

SASKATOON BANTAM BASEBALL LEAGUE

2009 League Rules

Except as indicated in the following, all games will be played according to the current SBA Handbook and Baseball Canada Rulebook.

Deadlines

1. League fees are payable on or before May 31. (AAA = \$1800, AA= \$1500)
2. SBA Membership lists must be returned the League Registrar on or before May 8.
3. SBA Provincial rosters must be returned to the League Registrar on or before May 31.
4. Tournament fees must be paid in full prior to the team's first scheduled game. (AAA = \$375, AA= \$325)
5. All teams are automatically entered in the Season Opener/Early Bird Tournament.
5. Registrar – Kathy Sather, 245 Guelph Cres, S7H 4P9

General Regulations

1. The Field Conditions/WEATHER HOTLINE is now on the Saskatoon Baseball website.
http://www.busywebdesign.com/sbci/field_conditions.htm
2. The decision to cancel games for out-of-town teams (excluding Martensville) due to poor weather will be made by 3:30 pm. However, since ground conditions can improve between that time and game time, a second decision regarding game cancellation may be made. The possibility of a revised decision will be indicated on the website and the revised decision will be posted by 5:30 pm. **This revised decision will relate ONLY to games scheduled between Saskatoon and Martensville teams. Out-of-town teams should consider a cancellation made at 3:30 pm as final.**
3. For information on weather-related cancellations of games played outside Saskatoon, call the appropriate coach on the contact list. **THIS INFORMATION WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE ON THE IN-TOWN WEATHER HOTLINE.**
4. The HOME team will occupy the 3rd base side; the VISITING team will occupy the 1st base side.
5. Use of a courtesy runner is NOT permitted.
6. The start time for games in May is 6:00pm. Start time for games in June and July is 6:30 pm.
7. A team failing to field 9 players by 20 minutes after the scheduled game start time will forfeit that game and have a score of 7-0 recorded against it. A practice game with the assigned umpire will be played.

The Game

1. All games are 7 innings long with the following exceptions:
 - the 10-run mercy rule, as stated in the SBA Handbook, is in effect for all games.
 - if the HOME team is ahead after the VISITING team has batted in the 7th inning.
 - when the HOME team scores the winning run in the bottom half of the 7th inning.
 - when coaches and umpires agree that light or poor weather poses a hazard to the players. Games ruled incomplete or cancelled due to weather or light conditions will not be rescheduled except for games in the City Championship tournaments.
 - a game will be ruled complete when a minimum of 5 innings, or 4 1/2 innings when the HOME team is ahead, have been played.
2. All AA league games will be played as "Everybody Bats" and with unlimited substitution and re-entry of players except for the pitcher, as per SBA regulations..
3. Up to May 31, AAA teams will play "Everybody Bats" and unlimited substitution.
4. Commencing June 1, AAA teams will play "9-man baseball with re-entry" as detailed in the SBA Handbook.

Scorekeeping

1. Each team is responsible for providing their own scorebook. The HOME team of each game will provide the official scorekeeper, the official pitch count scorekeeper and the official scorebook will be the official scorebook for that game.
2. The official scorebook must show an accurate account of the pitching records and score for the game, plus the signatures of each team coach and registered umpire.
 - it is each team coach's responsibility to ensure that the pitching statistics and game score are correct before the scorebook is signed. By signing the scorebook, the coach is verifying that the scorebook is correct.

- each registered umpire must print and sign their name in the official scorebook to verify that he/she worked that game.
 - Each team is responsible to maintain a pitching log book. This log book is to be presented to the official pitch count scorekeeper 15 minutes prior to game time in order to identify eligible and ineligible pitchers for both teams. The league is exploring putting these stats on the website along with the game scores, more to follow at a later date.
3. Line-up cards, supplied by teams, must be used for each game.
- the team's line-up card must include each player's first and last name, number and starting position.
 - line-up cards must be given to the scorekeeper **at least 15 minutes** prior to game time.

Pitching Regulations

1. As per the SBA pitching regulations and Handouts provided.
2. All pitching violations will be reported to the Saskatoon Baseball Council Discipline Committee.
3. Each team coach must inform the scorekeeper of any pitching change **before** the change occurs.

Bat Size Regulations

1. AAA is wood bat.
2. The -3 bat rule is in effect i.e. the difference between bat length and bat weight should not be greater than -3.
3. The maximum barrel diameter of a bat should not exceed 2 5/8 in.

Safety Regulations

1. All safety regulations, as outlined in the current SBA Handbook, are in effect for League play.
2. Except for the batter, base runners, on-deck batter and base coaches, all members of the batting team (including coaches not on base) must remain in the players bench area.
3. All batters, base runners and bat boys/girls must wear an undamaged regulation batting helmet.
4. Bat boys/girls must use a chinstrap securely fastened to their helmet.
5. Catchers must wear throat protection or a mask with extended protection.
6. ALL persons (including parents) warming up a pitcher must wear a protective mask if in the crouched position. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Ejections, Protests

1. All ejections will be reported to the Saskatoon Baseball Council and dealt with according to the SBCI Discipline Committee guidelines.
2. A player or coach ejected from a game must leave the park for the remainder of that game.
3. Protests must be made in writing within 24 hours of the occurrence of the incident being protested. The protest is to be submitted to the League President and be accompanied by a \$100 cheque. The League President will strike a committee of 3 persons to rule on the protest within seven days of its receipt. If the protest is upheld, the deposit cheque will be returned.

Team Responsibilities

1. The HOME team will:
 - supply 3 good game balls.
 - supply the scorekeeper and pitch count scorekeeper.
 - notify the Groundskeeper Coordinator (Mark Loran) of any missing or damaged equipment. If the equipment is not reported missing, the last HOME team to have played on that diamond after discovery of missing equipment will be charged for replacement of the missing equipment.
 - return the bases, umpire equipment etc. to the blue lock box after each game. Failure to do so will result in a fine of \$50; the fine will double for each subsequent offence.
2. The VISITING team will provide a base umpire for all AA games and when only one registered umpire shows for an AAA game.
3. Each team is responsible for cleaning up its bench area and the adjacent spectator area. Failure to do so will invoke a \$25 fine; this fine will double for each subsequent offence.
4. No equipment is to be stored or left on the playing field at any time.
5. Teams assessed fines will have their games suspended until the fines are paid.

Code of Conduct

1. Respect all umpire decisions. When asking for an explanation, one coach only is to approach the umpire.

2. Verbal or physical harassment of umpires, players or coaches by anyone will not be tolerated. The League endorses the SBA “zero tolerance” policy. Such incidents will be dealt with according to SBCI Discipline guidelines and will be reported to the SBA.

3. Any form of unsportsmanlike conduct (swearing, excessive noise from the bench, inappropriate comments, throwing of bats or helmets) is not acceptable and may lead to ejection and action by the SBCI Discipline Committee.
4. Any team member ejected from a game must leave the Park for the remainder of that game.
5. Use of any nicotine or alcohol product by players or coaches on the field or in the vicinity of the players’ bench is not permitted.
6. Coaches are expected to dress so that their team affiliation is apparent. Coaches should follow the SBA dress regulations.

Tournaments

All teams are expected to participate in all League Tournaments.

April 25, 2009