- Under 16 - 80 pitches maximum
- Under 17 - 80 pitches maximum
- Under 18 - no pitcher can pitch more than 100 pitches until they have attained their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**Exception:** in each grouping mentioned above, a pitcher will be allowed to reach their maximum number of pitches, but be allowed to finish pitching to the batter they are facing. A pitcher reaching his/her maximum number of pitches is immediately removed from the mound after they have completed the batter.

**Addition:** All players playing in a higher age group are still governed by the pitch count relative to their age group.

- b) Curves and sliders are not to be determined by the Umpire. If a player's natural throwing action causes the ball to move this will be accepted. If a pitcher has a variation of throwing actions and is found to be throwing breaking pitches, a warning to the coach will be issued. Failure to adhere to this warning the Umpire of the match will make note of the situation and be submitted along with the match card.



- c) Rule 8.06 in the 'Official Australian Baseball Rules' indicates that there is a limitation to the number of trips a coach/manager is allowed to make to the pitcher during an inning. Rule 8.06 does not apply to BBA competitions.
- d) Actual pitch counts and innings pitched must be recorded on the Match Score Card.
- e) Pitchers are permitted to pitch in two games, in the one day provided that they pitch less than half their pitch count in the first game and do not go over their normal pitch count for the day.

## **11. PITCHING/CATCHING**

- a) Under no circumstances will any underage player be allowed to pitch and catch in the same match or on the same day.
- b) When a play is being made at the plate, the runner must make an attempt to slide home. If this rule is not adhered to then the runner is to be called out by the umpire. This is a Judgement call made by the Umpire.

## **12. DESIGNATED HITTER**

- a) Under no circumstances will any player be allowed to act as a designated hitter in any Junior BBA match.

## **13. SPECIFIC PLAYING RULES FOR JUNIORS.**

### **UNDER 10 / UNDER 9 (T-BALL)**

- A) Duration of match - 60 minutes.
- B) A runner must not leave a base until either the ball is hit or passes home plate. If this rule is violated, the umpire shall declare "no play", the ball is dead, the base runners return to their bases held before the play.
- C) Balls – **9inch Reduced Injury Balls (RIB) OR 8.5inch Reduced Injury Balls**
- D) **Base paths – 60inches (18.3m)**
- E) There is no limit to the number of swings a player can have when attempting to hit the ball off the T
- F) The end of a play occurs when the ball is returned to the pitcher or catcher.
- G) If there are 9 players on the field one of them must be a catcher.
- H) Catcher is not required to wear full set of catching gear. Mask and chest guard only.
- I) Players are only allowed to run a maximum of 2 bases on any one play.
- J) A player must not leave a base until the ball is hit off the T.
- K) There are no restrictions regarding the re-entry of players into and from the game.
- L) No ladder will be kept for this division.
- M) A fair ball hit off the tee must pass an arc fifteen feet from the back of home plate.
- N) Both teams will bat through their entire line up. If a player is called out, that player is removed from the field. If three outs are made, continue to bat through team line up until all players have hit (1 out = 1 less run made by that team). Any runners left on base at the end of an inning will score.

### **UNDER 12 / UNDER 13**

- A) Duration of match 90 minutes.
- B) Pitching distance – 43 feet (13.11m).
- C) No pitcher will be moved closer than the set pitching distance (13.11m).
- D) A pitcher may exceed their pitch count to finish their current batter. Upon finishing pitching to the batter, pitcher must be removed from mound and an A+ notation next to the pitch count made on the match card.
- E) At the call of ball 4 the coach of the batting side or his representative will come to the mound. They will pitch from a distance between full and one-half size of the official Under 12 distance. The batter will receive a new pitch count and pitching will continue until the ball is hit into play. If a player receives 3 strikes during coach pitch, the batter is out. The batter cannot be walked during coach pitch.
- F) When a ball is hit into play, runners have a two-base maximum.
- G) No player may steal on a coach pitch ball.
- H) No leads on base allowed and a runner on any base must wait until the ball passes the plate before being allowed to steal.
- I) Base stealing is limited to 1 base per play.
- J) If there is an attempt to make a tag play on a runner advancing to home plate, the runner must slide OR make an attempt to slide or the runner will be called out. This is a judgement call made by the umpire.
- K) No penalty for balks. Play is stopped and instruction given by coach/umpire.
- L) No curves or sliders are to be thrown in this division.
- M) No player match pitch and catch in the same day.
- N) 5 run rule – 5 runs made by the team or 3 outs, whichever occurs first.
- O) Balls as approved by the BBA – 9inch Reduced Injury Ball (RIB)

### **UNDER 14 / UNDER 15**

- A) Duration of match 90 minutes
- B) Pitching distance 50 feet (15.24m)
- C) No pitcher will be moved closer than the set pitching distance (13.11m)
- D) A pitcher may exceed their pitch count to finish their current batter. Upon finishing pitching to the batter, pitcher must be removed from mound and an A+ notation next to the pitch count made on the match card.
- E) Base paths – 80 feet (18.3m)
- F) Dropped third strike is played out
- G) Leads and stealing are allowed – this includes stealing on a pitch
- H) Runners have a two base maximum while stealing
- I) If a ball is hit into play there is no limit to the number of bases runners can advance.

