

Mosquito Division House Rules (Spring)

The Mosquito division will be divided into two Leagues—American and National Leagues. The rules below are for both divisions unless otherwise stated.

GENERAL RULES:

1. Uniforms and Equipment.
 - a. Full uniform and hats must be worn to all games.
 - b. Jersey must be tucked in.
 - c. It is mandatory that all players wear an athletic supporter.
 - d. Base runners, batter, and on-deck batter must wear batting helmets with chinstraps properly attached.
 - e. Players may wear running shoes or molded rubber cleats.
 - f. Coaches are encouraged to be in full uniform; however athletic wear is permissible through the spring season. No jeans or shorts are permitted.
 - g. During the full summer ball season, spring interlock games or spring tournaments, coaches must be in full uniform.

2. Each team is responsible for cleaning up their dugout after the game.
3. Before the game, the home team is responsible for preparing the diamond, including raking the field, lining the field, installing bases, setting up portable mound and filling in any depressions.

After the game, the visiting team is to rake the infield, home plate and pitching mound areas, replace the field tarps and make sure all equipment used during the game is returned to the bins and locked up. Bases should be left in place when another game follows. No children are allowed in equipment room or bins.

4. The home team occupies the dugout behind third base.
5. Before a game, each head coach must give a copy of his batting line-up to the opposing team and the home plate umpire.
6. Coaches are free to make notes on umpires' performances and forward to the Umpire-In-Chief or Umpire Allocator with any advice that can help their future games.
7. During a game, coaches or parents cannot position themselves on the outside of the backstop behind the umpire in order to coach the team. During game play, if the defensive coaches are on the playing field they can only be in foul territory near their dugout or past their dugout towards the outfield.
8. Coaches are responsible for the behavior of their team players, fans and parents during games and to make sure that there is no abuse of the umpires and equipment.
9. A Tadpole player may be called up to play on a Mosquito team a maximum of five games. The Tadpole and Mosquito coordinators and the called up player's coach, must be notified of the name of the player being called up, to ensure the player is eligible to be called up.



The player must receive the same treatment as regular players, must not play more innings than a regular team player and must not pitch. If an American League team needs a player, they must call up a player from the National league. There is no limit on how many games a National League player can play for an American League team. A National League team must call up from Tadpole as American League player cannot play for a National League team.

PLAYING FIELD:

1. Bases must be 60 feet apart.
2. Pitching for all players is from the 46 foot rubber.
3. The batter's box must be three feet wide by six feet long and the inside line six inches away from the side of the plate. It must extend three feet behind the centre of the plate.

ENDING THE GAME:

1. Games must start within 15 minutes of the scheduled start time.
2. It is the umpire's sole discretion when to call the game due to darkness (should call open inning when light begins to fade), or due to field or weather conditions.
3. No new innings can start after one hour and 45 minutes from the time of the first pitch. The decision on whether or not to have another inning is based on the time of the third out of an inning. The umpire will notify the scorekeeper of the start time. If the start time is not noted, then the official start time will be the scheduled game time.
 - a. For example, if the third out of the fifth inning occurs at the one hour and 44 minute mark, a sixth inning will be played.
 - b. Any delay starting the next inning will not alter this decision (i.e., while discussing whether there should be another inning).
 - c. This time limit applies to all games regardless of light conditions, following games, and so on.
4. Games postponed due to rain will be rescheduled by the division coordinator where possible, if there is time available in the schedule.

GAME RULES:

1. The length of a Mosquito game must be six innings, subject to time limit. The sixth inning, or last possible inning at the umpires' discretion because of a time limit enforcement, will be declared an "open" inning, and will have an eight run maximum limit rather than the normal limit of four runs.
2. Four complete innings with no less than eight players on the field for each team will constitute a legal game. If a team cannot field a team of eight players, including call-ups, they forfeit the game.



