



UXBRIDGE YOUTH BASEBALL ASSOCIATION
HOUSE LEAGUE PLAYING RULES 2017

GENERAL RULES

1. All members of UYBA including players, coaches, umpires, parents and officials are bound by the UYBA Code of Conduct.
2. Smoking and drinking of alcohol is not permitted at any UYBA event.
3. All players used in a game must be members of UYBA, registered and in good standing with the Association.
4. All players must wear the supplied house league uniform for their division.
5. All players shall wear an athletic support and appropriate genital protection.
6. Approved baseball batting helmets with chin straps are mandatory while batting and running the bases.
7. All players are to play in their own age division. A house league player will only be allowed to move up if he/she is a top rated player in their division. The house league committee also reserves the right to make a judgement call if a player needs to be moved down a division.
8. The official rules of baseball shall be followed when and where possible unless otherwise specified in the specific division playing rules.
9. All games are to start at the scheduled time, ABSOLUTELY NO extension of time limits are permitted due to a late start.
10. Batting orders will include all team members present at the game. Batting will be in continuous order throughout the game, unless a player is hurt or leaves, the spot vacated by the player will not result in an out. If a batter must be removed from the game during their at bat the last out will come to bat and assume the existing count.
11. The home team coaching staff is responsible for laying out the diamond to the division specifications unless an umpire is assigned to that game, in which case, the umpire shall lay out the diamond.
12. Both teams are responsible for reporting the score and highlights to the division convener within 48hrs of the completion of the game by recording it on Team Snap.
13. For all divisions except the J.R. Rookie division, all standings will be determined using a point system based on each team game. 2 Points for a win – 1 point for a loss. 0 for a Tie. Once calculated, if there are any teams tied in standings, total # of runs will determine the standings for the year-end tournament.
14. Jewellery (cloth based or metallic) shall not be worn during practices or games. Exceptions to this rule are Medic Alert bracelets or necklaces.
15. Metal cleats are not permitted.
16. Any person warming up a pitcher on or near the playing field before or during a game or practice must wear a catcher's mask.
17. If no umpires are available at game time, every effort should be made to obtain volunteers from the spectators or the coaching staffs. In the absence of umpire safety equipment, the home plate umpire will assume the position behind the pitcher's mound.

18. No player shall sit on the bench for two innings in one game until every player has sat at least one inning on the bench. Similarly, no player shall sit on the bench for three innings in one game until every player has sat on the bench for two innings, etc... Exceptions to this rule are for medical reasons or injuries.
19. If a coach is aware that they will not have enough players to field a team, they may request call ups from their Division Convener. Call ups are not permitted to pitch during the game. If a player is called up they must be played according to all playing rules.
20. For the Rookie, Mosquito & Peewee/Bantam Divisions: the minimum number of players for one team in a game is seven (7) if less than seven players are available to play no later than 15 minutes after the scheduled game time the game shall be a forfeit. The game must still be played for the benefit of the players in attendance and coaches should be encouraged to loan players to the team in default.
21. Umpires shall have a ground rules meeting 5 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the game.
22. All coaches are required to dress appropriately. Open toed shoes or sandals are not permitted on the field.
23. Only the President, House League Committee Chair, Division Convener or Umpire and Chief or their designate are permitted to cancel games prior to the beginning of the game. Once a game begins all decisions on the game are made by the Umpire in conjunction with the Division Convener and Coaches.
24. All coaches are asked to keep their line-up sheets showing batting orders and defensive line-ups for the entire season. This information may be requested by the Division Convener.
25. All teams are created based age and skill rating. All efforts are taken to ensure balanced teams within a division.
26. UYBA reserves the right to move players to a different team in order to achieve equal and balanced teams. If this is necessary it will be addressed within the first month of the baseball season.
27. All dugouts must be cleaned up of all garbage and equipment prior to the team leaving.
28. UYBA reserves the right to change or modify these rules from time to time for the benefit of the league.

JR. ROOKIE

(6-7 year olds)

Distance Between Bases: 45ft
Distance to pitching rubber: 35ft
Official Length of Game: +/- 4 Innings Max
No new inning after 50 min.