- I) If there is an attempt to make a tag play on a runner advancing to home plate, the runner must slide OR make an attempt to slide or the runner will be called out. This is a judgement call made by the umpire
- J) Cannot pitch and catch on the same day
- K) One warning for balks and education from coach/umpire. Second and subsequent balks will be called. – No penalties for bawks, instruct only.
- L) No curves or sliders are to be thrown in this division.
- M) Balls as approved by the BBA – Full size leather waterproof balls.
- N) If a ball is hit into play there is no limit to the amount of bases runners can advance.

#### **UNDER 16 /17**

- A) Duration of games 90 minutes
- B) Balls as approved by the BBA – Full-size leather waterproof balls
- C) Diamond size to be Senior with a 57 feet (17.37m) or 54 feet (16.45m) pitching distances.
- D) No pitcher will be moved closer than the set pitching distances.
- E) Nine batter rule applies to both the regular season and final series. If runners are left on base after 9 batters and 3 outs have not been made, the runners on base will score.
- F) Blatant balks are called, no warning. One warning for obscure balks. One warning and instruction, subsequent bawks will be called.
- G) A bawk will result in a 1 base advance for each runner on base
- H) Drop 3<sup>rd</sup> strike is played out
- I) Leads and stealing are permitted and have no limit
- J) A pitcher may exceed their pitch count to finish their current batter. Upon finishing pitching to the batter, pitcher must be removed from mount and an A+ notation next to the pitch count made on the match card.
- K) If there is an attempt to make a tag play on a runner advancing to home plate, the runner must slide OR make an attempt to slide or the runner will be called out. This is a judgement call made by the umpire.

## **UNDER18**

- a) Duration of games 90 minutes.
- b) Diamond size to be senior.
- c) Nine batter rule applies to both the regular season and final series.
- d) Blatant balks are called, no warning. One warning for obscure balks.
- e) Waterproof leather balls are used.

### **14. TWO GAMES IN ONE DAY**

Players shall be permitted to take part in two junior matches on the same day or in the same round of matches provided the following:

- a) Under 12 players shall be permitted to take part in 2 matches on one day when :
  - i. Under 13 when attained their 9<sup>th</sup> birthday
  - ii. Under 14 when attained their 10<sup>th</sup> birthday

Under 13 players shall be permitted to take part in 2 matches on one day when:

- i. Under 14 when attained their 10<sup>th</sup> birthday
- ii. Under 15 when attained their 11<sup>th</sup> birthday

Under 14 players shall be permitted to take part in 2 matches on one day when:

- i. Under 15 when attained their 11<sup>th</sup> birthday
- ii. Under 16 when attained their 12<sup>th</sup> birthday

Under 15 players shall be permitted to take part in 2 matches on one day when:

- i. Under 16 when attained their 12<sup>th</sup> birthday
- ii. Under 17 when attained their 13<sup>th</sup> birthday

Under 16 players shall be permitted to take part in 2 matches on one day when:

- i. Under 17 when attained their 13<sup>th</sup> birthday
- ii. Under 18 when attained their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday

Under 17 players shall be permitted to take part in 2 matches on one day when:

- i. Under 18 when attained their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday.

### **15. SUBSTITUTE RUNNER**

A Substitute Runner - SR - shall be used for the catcher immediately the catcher reaches base irrespective of the number of outs. The SR shall be a bench player, however if there is no bench player, then the last player out must be the SR.

### **16. NINE BATTER RULE**

- a) A team shall bat for a maximum of nine batters in any one offensive innings. As the ninth batter for the innings comes to the plate, the scorer shall notify the umpire. At the completion of the ninth batter's turn at bat the umpire shall call time, and should there be less than 3 out at the time, all the runners on base at the time, shall be scored as runs. It shall not be necessary for those runners to cross the plate.
- b) Should the batter or base runner be put out to constitute the third out, normal baseball rules apply.

## 17. MATCH REPORT CARDS

- a) It is the responsibility of the Home Club to ensure that a Match Report Card is available at junior matches.

