**AABHN PLAYING REGULATIONS**

**BOYS BASEBALL**

All coaches must be familiar with the content of the AABHN Constitution.

1. **Start Date** - September (First day of School)

1. **Length of Season** – Regular Season: September through October 31, CWOSSA / OFSSA: May – June.

1. **Competition Limits**: 3 Tournaments outside of league play

1. **Members per Team** – 20 players

1. **Eligibility:** All players must meet the eligibility criteria as outlined in Article 12 in the AABHN Constitution

# 6. Eligibility Lists

a) **Submission**: A completed and correct OFSAA Hub eligibility lists must be submitted to the convenor and Athletic Coordinators one week prior to the start of the regular season for each District. The names of all potential players and coaches, and managers and/or others affiliated with a team must be included on the OFSAA Hub eligibility list. Each eligibility list is to clearly identify the head coach.

b) No competitor is eligible if he has signed with a major league baseball team.

# 7. League Structure

1. All teams, regardless of the number of participating schools, will play within one pool of single Round Robin Play over to course of 3 to 4 days. Each team will play 1 or 2 games on a given day based on the number of participating schools in the league.
2. Games will occur on Wednesdays with Mondays as possible rain dates. \*\*Note: Wednesdays were chosen to allow players the opportunity to play on multiple sport teams for their school.
3. Venues for the games will be determined by the participating schools. Recommended diamonds for the league would be but are not limited to:
	1. George Henry Diamond, Brantford
	2. Bill Little Hardball, Brantford
	3. Henning Park, Caledonia
	4. Simcoe Memorial Ball Diamond – A, Simcoe
4. The convenor will purchase and distribute game balls to each school and each school will provide two game balls for each game. (Rawlings 80cc)
5. Both teams are responsible for providing copies of their lineup card to i) The umpire ii) the other team’s coach. \*\*It is recommended that coaches use 3 – part line up cards to allow each team and the umpires to have a copy of their line – up.
6. Games are 7 innings subject to mercy rule (10 run lead after 5 or more complete innings OR 4.5 innings if home team is ahead. The only exception to this is if both coaches mutually agree to end the game before that point.)
7. A team must have 9 eligible players present or that team forfeits the game, and the score is recorded a 7-0. There will be a 15-minute grace period from the scheduled start time to field the necessary 9 players
8. 5-minute Infield warm-up is permitted if both teams are prepared and there is sufficient time between games.
9. No new inning to start after 1 hr. 30 min of game time.
10. Ties remain after 7 innings.
11. Both teams should keep score and pitch counts.
	1. Official Score Keeper: Home Team
	2. Official Pitch Counter: Away Team

j) Points: Win 2, Tie 1, Loss 0

# Game Results -

1. The **Home Team** must forward an original or electronic copy (eg. scanned) of the **score book** to the Convenor no later than the day following the game.
2. The **Away Team** must forward an original or electronic copy (eg. scanned) of the **pitch counts** to the Convenor no later than the day following the game.

1. The host school coach will provide the game results including top scorers to the media (e.g., newspaper, radio).

1. When communicating scores / pitch counts please send results to both the Convenor and Sport Director to allow for the most update the league standings / results throughout the season.

# 8. Championship Structure

1. If there are 6 – 8 teams in the regular season: All team will qualify for the playoffs.
	1. 5 Teams = 5 Team Single Elimination Bracket
	2. 6 Teams = 6 Team Single Elimination Bracket
	3. 7 Teams = 7 Team Single Elimination Bracket
	4. 8 Teams = 8 Team Single Elimination Bracket

\*\*\*Regardless of the number of teams, the higher seed will be home team.

1. If there are more than 8 teams in the regular season: The top 8 teams from the league standings will qualify for playoffs.
	1. 8 or More Teams = 8 Team Single Elimination Bracket

\*\*\*Regardless of the number of teams, the higher seed will be home team.

1. Teams will play maximum of 2 playoff games on a given day. (With preference to having finals on its own day).
2. Mercy rule applies in play-offs.
3. Semi-Finals: after 1:30 time limit or 7 innings, the game is considered final regardless of how many innings have passed. (Injury exception)
4. There is no time limit in the final game. If the game is tied after 7 innings, then the teams will start an inning with the last batter from previous inning on second base. Play continues until a winner is declared at the completion of an inning.

