



Select Loop & Championship Tournament Rules 2019

This is a copy of the BASEBALL ONTARIO SELECT DIVISION Provincial Championship rules with specific modifications for SWOBA Loop play. All BASEBALL ONTARIO SELECT DIVISION references remain and SWOBA administration is the context equivalent.

LOOP & TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS

Double Knock out tournament

Please note there are specific rules applying to Rookie Ball play as well as these general tournament rules applying to all BASEBALL ONTARIO SELECT DIVISION Provincials Tournament participants. Rules specifically applicable to Rookie Ball are an additional attachment.

Byes are to be awarded as follows:

- I. No team shall receive a back-to-back bye in successive rounds.
- II. No team shall receive a second bye until all remaining teams have received their first bye.
- III. If more than 1 team is eligible for a bye, the undefeated team shall automatically receive the bye.
- IV. If more than 1 team is eligible for a bye, the bye team will be determined by means of a draw with the first team drawn receiving the bye.



1. OFFICAL RULES

- 1.1. The playing rules for all scheduled games within the BASEBALL ONTARIO SELECT DIVISION Provincial Championship shall be the “Official Rules of Baseball” - Except as detailed below.
- 1.2. BASEBALL ONTARIO SELECT DIVISION Provincials Tournament Rules cannot be changed or amended without approval of the BASEBALL ONTARIO SELECT DIVISION Tournament Rules Chair. SWOBA changes require approval of the SWOBA Select Chair.

2. ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1. An OBA carded player, playing regularly for his OBA registered team as defined by the member association, is not eligible. SWOBA - House League players can be called across from the same division for loop games. However, they are not eligible for Championship games unless on the roster. Note: Call across is same division i.e. Peewee House League to Peewee Select.
- 2.2. All roster players must have OBA insurance; this applies to all team entries.
- 2.3. Teams must be from member associations that have both paid their membership by the July 1st deadline and that the association has also submitted roster for all of their select teams by the same, July 1st date. Only players listed on the July 1st roster are eligible for the Provincials championship. SWOBA teams must provide their rosters to Baseball Ontario by July 1st.
- 2.4. 50% of the players on the roster must live in the Associations boundaries. If you wish to be eligible to participate in the BASEBALL ONTARIO SELECT DIVISION Provincials and your team does not meet the fifty (50%) percent rule you can request an exception to this rule. The request for an exception will be considered by the BASEBALL ONTARIO SELECT DIVISION Board of Directors when you fully complete the Request for Exception Form, which can be found in the forms section of the BASEBALL ONTARIO SELECT DIVISION web site. Once completed, the form and team roster(s) are to be sent to Tom Moy, BASEBALL ONTARIO SELECT DIVISION Secretary.



3. TEAM ROSTER

- 3.1. For the 2019 playing season, head coaches at all division levels are required to have completed all five (5) levels of the Rep Rookie Ball Coaching requirements and all assistant coach(s) are required to have completed the #1 initiation Online Module (Coach Initiation in Sport/Coach Initiation in Baseball (Fundamentals) (2 part online module)).
- 3.2. All teams should register with the site Convenor at least ONE HOUR prior to their first game.
- 3.3. A team roster listing all players, coaches and sweater numbers must be presented to the BASEBALL ONTARIO SELECT DIVISION on site Director at the time of registration.
- 3.4. Each team is required to provide their OBA Team Roster Number prior to any tournament to the Tournament Host as specified by the host. Rosters must be available on demand. Players not on a team numbered roster may be accepted for Sanctioned tournament only as long as they provide verification of age and are registered member of the local association.
- 3.5. There is a limit of 18 rostered players and up to 4 coaches. However, there will be a limit of 18 awards per team.
- 3.6. Junior players are required to provide proof of age using government issued photo identification (i.e. driver's license, photo health card, etc.).
- 3.7. Age Limitations - The 2019 levels are as follows:

2010 (or younger)	Rookie	2004-2005	Bantam
2008-2009	Mosquito/Tyke	2001-2003	Midget
2006-2007	Peewee		

Where the association/club permits it, players will be allowed to play up one age group at all levels (i.e. Peewee player can be called up to Bantam but not Midget).