The following information is to appear on each Match Report Card:

### Front.

- The name and signature of the Umpire-in-chief, and other umpires if present.
- If the Home Club provides the umpire, the name of the club is to be indicated next to their name.
- The names of the Home Team and the Visiting Team in the appropriate place.
- The Division of competition.
- The date, the time, and the venue of the match.
- Box scores for both teams
- The "Game won by" section, and the score, **MUST BE ACCURATE.**
- Any reason for an early finish.
- Start and finish time for the game.
- The signatures of both the Home Team, and the Visiting Team Managers, or their authorized representatives.

### Back

- The teams are to be listed under correct headings of Home Team, or Visiting Team
  - The full Christian and Surnames of all players who appeared in the game, listed under their team name.
  - Any players who enter the game after it starts, must also appear on their team list.
  - Each pitcher must be noted on the card, by the letter •pn followed by a number denoting the order in which they came to the mound.
  - Any under-age pitchers who have a pitch count restriction, must have the number of pitches recorded against their name, in red.
  - Any under-age catchers who have caught to be noted as "C" in red
- b) The Match Report Card must be written in ink, no pencil.
- c) The Match Report Card must not be altered after it is signed by the Umpire/s and managers.
- d) The winning team must ensure the Match Report Card is delivered to the Registration Secretary, within 48 hours of the finish of the match.
- e) Scorers are not to sign the Match Report Card.

## 18. MATCH REPORTS FOR THE MEDIA

The winning team of every junior match, is to complete a media report, detailing the following:

- The box scores of the match
  - Pitcher's statistics for both teams.
  - Batting statistics for both teams.
  - A summary of the game.
- b) The winning team is then responsible for getting it to the BBA Media Representative within 24 hours.

## 19. REPORTED PERSONS

- a) Ejected persons cannot re-enter the playing field while the umpire is still on the ground. Ejected persons are not to approach the umpire after being ejected.
- b) Team manager or his substitute must come to the Scorer's area and sign the Match Report Card/Notice is compulsory, and thereby endorses that the manager and their club is aware of what is included on the Card/Notice. The Card/Notice shall not then be amended or added to. A reported person's manager will receive a duplicate of the Reported Person's Notice. No other official notice of a report shall be forwarded to a Club or ejected person.

## 20. YELLOW CARD RULE

- a) The principle of this rule is to allow an umpire to issue a formal warning to persons committing minor offences without the necessity for ejection from the game and subsequent tribunal appearances.
- b) Offences for which this rule may be invoked shall include, but not be limited to: Dangerous play, Dissent, Equipment abuse, minor obscenities and misconduct
- c) If, in the opinion of the umpire, an offence has occurred as provided for by this rule, a Yellow Card must be shown to the offender and both that person and the team manager informed of the nature of the offence
- d) The umpire shall complete the details required on the Yellow Card and place it with the Match Report Card, to be forwarded to the Registration Secretary.
- e) A register of the Yellow Card offences shall be maintained by the Registration Secretary.
- f) The first & second Yellow Cards issued to a person will occur no penalty. However, the third and any subsequent Yellow card offence by that player during the currency of a season shall result in him/her being suspended from participation in the next game for which he is eligible to play. The player is also suspended from coaching any match within 7 days of the third and any subsequent yellow card offence
- G) Registration Secretary shall notify the relevant club when a player received a yellow card
- H) A player, who receives two Yellow cards in the same game, shall be ejected from the game after the second offence, but will not be required to attend a tribunal hearing.
- h) A player suspended under 18 will be notified by the Registration Secretary via their club.
- i) When a person incurs a Yellow Card suspension in the last game of the season or a finals game, the matter will be referred to the Tribunal to determine the timing of the suspension.
- j) A person may appeal to the Tribunal Chairman against the issue of a Yellow Card. Such appeals are to be lodged in writing, stating reasons for the appeal to the Secretary of the BBA, within 48 hours of the game in which the offence occurred, and shall be accompanied by a \$20.00 deposit, which will be returned only if the Tribunal Chairman deems the appeal not to be frivolous. Mere denial of the offence does not constitute grounds for referral to the Tribunal, and will result in the loss of the deposit.
- I) Upon receiving an appeal in accordance with clause (k), the Tribunal Chairman shall decide of the matter should be referred to the Tribunal for resolution, such decision being final.

- m)** The Tribunal will hear an appeal referred to it under clause (l) by convening a hearing with the offender and the umpire. The Tribunal may determine to;
- Uphold the appeal, cancel the yellow card and advise the umpire, or
  - Dismiss the appeal and confirm the yellow card, or
  - Consider the offence warranted an ejection and impose a penalty, and
  - Decide to return or retain the deposit.
- n)** Such decisions of the Tribunal final; and not subject to further appeal.

