



Weyburn Minor Baseball

Operating Rules and Guidelines

November 2018

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Organizational Rules – General

- Weyburn Minor Baseball shall be governed by the Saskatchewan Baseball Association (SBA) and Baseball Canada rules and regulations unless otherwise provided.
- The fees will be assessed each year by the Baseball Executive after the Directors have prepared a budget for the upcoming season.
- Players may only register for one team.
- Team rosters in all Divisions must carry a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 16 players for the season unless prior permission has been received from their Baseball Division Head to carry fewer or greater than this number. The only exception to this rule shall be the Learn to Play and Rally Cap Division (Junior and Senior) which may have teams of less than 10 players as determined by the Division Head.
- A final roster must be established by Saskatchewan Baseball registration day (May 15th). Prior to this date a player may be added or deleted.
- The Baseball Executive will determine each year the process to be used to conduct evaluations and to establish the number of teams at the AAA, AA and A level based on player registrations in each given year.
- Players registering with may be required to produce a birth certificate and/or proof of address which would accompany the registration form. After the SBA registration day (May15th), only those players properly registered with Weyburn

Minor Baseball may participate in Weyburn Minor Baseball scheduled games and tournament games.

10.6 The following applies to out of zone players wishing to play on Weyburn Minor Baseball teams:

10.6.1 The process for obtaining approval to play on Weyburn Minor Baseball teams is as follows:

10.6.2 The player must first request and obtain a written release from the SBA through the SBA Zone Governor for the Zone in which they reside.

10.6.3 The player must then forward a copy of the release to the President of Weyburn Minor Baseball, along with confirmation of their age, permanent address and reason for requesting to play with Weyburn Minor Baseball; and

10.6.4 All releases should be forwarded to the Weyburn Minor Baseball President by April 25th.

10.6.5 Upon receipt of the release, the Weyburn Minor Baseball Board will confirm placement.

10.6.6 The limit for import players on travel teams are as follows
Mosquito(11U) - 2
Pee Wee(13U) - 3
Bantam(15U) - 4
Midget(18U) - 5

10.6.7 A player is not considered an import after playing 2 consecutive seasons in Weyburn

10.7 All players must play within the division specified for their year of birth, except for the following exceptions:

10.7.1 Players in their first year of Mosquito may be allowed to stay in Senior Rally Cap based on their parent's &/or Division Head's opinion.

10.7.2 Female players may, at the discretion of the Division Head of the division their birth date would put them in, be allowed to play one year below their birth year, but may not play at a AAA level. (Ex. a female player who would be first year PeeWee may play in the Mosquito AA or A Division.)

10.7.3 Any other exceptions to the above must be specifically approved by the Weyburn Minor Baseball Board.

10.8 Weyburn Minor Baseball shall advertise for or select the coach for every team in every division (Weyburn Minor Baseball also reserves the right to request applications):

10.8.1 A Coaching Selection Committee, which will include the President, 1 Board Member and 2 non board members, shall be formed for each age division to make all coaching selections for each season.

10.8.2 In the case of a conflict of interest with the president of Baseball, the president of Minor Ball will take his/her place

10.8.3 Each Coaching Selection Committee shall make coaching selection recommendations based on criteria and guidelines as established by the Board.

10.8.4 Each Division Head shall present their coaching selection recommendations to the Weyburn Minor Baseball Board for approval.

10.8.5 Each team will consist of one head coach, a minimum of one assistant coach and one Manager/Treasurer. The Manager/Treasurer shall volunteer or be elected by the parents from the parent group and shall not be one of the coaching staff.

- All teams shall account for all money used and spent on their team's behalf and submit a Financial Statement of their operations to the parents or guardians of their team each month, as well as a final statement upon season completion. A copy of such statements must be provided to Weyburn Minor Baseball if requested.

•Coaches must see that all players participate on a fair and equitable basis. Coaches deemed by Weyburn Minor Baseball to have not followed the minimum play rules for their division are subject to a one game suspension for their first violation to be served the first game after notification of such suspension. Subsequent violations will result in further suspensions.

10.9 Tryout Policy

Coaches must hold tryouts. Tryout date and times must be publically posted and tryouts must be held unless approved by the baseball executive.

