

# West Hill Baseball League

## House League

### Mosquito Rules

House League Play will be governed by the rules in the Official Baseball Canada Rule Book 1998 and the SBA 1991 Rules except for the following which will take precedence over all other rules for the purpose of House League play.

#### GAME TIMES

- 1) All games are scheduled to commence at 6:30 pm sharp. No new inning will start after 8:15 pm. Game is dead at 8:30 pm. All games should start on time with late players added to the bottom of the line-up as they arrive.
- 2) No warm-ups will be allowed after 6:25 pm.
- 3) Coaches and players should be at the field 15 minutes before game time. It is the responsibility of all coaches, managers and players to be at the field in sufficient time to allow for enforcement of the above rules.

#### GAME LENGTH

- 4) All games will be played to seven (7) innings or until a winner is declared. Three (3) complete innings shall constitute an official game. (2½ if the home team is leading)
- 5) Each ½ inning will be complete after 3 outs are recorded or a maximum of 5 runs have been scored. After 3 complete innings, there is no limit to the number of runs allowed. Also, for the last inning, there is no limit to the number of runs allowed. The last inning must be declared before the beginning of the inning, in the event that time is running out and the full 7 innings cannot be played.

#### BASE & PITCHING DISTANCES:

T-Ball	Bases (55 feet)	Pitching Distance (45 feet)
Rookie	Bases (55 feet)	Pitching Machine Distance (40 feet)
Mosquito	Bases (65 feet)	Pitching Distance (44 feet)
Pee Wee	Bases (75 feet)	Pitching Distance (50 feet)
Bantam	Bases (90 feet)	Pitching Distance (55 feet )
Midget	Bases (90 feet)	Pitching Distance (60 feet 6 inches)

#### UNIFORM: PLAYERS & COACHES

- 6) All players must be properly dressed in official team shirts, pants, caps and running shoes (preferably baseball cleats). If a full uniform is not worn, the player WILL NOT be allowed to play. A plastic cup athletic supporter, "jock" or "jill", is mandatory for players. No jewelry / watches of any kind is allowed to be worn by players. The only exception to this rule is a Medic Alert bracelet or necklace. Sandals are not permitted on the playing field. This rule applies to all coaching staff, players and umpires.
- 7) Players are reminded that the use of STEEL CLEATS is expressly forbidden. A player with Steel Cleats will not be allowed to play.

**SCORING of GAME:**

- 8) The home team is responsible for supplying a scorer and game balls. The winning team is responsible for turning in the completed scoresheet to the league statistician, within 48 hours of completion of the game, so that the win can be recorded. Scoresheets can be dropped off at Heron Park Community Center at the information desk (they close at 9:30 pm nightly). Both teams need to send an e-mail to the league statistician, within 48 hours of completion of the game, indicating: name of teams that played, field location, date of game, score, and to report any ejections or problems.
- 9) The name / number of each team, the name of the official scorer, the signatures of both coaches and both umpires (name and umpire number also) must be on all scoresheets before the start of the game. Please have umpires sign the scoresheet before the start of the game.
- 10) Scoring Points  
Win = two (2) points  
Tie = one (1) point

Standings will be determined by points if all teams have played the same number of games, or by percentage of games won if all teams have not played the same number of games.

**EQUIPMENT:**

- 11) Coaches and managers are considered responsible for all equipment issued to them. All equipment including shirts, pants and caps must be considered as belonging to the West Hill Baseball League and should be returned if not needed.

**WEATHER**

- 12) Games not played because of inclement weather conditions will be rescheduled if time and schedule permit. The WHBL Rainout phone number is (416) 283-2685.
- 13) Should darkness or inclement weather come prior to the curfew, the umpire, at his discretion, will terminate the game and so note on the back of the scoresheet, giving the exact time the game was called and the reason. If the home team is losing at the time of the game being called, the score will revert back to the score at the last completed inning. If the home team takes the lead in the inning that the game is called, the current score will stand and the home team will be the winner. (2½ innings if home team is leading or 3 innings will constitute a complete game.)
- 14) Once a game has commenced, the umpire, not the coaches, shall be the sole judge as to when and if the game should be called. In case of rain, if there is no lightning, there will be a 15 minute rain delay, following which the umpire will decide if the game will continue. If there is lightning, the game will cease immediately and all players, coaches, parents and umpires will leave the field immediately.

**COACHES' CONDUCT:**

- 15) Any player or coach ejected from the game by an umpire may be subject to further disciplinary action by the League Executive on receipt of a report from the umpire concerning the incident. In such event, the umpire will make note on the official scoresheet and notify the Umpire-in-Chief as soon as possible. Any player or coach ejected from the game will automatically be suspended for the next game. Furthermore, the Disciplinary Committee at its discretion may extend the suspension.
- 16) Any coach or player threatening an umpire with physical violence or making any threatening gestures will be ejected from the game and will face severe disciplinary action from the Disciplinary Committee.

