

ROPSSAA BASEBALL

PLAYING REGULATIONS

1. DATE

(a) Season

The length of the season shall be determined by the dates set out by the co-curricular schedule.

(b) Starting times

Double Header: 1:00 p.m. and 3:20 p.m.
Single Game: 3:20 p.m.

2. LOCATION

(a) League games will be scheduled with an attempt to make the number of home and away games equal.

(b) During the playoffs the home team will be the team which placed higher in the standings at the end of regular season play. In the event of a tie, a coin toss will determine home team.

3. ELIGIBILITY

(a) All competitors must meet the eligibility requirements as per Article X of the Constitution.

(b) A participant shall not have attained their 19th birthday by January 1st prior to the start of the school year in which the competition is held (January 1, 2009, born in 1990 or later).

(c) All competitors must initial their acknowledgement of the Code of Conduct.

(d) Team Eligibility

i) Individuals are eligible for 1 level of competition only.

ii) For team sports, individuals must have participated in at least 50% of their team's league games to be eligible for playoffs. Players missing games due to injury (INJ), or awaiting transfer approval (ATA), must appear so designated on a game sheet to maintain their eligibility. Games missed due to injury are subject to review of a doctors note. Players under game or school suspension may not have their name included on a gamesheet for participation percentages.

iii) All game sheets/rosters are to include the name of all those in the bench area (players, coaches, managers). In order to be in the bench area an individuals name must appear on the eligibility sheet. Players under game or school suspension may not sit in the bench area.

- iv) Individuals are deemed to have played if their name appears on a gamesheet. Individuals must be present at a game to be included on a gamesheet.
- v) A staff member must be present in the bench area from the start of the warmup until the last competitor has left the area.

4. OPERATING STRUCTURE

(a) League Games

Teams will be divided into a two tiered league and play in either Tier 1 or Tier 2. Schools will opt for the tier they want to play in, prior to the season start each year. Teams with 5 or more triple 'A' and/or elite level players must play tier one.

Tiers may be divided into geographic conferences where numbers warrant.

Schools will be scheduled 6 league games, wherever possible.

(b) Ties in League Standings between 2 teams

- the result of the league game between the two
- if still tied, defensive record between common opponents
- if still tied the best run differential between the tied teams

(c) Ties in League Standings between 3 or more teams

- the result of the league game between the teams
- if still tied, the defensive record between the tied clubs
- if still tied, the defensive record between common opponents
- if still tied the ratio of total runs for divided by total runs scored
(e.g. 5-2 = 5/7 or 2/7)
(x) 5-2 (y), (y) 3-1 (z), (z) 4-1 (x) = $x = 6/12$
 $y = 5/11$
 $z = 7/9$

NOTE: This criteria will be used to determine only that position. Subsequent ties will use 2 team criteria.

(d) Wild Card Team Selection

- best winning record amongst the remaining teams from any division
- if still tied the position to be determined by run differential between the tied teams

(e) Playoff Structure

Playoff structure to be decided upon confirmation of divisions.

(f) Scheduled Games

- i) Coaches are responsible for reviewing final league game schedules and playoffschedules as to locations, dates, and times to ensure their attendance.
- ii) Failure to attend at the scheduled time will result in forfeiture of the game and/or loss of opportunity to compete. A default fee of \$100.00 will be assessed each time a school fails to attend at the scheduled time.

Appeals may be made for the forfeiture occurring and must be submitted to ROPSSAA Council with a fee of \$25.00.

- iii) Failure to fulfill game requirements leading to the abandonment of a game will result in a loss for that team. An abandonment fee of \$100.00 will be assessed each time (does not apply to coach ejection). Appeals may be made for the forfeiture or abandonment of a game and must be submitted to ROPSSAA Council with a fee of \$25.00.

iv)a) Schools must bring their own warmup equipment and first aid kit

b)i) Schools must endeavor to arrive no earlier than 60 minutes before game time. Teams arriving earlier than this must be supervised by the head coach in an area where students from the home school do not congregate. Schools with team members who do not travel with the head coach (in taxis, cars, on foot, etc.) must inform players that they must wait for their head coach and should ensure that the head coach is the first to arrive at the host school.

ii) Schools arriving for an away game between 30 and 60 minutes before game time must accompany the head coach to the competition area and liase with the host school. The visiting team will be provided a safe waiting area and change room during this time and the visiting head coach must provide supervision of his/her players. Visiting athletes must bring all belongings with them to the competition area.

iii) Visiting schools are entitled access to the competition area at the same time as the host school, and no later than 30 minutes before the game time (pertains to the first game).

iv) Visiting schools are entitled access to a safe waiting area and change room at the completion of the competition.

5. ENTRIES

- (a) Eligibility sheets must be in the hands of the Sport Convenor before the first league game.
- (b) Each school may enter one team.