- **Below is vital information to understand. It is very difficult on the coaches, players & parents to have players attend the tryouts that are not committed to the time requirement for that level. A player MUST be able to commit to the time frame of the level for which they are selected:**

A - Recreational level of play

Games in Weyburn and within approximately 100km of Weyburn

Games/Practices 2-3X/week

One to two tournaments during the season plus playoffs

Season done by the end of June

AA - Developmental, competitive level of play

Games in Weyburn & around southern Saskatchewan (Estevan, Swift Current, Melville)

Travel 2-4 times per season to a distance of 2 hours from Weyburn (Pee Wee, Bantam, and Midget)

Games/Practices 3-4X/week

Two to three tournaments during the season plus provincials

Season ends approx. mid July

AAA - Competitive level of play

Games in Weyburn & around Saskatchewan (Estevan, Swift Current, Melville, Saskatoon)

For Midget games will be in and within 2.5 to hours of Weyburn

Games/Practices 4-5X/week

Three to four tournaments during the season

Provincials occur late July or early August. Pending success at Provincials, Westerns can take the season to mid-late August.

- Practices after tryouts must be arranged by the coach with the Weyburn Minor Baseball Scheduler.
- If a team does not have nine (9) or more players available for a league game or a league play-off game, substitute players may be called up (AP) from a lower level

of the same division or from a lower division to fill the roster. Coaches of the lower level team MUST be contacted to request permission to call up or AP a player (see point #18 below for AP rules).

- **AP Rules (calling up a player):**

- Players will be allowed to AP a maximum of 2 steps higher than their current level Ex. Mosquito AA can play as high as Pee Wee A
- Each team will be assigned 4 AP players based on their evaluation ratings.
- In the event no AP player affiliated with the team is available, the team representative can ask for special permission from the division director to call up a player who is not designated as AP. Rule 19.1 still applies.
- In the event a non-AP player is needed, the player cannot be borrowed from a team in the same division and level. For example, a player from one Bantam A team cannot play on another Bantam A team.

Game Rules – General

- All league games shall be governed by the Baseball Saskatchewan Association (SBA) and Baseball Canada rules and regulations unless otherwise provided.
- Coaches shall clearly print names and numbers on score sheets which shall be exchanged at the home plate meeting prior to the start of every game. Coaches are responsible for correctly completing game sheets.

- Any player or coach ejected from a game shall immediately move to an area designated by the umpire. This ejection will be dealt with according to the Weyburn Minor Baseball's Code of Conduct (see Appendix A) and Code of Discipline (see Appendix B) and may result in suspension.

Weyburn Minor Baseball reserves the right to reference and utilize Baseball Sask's procedures for dealing with ejections and possible sanctions:

<http://www.baseballsask.ca/programs/nocp-umpires/online-ejection-yellow-card-sanction-reports>

Baseball Sask may launch an investigation with possible repercussions based on the severity of the infraction.

- All protests must be submitted in writing to the President of Weyburn Minor Baseball within 48 hours of the action in question. The Baseball Protest Committee, which is to be formed by the President of Baseball, will make a ruling on all protests.
- Weyburn Minor Baseball reminds all coaches that it follows the Canada Baseball Rules which states:

field THAT the use of all tobacco products, including smokeless tobacco, by all on-field participants (players, coaches, managers, umpires etc.) are prohibited at all competitions sanctioned by Baseball Canada, PENALTY: Automatic ejection from the game.

- Coaches are responsible for the conduct and discipline of both players and fans and may impose reasonable sanctions. This can include sanctions for missing practices or games.
- Starting time for all evening games shall be 6/6:15 p.m. (LTP-Bantam). Exception: Games and doubleheader games under the lights.
- No inning shall begin after 8:15 p.m. before June 1st and 8:30 p.m. thereafter. However, the umpire may adjust these times in the interests of safety. (Mosquito-Bantam). Exception: Games and doubleheader games under the lights.
- Weyburn Minor Baseball will follow a 4° at 4 p.m. rule. Coaches/Managers will be responsible for assessing the temperature from a common weather source and if

the temperature is 4° C or lower at 4 p.m., a cancellation notice will be emailed to your team by your Coach/Manager (Rally Cap-Bantam).