1. Jr. Rookie is a non-competitive division with no game scores or standings kept.
2. All players are placed in the batting order, there are no substitutions. Should a player arrive late they are to be added to the end of the batting order.
3. All players will play a defensive position each inning. Positions are as follows; the 9 traditional positions, 1 extra infielder and up to 3 extra outfielders.
4. All outfielders are to start on the outfield grass or a reasonable distance beyond the bases.
5. During the defensive half of the inning, coaches are encouraged to be on the field during play to provide instructions and encourage players. Coaches are not to become physically involved in the play in any way.
6. During the offensive half of the inning, a coach may assist the batter in positioning but must not aid in the swinging of the bat.
7. All players are to play both infield and outfield positions each game. Players are to rotate defensive positions each inning and should not play the same position twice in a game.
8. There are no strikeouts, walks, or taking a base if a player is hit by the ball. Players are to hit the ball and run the base(s)
9. No bunting is allowed, the batter must take a full swing.
10. There are no lead offs, stealing or infield fly rule. Runners must remain on the base until the ball is hit.
11. Defensive players should be instructed to attempt an overhand throw to a base on each batted ball. Players are not to roll the ball or run the ball to a base unless such a play would be typical in baseball game. Should the play be successful, the runner will be deemed as out and should return to the bench. However since there is no 3 out rule, the batting order will continue as per rule 15.
12. Pitchers are to stand on the (designated) pitching rubber until the ball is hit.
13. The catchers should be wearing the catchers helmet provided and will situate themselves well behind home plate. Since catchers are not wearing the full gear any missed or fouled ball picked up by the catcher, should be forwarded to the first available coach to either place back on the T or to be re-pitched to the player.
14. All batters must wear a helmet with chin strap.
15. All players will bat each inning. Coaches shall announce "Last Batter" prior the last batter's at bat.
17. The batter will not advance beyond first base on an overthrow of first base, but should advance on a hit ball.
18. All players shall start the season using a tee. This is to assist in developing proper batting technique. Beginning at the first game in July the coach will throw a maximum of five (5) pitches to the batter. If after the five pitches the batter has not put the ball in play, a batting tee will be used to assist the batter.
19. An inning will end when the Last Batter has hit the ball and runs around all the bases.

ROOKIE

(8, & 9 year olds)

Distance between bases: 65 ft.
Distance to pitching rubber: 40 ft.
Official length of game: +/- 4 innings
No new inning time after 55min.

1. Rookie is a competitive division with game scores being kept.
2. Umpires are provided for the Division.
3. All players are placed in the batting order. Should a player arrive late they are to be added to the end of the batting order.
4. The defensive team will consist of a catcher, one pitcher, one player at first base, one player at second base, one player at third base, one shortstop, and up to four outfielders; ten (10). The balance of kids will remain on the bench. Players should be provided an equal opportunity to play both infield and outfield positions.
5. The number of coaches permitted on the field of play shall be as follows: Defensively, two [2] coaches may stand on the field between the infielders and outfielders to direct their players. Offensively, there shall be no more than three [3] in total; one [1] coach in each of the 1st and 3rd base coaching boxes, and [1] coach at the pitching machine. No coach is allowed to interfere with the ball in play.
6. No player shall sit on the bench for two innings in one game until every player has sat at least one inning on the bench. Similarly, no player shall sit on the bench for three innings in one game until every player has sat on the bench for two innings, etc... Exceptions to this rule are for medical reasons or injuries.
7. Games will be approximately (4) innings in length. An official game is four (4) innings or if the home team is winning after 3 ½ innings. If a game does not reach 4 innings due to time limit or weather, the game shall be considered official at 2 innings or at the last completed inning for scorekeeping purposes.
8. The pitching machine shall be placed 40' directly in front of home plate, surrounded by a safety circle 8 feet in diameter. No player is allowed to enter the circle. Any ball hit into the circle, hitting the machine, or hitting a coach operating the machine, is considered a dead ball. The batter is awarded a base, and all other runners will advance one base. If the ball is hit through the circle and not deflected off anything within the circle, the ball is considered in play.
9. Should a defensive player enter the safety circle, with any body part, the ball is considered dead immediately and all runners will be awarded one base.
10. Should the pitching machine not be functioning properly, both the coaches and the umpire must all agree to allow the coaches to pitch to their players for the continuation of the game. All the same rules still apply.
11. The designated pitcher must position themselves 3 feet outside from the safety circle on one of the two sides of the pitching machine prior to all pitches.
12. Each batter shall receive a maximum of 5 hittable pitches from the pitching machine as judged by the umpire. Should a third strike foul be caught by the catcher prior to the fifth pitch, it shall be treated as just another pitch and not as an out. If a fair ball is not hit within the 5 allotted pitches, the batter is out. The last pitch will be announced by the umpire. **If a batter swings at an unhittable pitch, that is considered a strike.**
13. In all games, except for the last inning, a team's turn at bat will terminate with the occurrence of three (3) outs or 5 runs, whichever comes first. The last inning, as determined by the umpire, will be an open inning with no limit to the number of runs prior to the 3 outs, however will be limited to 10 players coming to the plate. The 10th player must be announced by the offensive team and after the play is complete, the inning or ½ inning is considered finished.

