

Winnipeg AAA Baseball Association 2022 Information Guide (DRAFT)

<u>Division</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Games</u>	<u>Umpire Fees</u>		
	<u>Registration</u>		<u>Plate</u>	<u>Base</u>	<u>Solo</u>
13U	\$1,975	TBD	\$50	\$50	\$75
15U	\$2,625	TBD	\$55	\$55	\$83
18U	\$2,775	TBD	\$60	\$60	\$90
Affiliated team: Varies by age group and games played					

Note: For 13U division games, area associations are responsible for assigning and paying their own base umpires. WABA will assign and pay the plate umpire. In the case of a double header, the area association assigned umpire should be capable of working both plate and base.

Registration:

In 2022 clubs/regions will be using RAMP Interactive, Baseball Manitoba's new online registration system. For those regions, rosters will be created online directly with Baseball Manitoba and teams need to submit to WABA Conveners a completed **2022 WABA Roster for Division Conveners** described below.

For clubs/regions NOT adopting the RAMP Interactive system, follow instructions from Baseball Manitoba for providing the usual roster information in up-loadable form. Also fill out and submit to WABA Conveners a completed **2022 WABA Roster for Division Conveners** form.

Roster size must be 11-18 players. Up to 4 coaches/managers may be listed, as well as one or two designated Apprentice Coaches (see below).

2022 WABA Roster for Division Conveners:

Coaches must complete and then send this Excel file (template provided) to their age-division convener and WABA secretary before the start of the season. The form should include the name and jersey number of each player. Conveners must be informed immediately if any player changes their uniform number. This is to help ensure that pitch-count records are accurate.

Team Dress:

Team uniforms of the players, managers and coaches shall be matching and numbered. Any team jacket or wind shirt worn by coaches must be the same, include the team's logo and be consistent with the team's uniform.

Apprentice Coaches:

The apprentice coach program will apply for all divisions in 2022. Consult the Baseball Manitoba website or WABA Secretary Mike Anderson for details.

Protective Equipment:

1. A sports elbow brace worn by a pitcher must be covered by a sleeve and not distracting in any way.
2. The double earflap helmet is now required for all batters at all times.
3. Any player or coach, when crouching, must wear a mask, helmet and throat protector when warming up a pitcher. If they are standing, only a mask is required. Masks may be shared after being thoroughly disinfected between users, but it is advised that every user have their own mask.

Rules: WABA league play, WABA play-offs & Baseball Manitoba Provincial Championships

Pitching Rules – Section 8.01 – Canadian Content

WABA league play, WABA playoffs & Baseball Manitoba Provincial Championships – all age divisions

1. Any player on the team roster is eligible to pitch, and there are **no** restrictions on the number of pitchers used in a game.
2. Pitchers **are** permitted to have 2 appearances in the same calendar day but not in the same game or if a pitcher requires rest following the first appearance.
3. Pitchers are permitted to pitch on 2 consecutive days **if** their total pitch count does not exceed the first rest threshold on the first day, but their pitch count for the 2 days cannot exceed their maximum allowable daily limit. For example, if an 18 U player throws 30 pitches the maximum number of pitches the next day is 75.
4. Pitchers are permitted to pitch on 3 consecutive days if their total pitch count for the previous two days does not exceed the first rest threshold. Pitchers are allowed to throw the maximum daily limit of pitches on the third day. For example, if a 13U pitcher throws 15 pitches on the first day and 15 on the second, the maximum limit of 85 pitches can be thrown on the third day.
5. The home team scorekeeper will record the number of pitches thrown by each pitcher on the game sheet to be agreed to verbally by both head coaches. Both teams' pitch counters should communicate during games to avoid discrepancies. Pitch counts will be posted to the Baseball Manitoba Pitch Count App (see p. 5) by the designated Home Team Official.
6. Once a player has pitched, they may not catch for the remainder of the day.
7. Pitchers are allowed to finish the batter even if their maximum pitch limit for any threshold is exceeded during an at bat on the first or second day. The coach, however, must notify the umpire prior to the pitch count being exceeded. The pitch count then will be recorded as the maximum for that threshold limit. For a first day example, a 15U player has 50 pitches and the coach declares that this is the final batter. The pitcher finishes with 54 pitches, but only 50 are recorded. For a second day example, if an 18U pitcher threw 22 pitches the previous day and then 18 the next day, and the coach declares this is the last batter, the pitcher can finish the batter but only 40 pitches are recorded for the two days.
8. The intentional walk rule adopted by Baseball Canada now applies. The head coach notifies the umpire if the batter is to be intentionally walked. Any pitches thrown before the umpire is notified are included in the pitch count.
9. Required rest is defined in "days" starting at 12:01 AM and ending at 11:59 PM of the next day. If a game continues past 12:00 AM, those pitches are added to the total of the previous calendar day. If a game is suspended, when it resumes it is defined as a new day.
10. A pitcher removed from the mound cannot return to pitch in the same game, even if the pitcher is retained in the game in another position.
11. The manager or coach must ask the home plate umpire for permission to make a 2nd visit to the mound during the same at-bat to remove the pitcher from the game. If the manager or coach is not granted permission and makes a second visit during the same at-bat, they will be ejected from the game.
12. It is the responsibility of Team Management to adhere to the pitch count regulations. This is a safety issue. Failure to adhere to these guidelines may result in both forfeiture of the game and suspension of Team personnel.
13. Pitchers are limited to 8 warm up pitches when entering a game. For any additional innings, pitchers are limited to 5 warm up pitches that must be completed within 90 seconds after the last defensive player crosses the foul line at the end of an inning. Persistent violations of the time rule, in the judgment of the umpire, will result in the ejection of the manager (head coach).
14. Number of Pitches and Rest Requirements for pitchers in the 13U, 15U, and 18U Divisions are:

A) 13U Division

<u>Number of Pitches</u>	<u>Rest Required</u>
1 to 30	No rest period
31 to 45	1 day rest
46 to 60	2 days rest
61 to 75	3 days rest
76 to 85	4 days rest

Total allowed pitches in one day **85**

B) 15U Division

<u>Number of Pitches</u>	<u>Rest Required</u>
1 to 35	No rest period
36 to 50	1 day rest
51 to 65	2 days rest
66 to 80	3 days rest
81 to 95	4 days rest

Total allowed pitches in one day **95**

C) 18U Division

<u>Number of Pitches</u>	<u>Rest Required</u>
1 to 40	No rest period
41 to 55	1 day rest
56 to 70	2 days rest
71 to 85	3 days rest
86 to 105	4 days rest

Total allowed pitches in one day **105**

Prior to Baseball Manitoba Provincial Championships

Ensure you review the Baseball Canada Rule Book (Canadian Content)

Shoes – 13U

1. Shoes with metal cleats or “spikes” are prohibited in the 13U Division. Rubber moulded cleats on running shoes are permitted.

Length of Games

1. Regulation game is 7 innings.
2. Complete game is 5 innings, or 4.5 innings if home team is ahead.
3. Ten (10) run mercy rule applies after 5 innings or 4.5 innings if home team is ahead.
4. Tied games will play extra innings using the rules for extra inning play in Baseball Manitoba handbook and be continued until darkness.
5. Tied games that are called due to darkness or weather will be played to conclusion immediately prior to the next scheduled regular-season game between the two teams. WABA encourages the teams to consider an earlier start time to facilitate finishing the tied and following games.
6. If the two teams have no more regularly scheduled games during the season, the Age-Division Convener will declare the game a tie and record it as such in the standings.
7. If a game is called after the visiting team has taken the lead in the top half of an inning, that game will be suspended and completed when the teams next meet for a scheduled game, or at a later date approved by the Convener.

Bat Restrictions – 13U, 15U and 18U

1. In 13U metal (USSA -10) bats are allowed. Maximum barrel diameter is 2 ¾ inches.
2. Wood, wood composite, and metal (BBCOR (-3)) bats are allowed for both the 15U and 18U Divisions. Female players may continue to use metal (USSA -5) non-BBCOR bats.
3. Bat restrictions for all players apply to their team’s division and not to the player’s age.

Re-Entry Rule

1. The re-entry rule is in effect for all age divisions in WABA League play and WABA play-offs.

Designated and Extra Hitter Rules

1. The designated hitter rule applies only for 18U.
2. The extra-hitter rule is optional for teams in 13U and 15U only. An extra-hitter (EH) may be placed anywhere on the lineup card. The EH may be interchanged with any other position during the game and can be changed multiple times. The Re-entry Rule would apply for the EH and the team would continue to bat ten players.