- In the event a game is rained out or cancelled, the coach of the home team shall be responsible for rescheduling the game with the visiting team by contacting the Weyburn Minor Baseball Scheduler for diamond availability.
- **For weekend doubleheader games: (Mosquito-Bantam):**
 - Games shall be scheduled 3 hours apart (typically at 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m.)

when
12.2 For doubleheader games (same two teams playing both games), and only there are no games scheduled on the same diamond after the doubleheader, there shall be no time limit on either game. Ex. both games shall be played to be a complete game as per the definition of a complete game for that age division.

12.3 For any weekend games (including both games of a doubleheader), when there is another game scheduled to follow on the same diamond, no new inning shall start 2 hours and 30 minutes after the scheduled start time. In the case of a doubleheader with a third game scheduled following the doubleheader, both doubleheader games shall use the “no new inning after 2 hours and 30 minutes” rule. Note: Two back to back games for one team, where the second game involves a different opponent, is not considered a doubleheader – in this case the 2 hour and 30 minute time limit rule will also apply for the first game. (Mosquito-Bantam)

- The pitching rules of SBA will apply.
- SBA substitution rules will apply.
- A courtesy runner may be allowed for the catcher with two out to allow the catcher to put on his/her equipment, thereby speeding up the games.
- Weyburn Minor Baseball follows the Baseball Canada rule requiring catchers in all age categories to wear a protective helmet with throat protector and mask while catching.

NOTE: This includes practice and warm-up situations such as the bullpen or between innings. Coaches must wear at least a mask in all warm-up situations.

- The primary rule of Weyburn Minor Baseball is that all aspects of FAIR PLAY must be observed. Coaches shall endeavor to treat all members of their teams with fairness to ensure the development of players in the best spirit and traditions of baseball.
- In the event that an AA or A team does not have at least nine players, the game will NOT be automatically forfeited for that reason. Teams may play out the game with the end result being the official result. Any AAA team not having at least nine (9) players by 30 minutes past the official game start time shall forfeit the game. Nonetheless, the game may be played for practice purposes with the consent of both coaches, and shall still utilize the scheduled umpires. (Mosquito-Bantam)
- Teams listed on the schedule as the home team shall provide the official scorekeeper for that game. Teams listed on the schedule as the visiting team shall provide the official pitch count tracker for that game. The home team coach or manager will be responsible for reporting the game score to Baseball Regina. Failure to report scores may result in a team being ineligible for league playoffs. (Mosquito-Bantam)
- Weyburn Minor Baseball will follow Baseball Regina Rules and Regulations for league play-offs, which are: teams must have played 60% of a full schedule (different for each Division); if not, games will be counted as a LOSS, until the 60% mark is met. After making this adjustment, placing will be made according to win-loss percentage and ties count at .5 of a win. (Mosquito – Bantam). The league play-offs shall be run in a 2 game guarantee format – this is not a full tournament. (Mosquito-Bantam)

Rally Cap Division

Please note game plan changes for JUNIOR RALLY CAP- APPENDIX C

The objective of this division is to introduce the game of baseball to young players while making it safe, interesting and fun. Our program offers a wide flexibility for placement based on age and skill at this level. We find the best fit for a starting player to develop. Although some of the rules are not traditional rules we are familiar with, at this age tradition is not the primary concern. The opportunity for the players to learn the basic fundamentals of the game in a safer environment while having fun and improving their skills is the primary concern. Hitting, fielding and running the bases are the primary reasons children want to play baseball and this program allows them to do that.

The following rules apply to the **Rally Cap Division** (differences between Junior Rally Cap and Senior Rally Cap, as indicated):

- **AGE OF PARTICIPANTS:**

- 1.1 Junior Rally Cap – 6 years as of Dec 31st of the current year

- 1.2 Senior Rally Cap – 7 and 8 years as of Dec 31st of the current year

- 1.3 Players in their final year of Rally Cap that wish to move up to Mosquito may request transfer:

- a) If division is already full with appropriate aged players, the request will be denied
 - b) Players must evaluate (at minimum) the AA level or be returned to Rally Cap unless players are needed to fill teams at A level.
 - c) If there are only 2 spots available but more than 2 players evaluate top 2 rated, players will get the spot.