3. A team's turn at bat will consist of three outs or when the maximum run limit has been met for the inning.
4. Score is to be kept by both teams. Games can end in a tie. There is a 10 run mercy rule after four innings. In other words, if one team is leading by 10 or more runs after the fourth inning, the game is over.
5. All players must be included in the batting order. Players must be listed in the order they bat. Players arriving late must be added to the end of the batting order. Any player not present after the team has completed their batting order must be placed at the end of the batting order for their first at bat and all subsequent at bats in that game.
6. All players must play the infield for a minimum of two innings in a six inning game (pitcher/catcher included as infield positions).
7. All players must sit one inning before a player can sit a second inning and no player can sit more than two innings per game.
8. A first year player must pitch a minimum of one complete inning for a team each game regardless of how many innings are played in the game, provided the team has an eligible first year player that wants to pitch.

9. No "Balk Balls" will be called against the pitcher.

10. If four balls are thrown to a batter, the coach of the offensive team (team batting) must enter to pitch to their own player to complete the at bat with the following applying:

- The batter will retain any strikes to that point and will be called out after three strikes.
- No base runners can advance while the coach is pitching.
- The defensive pitcher must take a position with at least one foot touching the dirt on the mound.
- If a hit ball strikes the coach, the ball is declared dead and the batter re-hits.

The coach pitch rule will remain in effect through the spring season, including playoffs, for the National League.

The division coordinator will evaluate the progress of the American League and determine when coach pitch will stop. The playoffs in the American League will be player pitch.

11. A batter struck by a pitch by the defensive pitcher (not the coach) may choose to walk or have the coach come in to pitch.
12. Bunting is allowed.
13. The batter cannot run on the third strike dropped by the catcher.
14. If a pitcher hits three batters (the same or different batters), the pitcher must be replaced by another player.
15. A coach is allowed one trip to the mound per inning per pitcher. A pitcher is removed on the second trip to the mound by a coach. A pitcher that stays in the game at another position or sits out an inning cannot return as a pitcher in the game.



16. Leadoffs are not allowed. The ball must cross home plate before any base runner(s) can leave the base(s). When a base runner leaves the base before the pitch crosses home plate and the batter DOES NOT hit the ball, the Umpire shall call "Leadoff" and the base runner must return to the base and No Out is called. When a base runner leaves the base before the pitch crosses home plate and the batter DOES hit the ball, the base runner is automatically out. The batter will be allowed to advance as normal.
17. Stealing second and third base is permitted at any time other than when the pitcher is holding the ball on the mound prior to the runner beginning his steal attempt.
18. Stealing home base on a pass ball or wild pitch or overthrown ball back to the pitcher is not permitted. A runner from third may advance home if an attempt is made on him stealing third base or an attempt is made to throw out a runner at any other base.
19. No head first slides are allowed. If a player makes a head first slide the player will be called out. A player may dive back to a base they already occupy. Slide or Avoid Rule is in effect. If a play is being made, or is about to be made, it is MANDATORY for players of all age groups to slide or make an effort to avoid a collision at all bases and home plate. Failure to do either will result in an automatic out. The ball is dead and no runners may advance beyond the base that was last legally acquired.
20. The infield fly rule does not apply.
21. Calling the players out for throwing the bat will be at the umpire's discretion. If the batter is called out, no base runner will advance.
22. If a player has started the game and must leave before it is over, he will be deleted from the line-up and no outs will occur. If a player is injured during the game and cannot continue, he will not be considered an out in any further at bats.
23. On deck batters will be permitted on the safe side of the batter and a safe distance away.
24. To speed up the game, coaches are permitted to warm-up pitchers without wearing a mask. Any player warming up pitchers either on the field or in the bullpen, must wear a mask.
25. Coaches are responsible for keeping pitch counts and making the counts available to other teams when asked. Coaches must follow the current BC Baseball pitch count rules. Failure to do so will result in a suspension.
26. All BC Baseball rules will be in effect, but WRSSBA rules above take precedence.

PLAYOFFS:

1. All Mosquito teams compete in the playoffs.
2. Playoff format will be determined at the start of the regular season.