Courtesy Runner for Catchers

1. During the WABA regular season and playoffs, teams in all age divisions may use a substitute runner for catchers when 2 outs have been recorded. The runner must be someone not currently in the game offensively or defensively (must be a substitution). For a team with only 9 players (or 10 if using the EH/DH) the player who made the latest out will be used
2. If a team is not using a courtesy runner and the catcher is on base for the last out of the inning, or is the last out of the inning, the defensive team must use a backup player or coach to warm up the pitcher while the catcher dresses in protective gear. Umpires will be enforcing the 90 second transition rule between innings.

Use of Temporary Players

1. During the WABA regular season and play-offs teams may use a temporary player (TP) from their own Area Association only. These players must be on a lower (younger) age "AAA" team or on a "AA" or "A" team from the same age group. In order to use a TP the team must first get permission from the coach of the player's regular team. Failure to do so will result in that player being ineligible for future use as a TP. Temporary players from the same age group (e.g., 15U AA players at 15U AAA) are allowed to pitch, but not from a lower age group (e.g., 13U AAA players may not pitch at 15U AAA). AAA coaches who intend to pitch a TP must get permission from that player's home coach.
2. Temporary players may play an unlimited number of games.
3. In order to be eligible for the Baseball Manitoba provincial championship, however, the player must be on the team's roster.
4. Temporary players must be identified on the lineup card as follows:
 - I. TP-M for 18U AA or A players
 - II. TP-B for 15U AA or A players
 - III. TP-P for 13U AA or A players.

This is to ensure that the umpires and opposing coaches know which players are temporary and which are allowed to pitch.

5. Temporary players must be registered through their home team with Baseball Manitoba.

Coaching Accreditation (Baseball Manitoba Handbook Section 5.03)

1. Baseball Manitoba coaching accreditation rules apply.
2. All coaches must have taken "Respect In Sport".

League Operations:

Game Sheets and Results

1. Game sheets must be agreed to by a coach from each team; signing is NOT required. Umpires are NOT required to sign game sheets.
2. Game sheets must document the official score, innings played, pitching records, any temporary players, the date and site of the game, and any player or coach ejections.
3. The **home** team must e-mail the game sheet to the Age-Division Convener within 24 hours of completion of the game. Pitching records must include the full name and uniform number of each pitcher. The head coach must appoint a Team Official (assistant coach, manager, scorekeeper etc.) to be responsible for the submission of game results.
4. The Team Official will enter the score, within 24 hours, on the Baseball Manitoba AAA website using the following procedures:

1. Go to: <https://www.aaabaseballmanitoba.ca/>
2. Scroll to the bottom of the home page and click "Admin Login"
3. Enter username and password
4. On the left hand menu, click "League Games"
5. Find the appropriate game and click the GREEN square Game Sheet icon (looks like a pencil). Please note that only home teams can enter scores, as the Game Sheet icon only appears for each team's home games.
6. Enter Home Score; Enter Visitor Score
7. Check off "Game is Finished"
8. Click "Submit"
9. Scroll back to the top of the page and click BLUE "Roster" button
10. Select all players by clicking the top check box above for both the HOME and AWAY rosters.
11. Click "Submit"
12. Scroll back to the top of the page and click BLUE "Pitch Count" button
13. Add the Jersey Number and Number of Pitches for each pitcher in the game.
14. Click "Submit"
15. Scores and pitch counts should now show up on the front-end of the website.

5. Conveners will monitor the Games Results page to ensure accuracy. If, as a visiting team, you notice errors, please contact your Age-Division Convenir.

6. **Baseball Manitoba Pitch Count App (NEW FOR 2022 SEASON)**

- Baseball Manitoba has developed a Pitch Count App for 2022. Pitch Count books will NOT be available this year, as we fully transition to the App.
- The Baseball Manitoba Pitch Count app is a new, free tool for coaches. Use this mobile app to easily keep track of every pitch thrown in a game and view statistics from other Manitoba teams. To download the app search "Baseball Manitoba pitch count app" in the App Store for iPhone users and Google Play App Store for Android users.
- **Teams may still use pitch count booklets to track pitches, but all teams are now required to submit their pitch counts through the app. Pitch count booklets are no longer being distributed but printable/downloadable pitch count forms are available at www.baseballmanitoba.ca/forms.**
- **Home teams will be responsible for entry of pitch counts with verification from the visiting team. All team rosters will be automatically uploaded to the app from the RAMP registration system.**
- The Baseball Manitoba website provides helpful tutorials for using the app, and more information will be provided to coaches.