- **ROSTER:**

- Junior Rally Cap: 8 to 10 players per team

- Senior Rally Cap: 8 to 10 players per team

- **EQUIPMENT:**

- 3.1 Pitching machine

- 3.2 Two ball baskets (one at the machine and one at the catcher)

- 3.3 Two dozen pitching machine balls

- 3.4 Bats

3.5 Catcher Equipment

- **SPEED OF PITCH:**

4.1 Junior Rally Cap - approximately 38 - 40 miles per hour

4.2 Senior Rally Cap - approximately 41 - 43 miles per hour.

- **FIELD DIMENSIONS:**

5.1 60 foot base paths

5.2 Pitching machine at 40 - 42 feet

5.3 The infield shall begin two (2) feet outside the baselines.

- **LENGTH OF GAME:**

6.1 Junior Rally Cap: Games should be preceded by 30 minutes of practice (throwing, catching, batting and fun games). Games should be maximum of three innings (90 minutes time limit, in total)

6.2 Senior Rally Cap: Six innings, or 90 minute time limit. It is expected that practices would be held outside of scheduled game times.

6.3 No new inning shall be started after 1.5 hours of play.

- **BATTING:**

7.1 Junior Rally Cap: All players shall bat every inning. Each batter shall receive five (5) hittable pitches, including foul balls. If the ball has not been hit, the batter will advance to first base.

7.2 Senior Rally Cap: All players will be listed on the batting order, and the half inning is over after three outs. Prior to June 1st each batter shall receive five (5) hittable pitches, including foul balls. The batter is out after the 5 pitches if he has not hit. After June 1st the batter is out after three strikes. The batter can only advance to first base on a hit and cannot be walked.

7.3 Players shall wear batting helmets at all times when batting and running the bases.

- **DEFENSIVE ALIGNMENTS:**

8.1 Junior Rally Cap: All players will play each defensive inning

8.2 Senior Rally Cap: Nine (9) players will play each defensive inning.

- **OTHER RULES:**

9.1 Junior Rally Cap: No stealing of base is allowed on pass balls or on overthrows.

9.2 Senior Rally Cap: Batter / runner or runners allowed only one base on an overthrow

9.3 No "infield fly rule" or "bunting".

9.4 Only one base will be allowed on a ball which hits the pitching machine.

9.5 The advance of base runners shall halt as soon as the ball enters the infield. The ball does not have to be caught or touched by an infielder.

9.6 All players are to try every position at least once during the season.

9.7 Junior & Senior will have a minimum of one (1) and preferably two (2) Rally Cap events where players will demonstrate their Rally Cap skill levels. There will also be year end, fun day tournament in late June.

- **SCORING:**

10.1 Junior Rally Cap: No scores will be kept.

10.2 Senior Rally Cap: Scores will be kept, by an official scorekeeper. There is a maximum of 6 runs per inning.

- **NO PROTESTS.**

Mosquito Division

The following rules apply to the **Mosquito Division**:

- Games shall be 6 innings long.
- During league play, no more than six (6) runs may be scored by a team in one inning (in the event of an 'over the fence' home run, all runs will count).
- With the exception of AA, all batters will start with a 1 Ball and 1 Strike count
- Any team that is 10 runs up after 4 innings shall win that game; however the game may be continued for practice purposes with the consent of both coaches.
- During league games, league tournaments and league playoffs, all players listed on the team roster shall bat.
- Unlimited defensive substitution allowed as per the following:

5.1 Every player must play at least 2 defensive innings in the first 4 innings of a game.
(Violations subject to discipline - see 2.15)

5.2 A pitcher removed from the mound may play in another position, but shall not be permitted to return to pitch in the same game.

- All defensive substitutions shall retain their batting positions.
- There is no leading off. A base runner must stay in contact with the base until the pitched ball crosses the plate. Penalties as per Baseball Canada – Official Rules of Baseball.
- Pitching limits as per SBA Pitch Count Rules
- Curve balls are not allowed. Umpires will call a curve ball a “ball”.
- Coaches are responsible for the discipline and conduct of their players and may impose reasonable sanctions. This can include sanctions for missing practices or games.
- For the “A” Division only, the pitching distance can be reduced to 40 feet for player, runners can only advance one (1) base on an overthrow and must be hit home or forced in by a walk.