**9. Tie Breaking Procedure:**

Where a tie exists in league standings: The tie will be broken by:

1. If two (2) teams are tied at the end of the season for positions in the championship playoffs.
	1. Head-to-Head
	2. Run differential between the tied teams
	3. Least runs against between the tied teams in the game or games involving the tied teams.
	4. The most total wins during season play
	5. Least total Runs against (all games played)
	6. Run differential (all games played)

1. If three (3) teams are tied at the end of the season, the following criteria shall be applied to determine their rankings:

a. Head-to-Head

* 1. The team with the greater run differential (“runs for” minus “runs against”) among the three tied teams in league play, in games involving the tied teams only, shall receive the position.
	2. If still tied, then the team with the greatest run differential in all league games shall receive the position

# 10. Rules of the Game

We will be following the OFSSA Baseball Regulations along with the OBA rules (U18).

1. Regulation game is 4 innings not 5 in the event of weather (3.5 if home team is ahead).

1. Once a pitcher throws 41 or more pitches, they are ineligible to pitch the remainder of the day once removed from the pitching position. **\*\*\*OFSSA Baseball Playing Regulations.**
2. A pitcher, who pitches 105 pitches (maximum per day), must be removed.
3. A pitcher may pitch in the 2nd game of the day if they have not thrown over 40 pitches in the first game. If a player does pitch in two games in one day or on two consecutive days, days of rest required shall be calculated using the combined total of the number of pitches thrown.

i.e., Player A throws 40 pitches in game one, they can throw 65 pitches max in game two of the day or the next day.

**The following pitch counts are from the Arm Care Rules, Section RP2.11 from the Rep Rule Book – Special Playing Rules, 18U.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Pitches Thrown** | **Days of Rest** |
| 1 – 40 | None |
| 41 – 55 | 1 Day |
| 56 – 70 | 2 Days |
| 71 – 85 | 3 Days |
| 86 – 105 | 4 Days |
| 105 | Daily Max |

For the purpose of calculating days of rest, the day **after** the game is considered Day 1 of the rest period.

1. If Daily Max Limit is reached in the middle of an at bat, pitchers will be permitted to finish the batter but must be removed immediately after the batter is retired, the batter becomes a runner or the third out of the inning.
2. Once a player assumes the position of pitcher, they cannot catch for the remainder of the game / games completed in the day.
3. Once a player assumes the position of catcher, they cannot pitch for the remainder of the game / games completed in the day.
4. Re-entry: with the exception of the pitcher, each player may re-enter the game once. The opposing coach will select a re-substituted player for an injured player if necessary. Resubstituted players return to their place in the starting lineup batting order. Once a pitcher leaves the game or is put in another position, he cannot re-enter the game as a pitcher.
5. Each team will bat 9 or 10 players. The DH (designated hitter for the pitcher only) or EH (Extra Hitter) can be used in any game in regular season and playoffs. But a team **cannot** use both the DH and EH in the same game.
6. Catcher’s masks do not need throat protectors. Players or coaches warming up the pitcher must wear a mask and helmet. Batters and base runners must wear CSA approved helmet. Players must wear a protective cup at all times. Metal or molded spikes may be worn.
7. Players and coaches **wear matching team jerseys and hats.**
8. Wooden or composite bats only (not metal) with max diameter of 2 ⅝”.
9. Glasses / sunglasses are not prohibited, and therefore may be worn by any player, including the pitcher.
10. No visible jewelry is recommended for game play.
11. The umpire is responsible for suspending or terminating a game in progress due to field conditions or weather. If a game is suspended due to extreme weather before it is a regulation game, it will be replayed in its entirety.
12. Coaches are encouraged to get every player into the game especially during the regular season. The re-entry rule states that a player may return to the field/line-up after he has been substituted for. The substitute player may not re-enter the game after being replaced.
13. Umpires may eject players for unacceptable behavior. This includes, but is not limited to, the use of profanity, disrespect for umpires, coaches, players or fans, base runners maliciously contacting fielders, pitchers deliberately attempting to hit the batter and fighting. Any player or coach ejected from a game is automatically suspended for the next game. Further sanctions may occur following the AABHN board of reference.

# 11. Finances

1. Those schools having entries in the regular season will split costs evenly. Fees will be paid by the Association.

1. All schools making playoffs will pay bases on a per game cost basis.

1. Costs for finals will be split evenly among all league participating teams if gate is collected.

# 12. Awards

a) Team trophy for the league champions.