Baseballs

1. Official game ball is the Rawlings R100 or ROML for all divisions.
2. The Rawlings ROMC ball is acceptable for the 13UAAA division.

Game Cancellations

1. If games are cancelled due to weather, lack of a diamond or field conditions, the Home Team must immediately notify the opposing coach and the Umpire Assignor (minimum 90 minutes before game time). Failure to do so may result in umpire fees being charged to your team. Then advise your age-division convenir.
2. Where 13U teams supply their own base umpires, also make sure to advise your local Umpire Assignor.
3. Any team wishing to cancel a game because they are entering a tournament (or related event) must do so 7 days prior to the scheduled game. If they fail to do so the following will apply:
 - a) The team will be fined \$200.

- b) The opposing team will be given the right to reschedule the game at their convenience and at their park.
 - c) If the rescheduled game is not played it will result in default.
- 4. The new Baseball Canada Severe Weather Policy will be enforced. Games will be stopped at the first sound of thunder and will not resume until 30 minutes after the last sound of thunder. Check the Baseball Canada brochure for more details.

Rescheduling Cancelled Games (Home Team)

1. Confer with the other team, check with the Umpire Assignor for Umpire availability, and reschedule as soon as possible.
2. If game is not rescheduled within seven (7) days, it can be rescheduled by the Division Convenor.

Regular Season Standings

1. Final League standing will be based on points; 2 points for a win, 1 for a tie. Teams must strive to complete all the games on their schedules. Depending on the balance of the game schedule between Zone 1 and Zone 2 teams, games between Zone 1 and Zone 2 may not count towards final standings. Please confirm with your age convener the policy for the regular season.

Extra inning game procedure

1. If a game is tied after the completion of regulation innings, Rule 2.1.7 in the Baseball Canada rule book (Rule 4.06.08 in the Baseball Manitoba Handbook) will be implemented.

WABA Playoffs

1. Playoffs are as printed on the schedule, but changes can be made by the Division Convenor.
2. Re-Entry Rules for all divisions, Extra-Hitter Rules for 13U and 15U only, and Designated-Hitter Rules for 18U only, are in effect for WABA playoffs.
3. All umpires are assigned and paid by WABA.
5. Home teams need to provide game sheets.

Baseball Manitoba Provincial Championships

- 13UAAA Tier 1 / Tier 2 @ Altona from July 29th – July 31st, 2022
- 15UAAA Tier 1 / Tier 2 @ Brandon from July 29th – July 31st, 2022
- 18UAAA Tier 1 / Tier 2 @ Charleswood Park (Winnipeg) from July 22nd– July 24th, 2022

***** TIMING, LOCATION AND FORMAT OF WABA PLAYOFFS AND BASEBALL MANITOBA PROVINCIALS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE BASED ON COVID-19 REGULATIONS. WE ASK THAT ALL AAA PLAYERS AND PARENTS BE PREPARED FOR ANY CHANGES THAT MAY OCCUR *****

Player Transfers / Releases

1. WABA will recognize all releases granted by an Area Association President.
2. When a player is refused a release by his Area Association President, WABA will consider, but not necessarily grant the request if the following apply:
 - a) The player attended his area tryout and was cut / not selected for the team.
 - b) Another area has indicated their willingness to place him on their team.
3. The President of WABA has power to grant the release.
4. This WABA transfer/release will apply for one season only but may be extended by mutual agreement of the donor and recipient Area Associations.
4. The transfer/release only applies to WABA play.
5. To be eligible for the Baseball Manitoba Provincial AAA Championship the transferred player must apply to Baseball Manitoba.
6. Transfers between Zone 1 and Zone 2 are also allowed, conditional on obtaining the required releases and filing a completed transfer form with Baseball Manitoba.

Coaches, Players and Umpires

1. WABA supports and encourages a respectful environment for all players, coaches, and officials who participate in our games, and we insist that any disagreements that arise be resolved in a respectful and civil manner.
2. If a team has any concerns about the proficiency or conduct of any of our umpires, these should be raised privately, in writing, by the Head Coach of the team with the WABA Umpire in Chief who will then determine what additional training or mentoring is warranted for that official.
3. WABA will deal with discipline issues according to the attached WABA 2022 Discipline Policy.
4. When a coach or player is ejected, umpires will notify the official scorer to record their names on the game sheet along with the inning and number of outs when the ejection occurred. A report by the umpire with other details will then be sent to the Umpire-in-Chief and the Age-Division Convener.