- For the “AA” Division, no player can steal home on a passed ball between the pitcher and catcher. (In “AAA” Division players can steal home on a passed ball).
- During league games, league tournaments, and league playoffs, bunting will not be allowed.

Pee Wee Division

The following rules apply to the **Pee Wee Division**:

- Games shall be 7 innings for AAA, and 6 innings for AA and A.
- During league play, no more than eight (8) runs may be scored by a team in one inning (in the event of an ‘over the fence’ home run, all runs will count).
- Any team that is 10 runs up after 5 innings shall win that game; however the game may be continued for practice purposes with the consent of both coaches.
- During league games, all players listed on the team roster shall bat. This rule shall also apply for League Playoffs and Baseball Regina tournaments for “A”, “AA” and “AAA” divisions.
- Unlimited substitution is allowed, except for the pitching position. A pitcher removed from the mound may play in another position, but shall not be permitted to return to pitch in the same game.
- Every player must play at least 2 defensive innings in the first 4 innings of a game during league play, league tournaments, and league playoffs. This is not enforced for 9-man ball at Provincials, Westerns or Nationals.
- All defensive substitutions shall retain their batting positions.
- Pitching rules as per SBA Pitch Count Rules.
- Coaches are responsible for the discipline and conduct of their players and may impose reasonable sanctions. This can include sanctions for missing practices or games.

Bantam Division

The following rules apply to the **Bantam Division**:

- Games shall be 7 innings long.
- Metal cleats are allowed.
- During league play, no more than eight (8) runs may be scored by a team in one inning (in the event of an 'over the fence' home run, all runs will count).
- Any team that is 10 runs up after 5 innings shall win that game; however the game may be continued for practice purposes with the consent of both coaches.
- During league games, all players listed on the team roster shall bat. This rule shall also apply for League Playoffs and Baseball Regina tournaments for "A", "AA" and "AAA" divisions.
- Unlimited substitution is allowed, except for the pitching position. A pitcher removed from the mound may play in another position, but shall not be permitted to return to pitch in the same game.
- Every player must play at least 2 defensive innings in the first 5 innings of a game during league play, league tournaments, and league playoffs. This is not enforced for 9 man ball at Provincials, Westerns or Nationals.
- All defensive substitutions shall retain their batting positions.
- Pitching limits as per SBA Pitch Count Rules.
- All AAA teams shall use wood bats. All AA & A teams shall use bats with a minimum – 3 weight / length differential for all league games, league tournaments & league playoffs.

- Coaches are responsible for the discipline and conduct of their players and may impose reasonable sanctions. This can include sanctions for missing practices or games.

Midget Division

The following rules apply to the **Midget Division**:

- Games shall be 7 innings long.
- Any team that is 10 runs up after 5 innings shall win that game.
- Games follow 9 man ball no re-entry rules as per Canada Baseball rules.
- Metal cleats are allowed.
- All teams shall use wood bats.
- All game rules will be determined and enforced by the Saskatchewan Premiere Baseball League for AA and AAA. Single A is governed by Baseball Regina.
- Weyburn Minor Baseball is committed to fair play. No one player shall sit out 2 consecutive league games (with the exception of medical or disciplinary reasons).
- Coaches are responsible for the discipline and conduct of their players and may impose reasonable sanctions. This can include sanctions for missing practices or games.

Rules and Regulations Governing Conflict Resolutions and Appeals

- If an altercation occurs between two (2) or more parties as a result of Weyburn Minor Baseball activities and is reported to Weyburn Minor Baseball, the President of Baseball (or their designate) shall notify the Board within one (1) day of the report of the altercation. The Board shall meet to investigate, conduct interviews with parties involved, discuss the situation and come to a conclusion.
- The decision of the Board shall be rendered in written or electronic form to the parties involved within seven (7) calendar days of the notification from the President of Baseball (or their designate). The letter shall also contain the correct procedure to be followed should one or more of the parties wish to appeal the decision. **The appeal procedure shall be as follows:**

- A written or electronic letter is to be sent to the President of Baseball within five (5) days of the date of receipt of the written or electronic letter. The letter shall contain the name of the President of Baseball.