## **21. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS - AGE QUALIFICATIONS**

- a)** A player is eligible to take part in any match in the respective age groupings, provided that they do not turn 10, 12, 14, 16 or 18 in the year of competition.  
That is to say:
- U10 – any player turning 10 during the year of competition cannot play T-Ball
  - U12- any player turning 12 in the year of competition is ineligible for U12.
  - U-13 - any player turning 13<sup>1</sup> in the year of competition is ineligible for U13.
  - U14 - any player turning 14 in the year of competition is ineligible for U14.
  - U15 - any player turning 15 in the year of competition is ineligible for U15
  - U16 - any player turning 16 in the year of competition is ineligible for U16.
  - U17 - any player turning 17 in the year of competition is ineligible for U17.
  - U18 - any player turning 18 in the year of competition is ineligible for U18.
- b)** No player may participate in the Under 9 competition until they have reached their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday
- b).** No player may participate in the Under 10 competition until they have reached their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- c}** No player may participate in the Under 12 competition until they have reached their 8<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- d)** No player may participate in the Under 13 competition until they have reached their 9<sup>th</sup> birthday .
- e)** No player may participate in the Under 14 competition until they have reached their 10<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- f)** No player may participate in the Under 15 competition until they have reached their 11<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- g)** No player may participate in the Under 16 competition until they have reached their 12<sup>th</sup> birthday
- h)** No player may participate in the Under 17 competition until they have reached their 13<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- i)** No player may participate in the Under 18 competition until they have reached their 14<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- j)** All clubs are able to apply for special circumstances, where they feel that a player is either not up to the standard of his or her age group or capable of meeting the standard in a higher age group. The BBA will assess such cases individually. The club which wishes to apply for such dispensation must have the said player assessed by 2 Level 2 coaches who are not from the player's club, as per BBA Assessment Process, (See Appendix 1a - 1c), and submit a written application to the BBA.
- k)** A review of such players, who are successful in these circumstances, must occur regularly (4 weeks) or at the request of opposition coaches if they feel an individual player is playing at a level above the age group, they are playing in.
- l)** No player under the age of 14 years is eligible to play senior baseball. Refer By-Law 6.6 : General Playing conditions and By-Law 2 : Schedule of fines.

**EXCEMPTION:** As per Junior Rule 22g

## 22. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS IN FINALS

- a) No player shall be allowed to take part in final rounds of-matches or Association 'Representative sides unless he has been registered for his Club with the Registration Secretary of the BBA and played in at least 3 rounds with his Club during the same season previous to such finals/representative side.
- b) In circumstances where a player has been unable to qualify due to being involved with representative teams, an application may be made by a club, for such a player, The BBA will then consider the case, and make a decision based upon the individual case, and in the light of any such precedents.
- c) A player shall not be eligible to play finals with a lower age group unless they have played in more than half the number of scheduled matches for that age group in the same season.

## 23. ADVERTISING ON JUNIOR UNIFORMS

- a) Selective advertising is permissible on the back of junior uniforms, and must have the approval of the BBA Executive
- b) All advertising such as cigarettes, liquor, hotels and any company conflicting any BBA sponsor will immediately be denied approval.

## 24. EQUIPMENT

- a) **Bases:**  
To be whitened and fixed.
- b) **Home Plate:**  
To be whitened, fixed and flush to the surface. On constructed baseball fields, the plate shall be permanently fixed.
- c) **Pitching mats:**  
To be pegged on mound.
- d) **Players on Benches**  
Must be provided for all games. Scorers and/or statisticians are not permitted on the bench.
- e) **Match balls:**  
T -Ball - Safe-t-ball 8.5"  
U12 - Safe-t-balls 9"  
U13 - As specified by BBA  
U14 - As specified by BBA  
U15 - As specified by BBA  
Und 16, 17 and U18 - waterproof leather balls 9".
- f) Teams who are designated as the Home Team at neutral venues will incur a fine if they do not remove all equipment from the ground, and replace it to storage, and clean up the field, and benches, and smooth base paths and base areas.
- g) **Batting Helmets :**  
Double eared batting helmets must be worn by all batters, on deck batters, base runners, base coaches and bat boys in all junior and senior matches. Should a player approach the batting box with an unsafe or one eared batting helmet, the umpire is to direct the player to change it immediately.



**Exception:** A player may wear a one eared helmet if a medical condition requires that he do so, however the batters leading ear must be covered at all times.