- 3.8. The home team will supply the official scorekeeper if one is not supplied by the tournament officials. Prior to the start of each game, a player line-up with sweater numbers and surnames listed must be provided to the scorekeeper and exchanged with the other team. Penalty: Game does not start until roster with surnames, numbers is provided. SWOBA teams - FOR LOOP GAMES: both teams submit the score and any game ejection or other issues to report to the SWOBA Convener within 24 hours.
- 3.9. The official scorekeeper supplied by the "home team", must turn in the game score sheet (white copy) and the pitching count sheet (hard copy) to the convener at the end of the game. Both must be signed by both teams.



- 3.10. Any player arriving late maybe added to the bottom of the batting order, provided their team has not completed one rotation through the batting order or the game has completed two innings.
- 3.11. All eligible players present at the game shall be listed on the team's line-up shet and must play a minimum of two innings in a defensive position within the first four innings, unless injured during that game. Any exception to this rule must be brought to the attention of the convenor, umpire and opposing team attention before the start of the game (**PENALTY** - The game is a forfeit and the COACH/MANAGER SUSPENDED FOR REMAINDER OF GAME PLUS NEXT GAME).
- 3.12. No player will be listed on the game line-uup if that player is unable to play a defensive position (**PENALTY** - COACH/MANAGER SUSPENDED FOR REMAINDER OF GAME PLUS NEXT GAME). All players listed on the line-up sheet will bat.
- 3.13. All player will bat in the order as presented to the official scorekeeper prior to the start of each game.
- 3.14. Clarification of "injured during that game." Any player leaving the field due to an injury must remain out of the game for at least a complete defensive inning, before re-entering the game in a defensive position. A player unable to take their turn at a bat, after having been removed from the field due to an injury, will be removed from the line-up and further play in the game (this is not an out nor is it considered batting out of a turn). SWOBA - for pitchers, see 5.15A
- 3.15. A batter or runner may not have a pinch runner unless injured during their turn as a batter or runner. The designated pinch runner will be the last recorded out. If this occurs before any outs then it will be the last player in the line-up.

4. FEMALE PLAYERS

- 4.1. A female may, but is not required to, register with a Girls baseball team and non-girls baseball team in Peewee division and up.
- 4.2. Female athletes have the option of playing one year overage in the Peewee division and up.

5. PITCHING RULES

- 5.1. Any player advancing in play in a higher series shall be restricted to the pitching rule of the series in which he/she is registered.
- 5.2. In Mosquito/Tyke games, the number of trips to the mound by manager/coach shall not be limited except where the umpire rules that the purpose of the trip is delay the game.
- 5.3. In Peewee games a third trip by a manager/coach to the same pitcher in the same inning shall result in the pitcher's automatic removal from the pitching position.



- 5.4. In Mosquito/Tyke & Pee wee games, a pitcher once removed from pitching, regardless of the number of trips to the mound by the manager/coach, may continue in the game at another position, but shall not be permitted to return to pitch in that game.
- 5.5. For Bantam and Midget, a second trip by a manager/coach to the same pitcher in the same inning shall result in the pitcher's automatic removal from the pitching position. The pitcher, once removed may continue in the game at another position but shall not be permitted to return to pitch in that game.

PITCH COUNT LIMITATIONS

- 5.6. A pitcher may not pitch more than the following limits in a calendar day. If the limit is reached while facing a batter, the pitcher may pitch to the earlier of: (i) the completion of that batter or (ii) the end of the inning (based upon the age division the pitcher is rostered).

Mosquito/Tyke	70 pitches
Pee wee	80 pitches
Bantam	90 pitches
Midget	100 pitches

- 5.7. If a pitcher throws more than the following limits in a calendar day he/she cannot pitch the next day - the player must have 2 nights rest

Mosquito/Tyke	45 pitches
Pee wee	55 pitches
Bantam	65 pitches
Midget	75 pitches

- 5.8. Where the team has multiple games on the same day, if a pitcher throws more than the following limits during a game, or combination of games the pitcher may not pitch again in a subsequent game that day. Pitchers can still throw the designated maximum pitch count in a day so long as the aforementioned multi games in a day limits have not been exceeded:

Mosquito/Tyke	45 pitches
Pee wee	55 pitches
Bantam	65 pitches
Midget	75 pitches

- 5.9. At the Mosquito/Tyke division level Balks are not to be called. Should pitchers balk (e.g. double set or not pause) umpires will indicate such infractions to the coach between innings. In the Pee wee division, umpires will be advised by the tournament director to call balks on a pitcher only after that pitcher has been warned of an infraction and an explanation has been given to that pitcher by the umpire.