2.2 The President of Baseball shall set up an appeal committee consisting of three (3) impartial individuals to hear the appeal within three (3) days of the receipt of the letter of appeal.

- The appeal shall be heard at a location that is neutral to all parties concerned.

2.4 Witnesses shall be obtained from all parties and shall be contacted if the appeals committee should need additional information to render a fair decision.

2.5 A written or electronic letter stating the decision of the appeal committee shall be sent to the President of Baseball within seven (7) calendar days, who shall in turn, forward the decision to the appellant, with copies being sent to

the other involved parties, Baseball Regina, the Baseball Saskatchewan Association, the Board, and the umpire Coordinator.

2.6 The decision of the appeal committee shall be final and binding.

Appendix A - Code of Conduct

Every member* with Weyburn Minor Baseball is expected to represent themselves, their team, and Weyburn Baseball in an appropriate manner. Any behavior that is determined to be inappropriate is reason for and may lead to expulsion from Weyburn Minor Baseball without refund of fees for the remainder of the season.

Weyburn Minor Baseball Executive members reserve the right to implement disciplinary measures.

All members are to respect the rules, their fellow teammates, coaches, opponents and officials at all baseball functions in which they are participants.

All parents/guardians are to observe a 24-hour waiting period before contacting the team Parent Liaison, Coach, Team or league officials with any complaint.

All members are to not use profane language, ridicule or speak in a derogatory fashion or use physical violence at any time while representing Weyburn Minor Baseball.

All members are to not question the game official's judgment or honesty, only the head coach has the ability to question an official.

If a conflict arises at the team level between a parent/guardian, athlete and coach that cannot be resolved, the first form of resolution will be a meeting between the parent/guardian, team Parent Liaison, and Coach. Should there be no resolution to the issue, the parent/guardian or coach must provide a written complaint to Weyburn Minor Baseball and request a meeting with the team Parent Liaison and the Division Head.

All written complaints will be dealt with according to Weyburn Minor Baseball's By-Laws.

Unsportsmanlike behavior is taken very seriously by Weyburn Minor Baseball. Weyburn Minor Baseball shall utilize the Code of Discipline to manage unsportsmanlike behavior.

* Member includes all players, their families and coaches.

Appendix B - Code of Discipline

- Applies to all season play.

a) If Weyburn Minor Baseball finds that the behavior of the player or coach warrants a more stringent suspension, they can change the suspension accordingly.

b) Weyburn Minor Baseball may investigate ejections and as a result of that investigation determine if an ejection will count towards the Minimum Suspension levels below.

c) Coaches are responsible for knowing and following the Weyburn Minor Baseball Code of Discipline.

d) All player and coach ejections in league, tournament and exhibition games must be dealt with immediately by the coach, and reported to the Division Head within 48 hours of the ejection or before the next scheduled game, whichever is earlier. Coaches failing to notify the Division Head are subject to suspension.

e) Coaches must inform the opposing coaches that a player is suspended. Any players on suspension are expected to attend the game(s) but are not allowed to interact with their team and must remain in the stands.

f) Failure of a coach to sit a suspended player will result in forfeiture of the game and suspension of the coach that allowed the suspended player to play.

Minimum Coach Suspensions: [taking into account b) and c) above]

One coach ejection – No action from Weyburn Minor Baseball

Two coach ejections - Automatic suspension from the next scheduled game*

Three coach ejections – Automatic suspension of the coach for the remainder of the season**

Minimum Player Suspensions: [taking into account b) and c) above]

One player ejection – No action from Weyburn Minor Baseball

Two player ejections – Automatic suspension from play at the next scheduled game.*

Three player ejections - An automatic suspension from play for the next three scheduled games.*

Four player ejections – An automatic suspension for the remainder of the season**

Once a game ejection has been applied the player or coach is on probation. Probation will be for the remainder of the season, including playoffs.

Good Behavior Clause: Should a player or coach go 30 days without ejection from a game, then one ejection is eliminated from their record. For example: If a player gets their first ejection on June 1st and does not get ejected from a game until July 2nd or after, then this next ejection would be considered his first.

* Regardless of whether the next game is during a tournament, a double-header or league game.

** Suspended until further review by Weyburn Minor Baseball