- (c) A team may dress 25 players.
- (d) Individuals must have participated in at least 50% of their team's league games to be eligible for playoffs.

6. EXPENSES

- (a) For all games the cost of umpire and diamonds (where applicable) shall be shared equally by the participating teams.

7. RULES AND OFFICIALS

- (a) The current Ontario Baseball Rules will be in effect with the following exceptions/additions:
 - i) 12 outs, not necessarily consecutive, is the maximum number of outs that a pitcher may pitch in one game.
 - ii) Designated runner must be used for the catcher with 2 out - the runner will be the player who made the 2nd out.
 - iii) Designated hitter (DH) may be used for any player.
 - iv) Substitution may occur. Individuals may return to the game at any point to their original position in the batting order. Once a substitute leaves the game they may not return (ie if 'B' substitutes for 'A', 'A' can only come back in for 'B' and 'B' may not return or if 'B' comes in for 'A' and 'C' comes in for 'B' neither 'A' or 'B' may return).
- (b)
 - i) In the regular season, games will be 7 innings. Coaches of both teams must ensure that the umpire announces the time of the first pitch so the game is timed properly. In the regular season no new inning to start after the 2 hour time period. Where a regular season game is shortened by weather a full game will be 4,5,6, or 7 innings. If a game is shortened by weather, the score shall revert to the end of the last complete inning unless 4 innings have not been completed in which case the game will be replayed. Ties in league games will stand.
 - ii) In the playoffs, games will be 7 innings. In the case of a tie extra innings will be played until a winner is declared. Where a playoff game is shortened by weather the game will be replayed should less than 4 innings be played or it will be completed from the point of stoppage should 4 or more innings be played.
- (c) The OBA mercy rule is in effect (10 runs after 5 (4 1/2) innings) in all league and playoff games.
- (d) There will be 1 minute between innings.
- (e) Three umpires to be assigned to each semifinal and final game.

8. AWARDS

- (a) Gold medallions are to be awarded to the winners of the tier 1 and tier 2 ROPSSAA Final (maximum 25 per team).
- (b) Silver medallions are to be awarded to the members of the runner-up team(maximum 25 per team).
- (c) ROPSSAA championship trophy to be awarded to the winning team.

9. UNIFORMS

- (a) Teams shall be dressed in similar shirts and hats.
- (b) Metal cleats may be worn.
- (c) Catchers during game play and warming up a pitcher must wear a mask with a throat protector.
- (d) The on deck batter, batter and base runners must wear a helmet with flaps covering both ears.
- (e) Each player must wear a protective cup.
- (f) Athletes may not change their clothing in the competition area. For all outdoor sports, athletes must arrive dressed to compete. Visiting teams requiring the use of washroom facilities must send a staff member into the school with the team member(s). For all indoor sports, athletes must move to the designed locker room or change area to change their clothing.
- (g) Base coaches to wear batting helmets.

10. SCORING

- (a) Forfeited and defaulted games shall be recorded as a 1•0 score for the non-offending team. Forfeited and defaulted games will be excluded from the tiebreaker rule.
- (b) It is the responsibility of the visiting team to verify the score after each inning.
- (c) Three points to be awarded for each win and one point to be awarded for each tie.

11. EQUIPMENT

- (a) Baseballs to be used may be one of the following: Rawlings 80cc, Rawlings ROML, and Worth MLH.
- (b) Each team will supply 2 new baseballs for each game.

- (c) Teams designated as the home team shall be responsible for providing and setting out bases, and keeping the official score for that game.
- (d) Solid wood or composite bats only to be used. Bats must be a maximum of ' -3' in weight (drop 3 bat).

12. DEPORTMENT

- (a) Competitors and coaches are expected to behave in a sportsmanlike manner as per Article XVI, Section II of the ROPSSAA Constitution.
- (b) A player ejected from a game will automatically receive a game suspension from the next league or playoff game.
- (c) Ejection of a coach/staff member will result in automatic forfeiture of the game.
- (d) School teams shall at all times be under the supervision of an approved staff member of the school which they represent, prior to, during and after the completion of the competition and until all of the team has left the site. Failure to comply may lead to sanctions by ROPSSAA Council.

13. JURY OF APPEAL

- (a) A jury of appeal constructed at the pre-season coaches meeting will rule on all disputes which do not fall within the playing regulations or rules. This jury will consist of the Convenor and four coaches from participating schools.

14. OFSAA REPRESENTATIVE

- (a) The winner of the Tier One Championship Tournament will represent ROPSSAA in the Ofsaa Tournament. The runner-up of the championship tournament will advance should ROPSSAA be awarded a second spot in the tournament.
- (b) In the event that ROPSSAA be awarded a third spot in the Ofsaa Cup, the winner of the game between the two teams losing the semi-final games will advance.