- 5.10. No balk warnings will be issued at Bantam and Midget divisions.



- 5.11. If a balk is called but the pitcher throws the ball it will count as a pitch thrown, even if it is not counted as a pitch for ball/strike purposes.
- 5.12. The official pitch count recorder shall inform the home plate umpire when a pitcher has delivered his/her limit of pitches for the game. The home plate umpire will then notify the pitcher's manager that the pitcher must be removed
- NOTE:** it is the responsibility of the manager to remove a pitcher when that pitcher is no longer eligible, even if the pitch count recorder and/or the umpire fail to notify the manager.
- 5.13. If a team has no remaining players eligible to pitch in a game, the opposing coach may designate a player who has not yet pitched in the game. This pitcher may not throw more than 30 pitches.
- 5.14. Illegal pitching penalty: where a player throws more pitches than is permitted *or pitches without the required rest or pitches three consecutive days*, the player's team shall forfeit the game. A second violation by a team will result in the manager/head coach's indefinite suspension.
- 5.14A SWOBA - a mid-inning pitcher replacement must be from players already playing on the defense at the point of the replacement or substituted from a player who started the inning on the bench.
- 5.15. (i) At Mosquito/Tyke, Peewee and Bantam a pitcher may not pitch on 3 consecutive days.
(ii) At Midget, the pitchers may not pitch on 3 consecutive calendar days unless:
1 The pitcher threw 30 pitches or less on each of the first two days.
2 The maximum number of pitches which may be thrown on the third day is 50.
- 5.16. At Mosquito/Tyke and Peewee, a player may not be a pitcher and a catcher in the same game.
- 5.17. Mosquito/Tyke teams are not allowed leadoffs. A base runner will not leave a base until the pitched ball leaves the pitcher's hand (**PENALTY: THE RUNNER IS OUT AND THE BALL IS DEAD IMMEDIATELY WHEN THE RUNNER LEAVES THE BASE**).



- 5.18. In the case where a game is suspended for whatever reason, on one day & resumed on a second day, pitches shall count on the calendar day on which the pitch is thrown (i.e. both parts of the game shall be considered on separate days). Where weather or other reasons cause the delay or postponement of a game or games, the time of the delay can count towards the nights rest required under 5.7 and can constitute a break in the 3 consecutive day rule under 5.16. The pitcher of records at suspension of play does not have additional pitches in the second day in that game and remain under the part game minimum (e.g. a Peewee pitcher could only pitch 55 pitches total on day one and day two combined before he would need a full day rest from the completion of the game. After 10 pitches completing his pitching in the 2nd day of the suspended game, he would have 45 pitches left before he needed 1 day rest).

6. CURFEW

- 6.1. The number of innings in a complete game will be seven for Mosquito/Tyke - Midget. An inning shall be deemed to have started immediately after the last out in the bottom of the previous inning has occurred.
- 6.2. No new inning will start after one and three quarters (1¾) hours from the first pitch. However, if a new inning starts prior to the time curfew, the inning must be completed. At the **Bantam and Midget levels**, the curfew is set at 2 hours. Except if the visiting team is unable to tie or go ahead of the home team after having played the top half of an inning that extended beyond the curfew then the game is considered complete and the home team does not go to bat as they have already won the game.
- 6.3. The official start time is to be determined by the umpire and reported to the official game scorekeeper.
- 6.4. Tied games are allowed during preliminary games.
- 6.5. The Championship game(s) are not subject to the time curfew limits and will be full games to determine a winner except in instances where the mercy rule is applicable.
- 6.6. In the event of a delay during tournament play due to rain or darkness and prior to that game becoming official (3½ or 4 innings. See Mercy Rule below), the game will be suspended unless Time Restraints are imposed (See 5.2 above).
- 6.7. The game will be resumed from the point of suspension. The defensive team must resume their exact positions on the field.
- 6.8. The scheduled starting time may be at the discretion of the BASEBALL ONTARIO SELECT DIVISION on site convenor.



