

Knights of Columbus Mosquito Baseball

Rules for League Play - 2008

Except as amended by the following, the rules of the Knights of Columbus Mosquito Baseball League are those in the Baseball Canada Rule Book (latest edition) and the SBA Handbook (latest edition as available at www.saskbaseball.ca). In League play the rules outlined below take priority over the SBA Handbook which in turn takes priority over those in the Baseball Canada Rule Book.

Please note these League rules do not apply to SBA Provincial Qualifier or Championship tournaments.

DEADLINES

1. League fees are payable upon receipt of invoice from registrar.
2. SBA membership lists must be returned to the League registrar on or before **May 10th, 2008.***
3. SBA Provincial rosters and a cheque for the SBA Provincial Registration fee (\$130) must be returned to the League Registrar on or before **May 25th, 2008.***
4. Tournament fees must be paid in full no later than 7 days prior to league run tournament dates. Fees are non-refundable after draws are completed.

* These two deadlines apply only to Zone 6 teams. Teams from other zones playing in our league should deal with SBA directly.

GAME START TIMES

Kilburn Fields - May start times to be 6:45pm when following Rookie or Junior Mosquito games scheduled on the same diamonds.

June start times to be 7:00 pm when following Rookie or Junior Mosquito games scheduled on the same diamonds.

Sifton Fields, A.H Browne & St Andrews Fields- May and June start times to be 6:15 pm.

TEAM LINEUPS

1. All teams in all Divisions (A, AA and AAA) will play "everybody bats" with unlimited substitution and player re-entry throughout the season. **Each player must play a minimum of 2 defensive innings in the first four innings of a game.**
2. A team failing to field a minimum of 8 players within 15 minutes of the scheduled start time for the game shall forfeit the game. A recorded score of 6-0 shall be entered against this team. **A Practice game, using the assigned umpire should be played instead.** Teams should share players in the practice game as necessary to have balanced numbers.

GAME RULES

1. In each game:
 - (a) The HOME team will occupy the third base bench; the VISITING team shall occupy the first base bench.
 - (b) The HOME team shall prepare the fields as necessary including lining the base lines and batters box before each game as well as watering down the shale diamonds at Kilburn Fields when necessary.
 - (c) The HOME team shall supply the game balls (3 balls in good condition).
 - (d) The VISITING team shall provide the base umpire, except for AAA games where two umpires will be provided.
 - (e) No equipment may be left or stored on the playing field at any time. **Equipment must be kept in or behind the players benches.**
 - (f) Each team is responsible for cleaning up it's bench area and the spectator area nearby.
 - (g) For games played at Kilburn Fields the HOME team is responsible for returning the bases to the storage room after the game.

- (h) For games played at Sifton Fields, St Andrews and A.H Brown fields the HOME team is responsible for placing the bases and lining the field prior to the game. The HOME team shall return the bases and other equipment such as rakes and lining equipment to the storage boxes following the game. All storage boxes to be locked with the locks provided following each game.
- (i) For games played at Sifton Fields the HOME team is responsible for removing the lock from the portable toilets prior to the game and replacing the locks on the toilets upon completion of the game.
- (j) Games will be cancelled or stopped when the temperature falls below 5 degrees C or when lightning is judged to be within 3 miles of the park. i.e. when the time between a lightning flash and the sound of thunder is 3 seconds or less. A game stopped because of lightning may be resumed once the storm has passed if the field remains playable.

SCOREKEEPER

1. The HOME team shall provide the scorekeeper and a scorebook.
2. The scorekeeper shall record all pitchers and their outs, including their number and full name for all league tournament games.

MERCY RULES

1. A 6 run per inning mercy rule will apply in all Categories. The inning will stop once the sixth run has been scored. Note there is not a 10 run mercy rule after 4 or more complete innings in league play.

PITCHING RULES

1. Pitching rules are:
 - (a) a pitcher shall not pitch more than 9 outs per game.
 - (b) a pitcher shall not pitch more than 12 outs per day.
 - (c) a pitcher shall not pitch more than 21 outs per week. The League Pitching week is Monday through Sunday. Please check local tournament rules for all tournaments entered for exceptions to these limitations.
 - (d) a pitcher may not pitch again in a game once he/she has been removed from the pitching position. They may play in any other defensive position during that game.