14. Base runners are not permitted to lead off the base. The runner must have their foot in contact with the base until the ball is hit.
15. Runners must touch each base when running the bases and must not over take the runner ahead of them.
16. No stealing or bunting.
17. The batter cannot run on a third strike.
18. With 2 out a substitute runner can be provided for a catcher on base in order to get them ready for the next inning.
19. Infield fly rule will NOT APPLY

MOSQUITO

(10 11 year olds)

Distance between bases: 65 ft.
Distance to pitching rubber: 44 ft.
Official length of game: +/- 4 innings
No new inning time after 55min.

1. Rookie/Mosquito is a competitive division with game scores or standings kept.
2. Umpires are provided for the Division.
3. All players are placed in the batting order. Should a player arrive late they are to be added to the end of the batting order.
4. The traditional nine baseball positions are fielded each inning.
5. Players cannot play the same position more than twice in a game except for the pitcher and the catcher.
6. Up until the first game in July, 2 defensive coaches may stand on the field between the infielders and outfielders to direct players. After that no defensive coaches are allowed on the field. No coach at any time is allowed to interfere with the ball in play.
7. Offensively there shall be no more than 2 coaches on the field for the season. One coach at each of the 1st and 3rd base coaching boxes. No coach is allowed to interfere with the ball in play.
8. No player shall sit on the bench for two innings in one game until every player has sat at least one inning on the bench. Similarly, no player shall sit on the bench for three innings in one game until every player has sat on the bench for two innings, etc... Exceptions to this rule are for medical reasons or injuries.
9. Games will be approximately (4) innings in length. An official game is four (4) innings or if the home team is winning after 3 ½ innings. If a game does not reach 4 innings due to time limit or weather, the game shall be considered official at 2 innings or at the last completed inning for scorekeeping purposes.
10. In all games, except for the last inning, a team's turn at bat will terminate with the occurrence of three (3) outs or 5 runs, whichever comes first. The last inning, as determined by the umpire, will be an open inning with no limit to the number of runs prior to the 3 outs.
11. Pitchers are allowed to pitch in 2 consecutive innings to a maximum of 70 pitches. Once a pitcher is removed they cannot pitch again in that game.
12. Coaches are allowed only 2 trips to a mound per pitcher without having to remove a pitcher. The umpire may limit such trips if in the umpire's view the coach's intent is to delay the game.
13. No player may play in the pitcher's and catcher's position in the same game.
14. New pitchers are permitted 6 warm-up pitches, returning pitchers are permitted 3 warm-up pitches.
15. A pitcher must be substituted if they hit any batter three times in one or more innings.
16. There are no balks allowed.

17. Base runners are not permitted to lead off the base. The runner must have their foot in contact with the base until the ball has left the pitchers hand.
18. Runners may only steal 2nd base only. No stealing home.
19. Dropped 3rd strike rule is NOT in effect– batter will be called out whether or not the catcher catches the ball on the 3rd strike.
20. Bunting is allowed.
21. With two (2) out, a substitute runner may be provided for a catcher on base in order to get ready for the next inning.
22. Runners must touch each base when running the bases and must not over take the runner ahead of them.
23. Infield fly rule will NOT apply.