7. MERCY RULE

- 7.1. If the home team is ahead by 10 or more runs after three and a half (3½) innings, or at any time beyond this point, the home team will be declared the winner. An inning mercy occurs when the batting team score 5 runs. Inning, that begin after 1:15 have a 10 run inning mercy.
- 7.2. If the visiting team is ahead by ten or more runs after four or more complete innings, the visiting team will be declared the winner.
- 7.3. A game forfeit will be declared and a score of 7 - 0 will be recorded if a team is unable to field a team of nine players at the scheduled starting time, or at any point during the game.

8. GENERAL

- 8.1. At the beginning of each game, the home and visiting team designation will be decided by a coin toss. The team coming the greater distance will make the call.
- 8.2. All players and coaches will be dressed in a baseball team uniform as issued by their home association; minimum coach's uniform being long pants, and association issued golf shirt or a T-shirt with a number and a cap (Association logo or name must be identifiable). No sandals permitted on the diamond.
- 8.3. Metal cleats will be allowed at the Bantam and Midget levels.
- 8.4. Midget will use Wood or Wood composite bats only. Wood composite bats include wood bats with fibreglass sheathing & wood barrelled bats with composite handles. Wood bats do not include any bat which has a metallic component. Bantam level may use aluminum, wood or wood composite bats. Aluminum bats may only have a weight difference of minus 5 or less. A legal bat diameter shall be the maximum barrel of 2¾ inches. There are no other restrictions.
- 8.5. No smoking or use of tobacco products, alcohol or drugs are permitted on the playing field, in the dug outs or in the immediate vicinity of the dugouts (this applies to coaches, players and umpires). City smoking bylaws must be obeyed.
 - (i) This applies to players, coaches and umpires.
 - (ii) Penalty is immediate ejection of the offending player or coach and may result in the loss of accreditation for the umpire.
- 8.6. **Protest:** Any protest once a game has started, that requires the Convenor's intervention, will be settled on the field at the time the problem occurs. *There will be a protest fee of \$75.00, paid in cash, to be lodged with the BASEBALL ONTARIO SELECT DIVISION on site convenor before the protest may be heard. This fee will be returned if the protest is upheld. Judgement calls by the Umpires cannot be protested.* Game delays due to protests do not invalidate the curfew rule (the close keeps ticking). The game is under suspension until the protest is resolved.



- 8.7. The BASEBALL ONTARIO SELECT DIVISION site convenor has the ultimate authority relating to any matter that requires a ruling or clarification.
- 8.8. **Ejections:** Each manager and head coach is responsible for the behaviour of all players, coaches and spectators with their team. *Should* al present, roster listed, coaches be ejected the game will be forfeited; *if this occurs refer to Rule 7.3.*
- 8.9. In the even a player or coach is ejected from a game, the individual must leave the diamond and no longer be involved in that game. The player, coach or manager ejected from the game is suspended for the next scheduled game.
- 8.10. BASEBALL ONTARIO SELECT DIVISION site convenor will review all ejections for possible additional suspensions. These additional ejections will be advised within 30 minutes of the completion of the game of the ejection. However, it is the responsibility of the head coach to find out about the possible increased suspensions of any suspended coaches or players. Ejection will be reviewed by the SWOBA Discipline Committee to determine if further discipline will be enforced.
- 8.11. The umpires, who umpire a game where an ejection occurs, shall file an ejection report with the convenor of the tournament within 2 days. Ejection report to be emailed to Select Chair.
- 8.12. The BASEBALL ONTARIO SELECT DIVISION on site convenor serves the right to alter and/or revise any game start times necessary to ensure completion of the games.
- 8.13. No infield warm-up will be allowed. All pre-game warm-ups may take place on the outfield grass (if available) or at other safe and appropriate locations.
- 8.14. Substitutions are only allowed at the end of an inning except for an injured player or pitching change. See 5.14 Replacement pitcher must already be in a defensive position or on the bench at the start of the inning. Players may not leave the field mid-inning to perform warmups and then re-enter in the same inning. A new pitcher is allowed 7 warmup pitches.
- 8.15. *All* catchers are required to wear full catcher's equipment and catcher's mitt during the game and warm-ups in al divisions, except Rookie Ball where the use of a catcher's mitt is optional.
- 8.16. Coaches or players warming up pitchers either on the field between innings or in the 'bull pen' must wear a protective mask.
- 8.17. It is mandatory that all players wear a protective athletic support.
- 8.18. The batter shall wear a protective helmet while on deck, at bat or running the bases. The helmet may not be removed until the batter is retired, has crossed home plate and left the field of play or the half inning has been completed. Should the batter/runner remove the helmet before leaving the field while the ball is in play, they will be declared out.
- 8.19. At the Bantam and Midget levels batting helmet chin straps are optional.