These rules are SBA rules and apply to ALL games played by a team in a pitching week.

GAME LENGTH

1. Games are six innings long or 1 hour and forty-five minutes in length. New innings shall not be started after one hour and thirty minutes unless agreed upon by BOTH coaches prior to the beginning of the first inning that 6 innings will be played (5 ½ if the home team is ahead). On nice evenings full 6 inning games are encouraged but not mandatory.
2. If the home team scores the winning run in the bottom of the 6th inning the game may be played to completion if agreed upon by BOTH coaches. The recorded score shall indicate a one run margin of victory regardless of runs scored to completion of the inning.

RULES SPECIFIC TO THE 'A' LEAGUE

1. No stealing home on a wild pitch or passed ball. Runners must be hit home or may advance home in the case of a bases loaded walk. Encourage your players to hit the ball.
 - (a) **EXCEPTION:** Runner may steal home if any player throws to **THIRD** base in an attempt to get the runner out and in turn the ball is thrown past the defensive player. Runner may advance home at the risk of being thrown out at home or may be given home base if the ball leaves the field of play as a result of an overthrow.

SAFETY REGULATIONS

1. The following safety regulations will be strictly enforced:
 - (a) Shoes with metal or plastic cleats or spikes are prohibited. Shoes with rubber studs or cleats are permitted.
 - (b) The batter, base runners and batboy / girl must wear undamaged, regulation batting

- helmets with two ear flaps and the chin-strap securely fastened.
- (c) **ALL PERSONS (including parents)** receiving warm up throws from a pitcher while in the crouch position, **whether on or off the field**, must wear a protective mask.
 - (d) Catchers must wear a throat protector or a mask with extended throat protection.
These are Baseball Canada rules and the umpire may, at their discretion, eject players or coaches refusing to follow these safety regulations.
 - (e) Except for the batter, the base runners, the on-deck batter and base coaches, all members of the batting team, including coaches, must remain in the players bench area.

CONDUCT OF PLAYERS AND COACHES

1. **PROTESTS ARE NOT PERMITTED IN MOSQUITO LEAGUE GAMES.** The only basis for a request for clarification or reversal is where an umpire is considered to have misinterpreted the rules. The request for clarification must be made verbally & with respect to the umpire immediately upon occurrence of the disputed action. **The opportunity for clarification or reversal is lost upon delivery of the first legal pitch or the first legal play following that action.**
2. Any unsportsmanlike action shall be grounds for ejection. This includes swearing, any action designed to distract either team, over-aggressiveness, etc. **A PLAYER OR COACH EJECTED FROM A GAME MUST LEAVE THE PARK FOR THE REST OF THAT GAME.** All ejections will be dealt with according to the SBCI Discipline Guidelines.
3. **A ZERO TOLERANCE policy exists for verbal and physical harassment of umpires by coaches, players, parents and spectators.**
 - (a) Any coach or player who argues any decision or harasses an umpire in any way may automatically be ejected from the game and subject to SBCI discipline guideline. These ejections will also be reported to the SBA Commissioner.
NOTE: This policy is not meant to prevent a coach from asking an umpire to explain a decision, but rather to prevent an argument or extended discussion of the decision (See also item 1 directly above)
 - (b) **The team Manager and/or Head Coach will be held responsible for the conduct of the team's parents and fans.** If the umpire judges that the spectator's behaviour is detrimental to the conduct of the game, the umpire shall ask the Team Manager and/or Head Coach to inform the spectator(s) that the game will be called if such behaviour continues. Any spectator who continues to harass an umpire may be asked to leave the playing area. The game shall be stopped until the offending party has agreed to cease and desist or has left the field area. If at their discretion, the umpires feel the situation is not resolved in a timely manner the game shall be called. If the game is called the League will conduct a full inquiry, involving the umpire and coaches of both teams, and may issue suspensions to the coaching staff of either or both teams. Subsequent conditions may be placed on the offending spectators based on this review.

COACHING CERTIFICATION

1. **ALL** Coaches are encouraged, at a minimum, to obtain Initiation Coach certification.
2. All Coaches wishing to enter teams in Provincial Championships should check the Sask Baseball site to ensure sufficient coaching qualification are held by the necessary number of Coaches and identified as such on the registration forms. **NO EXCEPTIONS TO THE SBA REQUIREMENTS ARE PERMITTED.**