

2023 COBA RULE CHANGES

*As Voted At February 13, 2023 Meeting
Presented as Summary at April 24 Rep Coaches Meeting*

Rules applicable to COBA sanctioned games only. Refer to On Deck App for Baseball Ontario Rule Changes. Know which rule set you are playing under.

- 2023-05 Once a player assumed the pitching position, they may not catch for the remainder of the day. Once a player assumes the catching position, they may not pitch for the remainder of the day. (Also applies to Select)
- 2023-08 Once a player is removed from pitching position, they may not return to pitch in that game. Exception: A pitcher who is substituted for offensively by either a pinch hitter or a pinch runner may return to pitch in the next defensive inning so long as no other player has pitched for the team in the interim.
- 2023-09 If a team runs out of eligible pitchers, the game is a forfeit.
- 2023-10 At Rookie Ball, outfielders are to position themselves at least 15 feet beyond the base paths or on the outfield grass, whichever is closer.
- 2023-12 Ohtani Rule (Player may be both the starting pitcher and starting DH with ability for team to substitute for either role without affecting the other role. Applicable to 16U, 18U, 22U.
- 2023-14 Ending of 10U/11U games:
- COBA games will be scheduled for 6 innings.
 - Game ends when a full inning has been completed. If time limit passes during an inning, that inning is the last inning.
 - If last inning starts 15 minutes or more before the time limit, 4 run maximum applies. (No 8 Run max)
 - If last inning starts with less than 15 minutes before the time limit, 8 run maximum applies.
 - Once last inning is declared, no other new inning may commence.
 - COBA 2 hour no new inning, and 2 hour 15 minute drop dead still apply at 10U/11U

Other Notes:

- Consistent minimum now applicable for umpire fees for COBA Qualifiers. Anything above minimum would be responsibility of host team.
- Minimum of 60% games participation required to qualify a player for COBA Qualifiers

- Appeal \$100
- Mercy for 9 inning games now 10 after 5 (or 4 ½ if Home is Ahead)
- Time Limit for 8U & 9U - No new inning after 2 hours, Drop Dead at 2 hours and 15 minutes.
- Teams playing up a level may still qualify for their age level for COBA.

Pitch Count Comments

- Know the limits for your division (Limits change annually)
- The Head Coach is responsible for the pitchers abiding by the rules regardless of who is keeping the pitch count
- Penalties remain severe for violations
- Uploads of pitch counts need to be done after games