- 8.19A Jewelry - No visible jewelry including rings, earrings, other rings, non-athletic wristbands, watches are not allowed. The player will be asked to remove the jewelry. Any permanent jewelry must be taped or otherwise safely covered.
- 8.20. Team should be given a minimum of 30 minutes from the time of completion of the last game that they played until the start of their next game. If a team must travel from another location, appropriate travel time shall be added to the 30-minute period.
- 8.21. Diamond Layout

Division	Base Distances	Pitching Rubber Distance
Rookie	65 Feet	44 Feet
Mosquito/Tyke	65 Feet	44 Feet
Peewee	75 Feet	50 Feet
Bantam	90 Feet	60 Feet 6 inches
Midget	90 Feet	60 Feet 6 inches

- 8.22. *Any exception to these diamond layouts must be approved by BASEBALL ONTARIO SELECT DIVISION and all participating teams must be made aware of the changes.
- 8.23. BASEBALL ONTARIO SELECT DIVISION, hosting Baseball Associations and the host Cities will not accept responsibility for accidents, injuries or loss during this tournament.
- 8.24. Mosquito/Tyke teams entering this tournament should note the following rules:
- A) A batter can run on a dropped third strike.
 - B) The Infield Fly rule will apply.
 - C) Balks will not be called. See pitching rules 5.9.
 - D) Mosquito/Mosquito/Tyke teams are not allowed leadoffs. See pitching rules 5.17.
- 8.25. Bat boys/girls are not permitted

9. ADVANCEMENT TO CHAMPIONSHIP ROUNDS FOR ROUND ROBIN TOURNAMENTS

Standings will be determined by the number of points obtained as follows:

Win = 2 pts; Tie = 1 pt; Loss = 0 pts

10. TIE-BREAKING FORMULA

- A) Winner of head to head games;
- B) Team with lowest runs against ratio (runs allowed/defensive innings played);
- C) Teams with highest scored ratio (runs scored/offensive innings played);
- D) Coin toss (team furthest away calls the toss)



Rookie Ball Specific Rules

The following rules apply specifically to the Rookie Ball division in addition to the other tournament rules stated herein:

Prior to the start of each game, a player line-up (maximum 18 players) with sweater numbers and surnames listed must be provided to the scorekeeper. The first ten batters must also play a defensive position in the first inning, the additional player being an outfielder (**PENALTY:** Head Coach is ejected). Four outfielders must start play on the outfield grass unless there are only 9 defensive players.

RK 1 Rookie Ball Pitching Rules:

- RK 1.1 A **safety** circle eight (8) foot in diameter with its centre at 44 feet from home plate, will surround the pitching machine. The pitcher must stand beside the pitching machine outside the safety circle and behind the release point of the pitching machine. Lines shall be drawn from the release point to 4 feet beyond the circle. The pitcher must have both feet on the white line or within 4 feet behind the line until the ball is released from the machine. Pitcher must start the play on the line.
- RK 1.2 The machine speed will be set at 40mph. A coach will operate the machine. A regulation baseball approved for Mosquito/Tyke will be used.
- RK 1.3 If a batted ball hits the machine, the ball is dead; the batter is awarded first base and any base runner is moved who is forced to advance by the batter being awarded first base.
- RK 1.4 The pitcher must stand beside or behind the pitching machine outside the safety circle. The pitcher must wear a regulation batting helmet designed by the manufacturer with a face mask and chinstrap attached to protect from an errant ball that hits the machine.
- RK 1.5 Each batter will receive a maximum of 5 pitches. If the batter does not hit a fair ball within five pitches, he will be declared out.