**h) Catcher's Helmets and Masks.**

All players when catching must wear a mask with throat guard and helmet during the match. Players and coaches warming up a pitcher must also wear a mask and helmet. The umpire is to stop the pitcher from throwing to home plate until the player or coach has a mask and helmet.

**i) Footwear:**

No junior player is to wear metal cleats in any BBA competition.

**j) Jewellery:**

- Exposed jewellery such as wrist watches, bracelets and types of earrings, neck chains or any other items judged dangerous by the umpire, must not be worn during the game.
- Medical alert bracelets or necklaces are not considered jewellery, but if worn, must be taped to your body.
- Players must be asked to remove jewellery and in failing to do so, will be ejected from the game.

**k) Gloves:**

No circle marking shall be different in color to the glove.

- l) Sweatbands** of minimal size for wearing at the wrist to be in club colors, but white not permitted.

**m) Bats:**

Wood, ceramic or aluminum bats may be used.

## **26 Code of Conduct for all Players, Coaches, Umpires, Volunteers, Scorers and Spectators**

- a)** Good relationships should be fostered between clubs and their teams before, during and after matches.
- b)** The authority and decisions of the umpire must be respected. Abusive and intimidating language or tactics will not be tolerated by the BBA and should not be directed to any person.
- c)** The coach of each team must insist that their players behave in a sportsmanlike manner at all times while at the field. Any person acting in an unsportsmanlike manner, and using abusive or offensive language, may be reported for their actions
- d)** Coaches and players are requested to draw attention to their own members and spectators to behave in a suitable manner. They should show support towards their team, and not berate and belittle the opposition.

## **27. TIME WASTING**

- a)** It is contrary to the spirit of junior baseball for teams to engage in the practice of time wasting, particularly in the closing minutes of a time limit game.
- b)** Umpires are hereby instructed to take all necessary steps to prevent such malpractice and adults in charge of teams are warned that the BBA will not tolerate such tactics.

## **28. ALCOHOL**

- a)** No alcohol is to be available or consumed at any junior match.

## 29. PLAYING FIELD DIMENSIONS

Junior	TBall	Under 12	Under13	Under14	Under 15	Under 16 +
Pitching Distance	35' {10.675m}	43' (13.11m)	46' (14.03m)	50' {15.24m}	54' (16.46m)	57' {17.37m}
Base Paths	60' {18.3m}	60' (18.3m)	60' (18.3m)	80' (24.38m)	80' (24.38m)	90' (27.43m)
Diagonal	84'.5" (25.88m)	84'10" (25.87m)	84'10" (25.87m)	113'3" (34.52m)	113'3" (34.52m)	127'33/8 " (38.79m)
Pass Ball Line	25' (7.63m)	25' (7.63m)	25' (7.63m)	40' (12.2m)	40' (12.2m)	40' (12.2m)
Bases	Full Size	Full Size	Full Size	Full Size	Full Size	Full Size
Home Plate	Full Size	Full Size	Full Size	Full Size	Full Size	Full Size
Pitching Plate	Full Size	46"	46"	Full Size	Full Size	Full Size
Left & -Right Field		120' (6.1m)	200' (6.1m)	225' (6.85m)	225' (6.85m)	250' (7.625m)
Centre Field		200' (61m)	200' (61m)	275' (83.82m)	275' (83.82m)	300' (90m)
Coaches Box	8' x 4' (2.44m x 1.22m)	8' x 4' (2.44m x 1.22m)	8' x 4' (2.44m x 1.22m)	16' x 8' (4.88m x 2.44m)	16' x 8' (4.88m x 2.44m)	16' x 8' (4.88m x 2.44m)
Batting Box	6' x 3' (1.83m x 0.92m)	6' x 3' (1.83m x 0.92m)	6' x 3' (1.83m x 0.92m)	6' x 4' (1.83m x 1.22m)	6' x 4' (1.83m x 1.22m)	6' x 4' (1.83m x 1.22m)

Senior and Under 18		Women	
Pitching Distance	60'6" (27.4m)	Pitching Distance	57' (17.37m)
Base Paths	90' (18.3m)	Base Paths	85' (25.91m)
Diagonal	127 31/2" (38.7m)	Diagonal	113' 2" (34.63m)
Pass Ball Line	60' (18.3m)	Pass Ball Line	60' (18.3m)
Bases	Full Size	Bases	Full Size
Home Plate	Full Size	Home Plate	Full Size
Pitching Plate	Full Size	Pitching Plate	Full Size
Coach's Box	20' x 10'	Coach's Box	20' x 10'
Batting Box	6' x 4' (1.83m x 1.22m)	Batting Box	6' x 4' (1.83m x 1.22m)