**NO SMOKING:**

- 17) Any coach, manager, team helper or player seen smoking on the playing field will be ejected from the game after one (1) warning. Smoking is not permitted within eyesight of the field. Some players have allergies and we do not want to have a reaction occur on the field. The safety of our players is important.

**WATER BOTTLES:**

- 18) Players should be encouraged to use refillable water bottles.

**PLAYER SHORTAGE**

- 19) In the event of a shortage of players due to holidays or illness, call-ups from the next lower age classification (Rookie Ball) from House League may be used. Please call the Convenor for help with this. A player may not play regularly on the team as a call-up. Call-ups are to be used on a per game basis only and there is a limit as to the number of times a specific player can be used.

**PITCHING**

- 20) A player can pitch only one (1) inning, regardless of the number of outs made. (One pitch may constitute an inning.) Once a pitcher has been removed from the mound, he may not return as a pitcher in that game, but he can play at any other position.
- 21) Any pitcher who hits three (3) batters in a game must be removed from the pitching position for the duration of that game.

**FIELDING**

- 22) The maximum number of players allowed on the field is nine (9). Each team shall have a catcher, a 1st baseman, a 2nd baseman, a 3rd baseman, a shortstop, a left fielder, a center fielder, a right fielder and a pitcher.
- 23) All players in the catcher's position must wear a helmet, mask, shinguards, chest protector and athletic supporter at all times.
- 24) On a fielding play, foul of either 1st or 3rd base, the ball shall be ruled dead if it goes out of play past the imaginary line of the edge of the screening. This rule shall apply whether the fielder deflects the ball and / or whether it is thrown over his head. In this instance, the runner will get two (2) bases from the last base he occupied when the ball was pitched.
- 25) The infield fly rule will apply. The umpire must immediately declare "Infield Fly" for the benefit of the runners. (Infield fly ball rule applies if there are less than two (2) outs and first and second bases are occupied or bases are loaded)

**BATTING**

- 26) All players at bat and while running the bases must wear a proper batter's helmet WITH CHINSTRAP attached. Any player caught running the bases without a chinstrap will be called out by the umpire.
- 27) All players must be on the bench when not at bat or on deck. It shall be the coach's responsibility to enforce this rule. If this rule is not obeyed, team players may be disciplined by the umpire at his discretion.
- 28) If a player throws his bat in the process of swinging at the ball, he will be warned by the umpire on the first occasion, and the umpire will record the incident with the scorekeeper. If a bat is thrown after the warning, the batter will automatically be called out by the umpire. There will be one (1) warning per team.

- 29) Any player intentionally throwing a helmet or bat will be called out and warned and / or ejected from the game. Even if the player has already made an out, a second out will result.
- 30) Lead-offs are NOT allowed. Any player caught taking a lead-off will be called out by the umpire after one (1) warning. Runners can only run AFTER the ball has left the pitcher's hand.
- 31) A player may NOT run on a dropped third (3rd) strike.

#### **GENERAL PLAY**

- 32) In House League, coaches are required to ensure that all players play and sit out equally. Players must be rotated between infield and outfield. No player shall sit on the bench for a second inning unless all players have already sat for one inning. No player shall play the outfield a second time unless all players have already played the outfield for one inning, barring injury, request or discipline. An inning consists of 3 outs or 5 runs. Failure to follow this rule will result in an automatic default of your game. There are no exceptions to this rule. If the opposing team notices a failure to rotate players, the umpire must be notified to resolve the situation.
- 33) The batting order must remain consistent and include a full roster submitted on the scoresheet at game time. Players should not be added to the scoresheet until they are present at the diamond.
- 34) Additions to the batting order due to late arrival of players will be allowed after the start of the game. They must be marked as late arrivals and put at the bottom of the batting order.
- 35) Pitchers must use a solid colour glove and must not wear long WHITE sleeved undergarments. A trapper may be worn at first base only. Catchers may use a regular glove or a catcher's mitt. Outfielders, infielders and pitchers can use a regular glove only.

#### **ADDITIONAL CONCERNS**

- 36) If there are any problems at any game for whatever reason, the Convenor should be contacted ASAP following the game but within 24 hours of game time. Any protests or discretions should be noted on the scoresheet and reported to the division Convenor within 24 hours of the end of the game. If the Convenor is not contacted within the foregoing timelines, the protest will not be addressed. If there are any umpire issues, please contact the Umpire-In-Chief with those issues ASAP.