



# Mosquito Rules

## **Field specifications:**

1. Bases to be 65 feet – pitching 44 feet
2. Home team has the 1<sup>st</sup> base dugout and is responsible for setting up and taking down bases and turning off the lights. (late game) The home team must also provide a new game ball. The visiting team must supply a good used ball.
3. No smoking in field area.

## **Game length / Maximum runs per inning:**

4. A complete game shall be six (6) innings. A game will be considered official if a minimum of 3 innings have been played (2 ½ if home team winning).
5. No new inning shall start after 1 hour and 15 minutes from the official start time. The umpire will declare the official start time to the scorekeepers / coaches on the first pitch.
6. In order to ensure that each game has an open inning and provides a chance for a trailing team to catch up, the UMPIRES will decide when to call an open inning prior to start of that inning. THE UMPIRES WILL MAKE THIS CALL AFTER THE ONE HOUR MARK OF THE GAME AND INFORM EACH COACH. If the open inning is completed before the one hour and 15 minute time limit, then another open inning can be started, however the trailing team MUST bat first.
7. If a game is suspended in the middle of an inning the score will revert back to the last completed inning should this be a regulation game.
8. Prior to an open inning(s), a mercy rule of FIVE (5) runs per inning will be applied.
9. Mercy rule for the game is 10 runs after 4 innings. (3 ½ if home team ahead)
10. TIME can only be called by the umpire when an infielder has possession of the ball in the infield (inside the base line) and is not attempting to make further defensive plays and raises his or her hand.

11. An appeal must be made before "Play" is called for the next batter. Standard baseball rules apply.

### **Number of players:**

12. A team must have 8 players available to play, otherwise a forfeit is declared and the score will be recorded as 1-0. If a team has 8 players, they may ask to borrow an extra fielder from the opposing team and the player will play in the outfield. The opposing team is not obligated to provide the additional fielder. In the event of a default, the teams are encouraged to play the game for fun and share players as necessary (whatever the outcome, the game is to be recorded as a 1-0 loss to the defaulting team).
13. Prior to the start of the game if each team has more than 11 players a fourth outfielder may be used. The fourth fielder will not enter the infield during any play.
14. A team may call up players from another team; but the call-ups cannot take the mound. As long as the call up is from the Senior Rookie division the game will go on as scheduled and the team with the call up is not charged a default providing the game starts on time. (Umpire to decide on when the game is to start)

### **Pitching restrictions / Rotation of positions, Batting and Running:**

15. During the first 2 games of the season, coaches will throw five (5) pitches to each batter. Umpires will call swing strikes, but not balls. A batter can strike-out swinging, but may not walk.
16. Player pitch will start on the 3rd game.
17. During player pitch games when a batter receiving **4 balls** they will not advance to first. The batters coach will pitch **2 pitches**, if the ball is not hit into play the batter is out.
18. A pitcher will not exceed more than **45 pitches in a game**. If the pitch count is reached in the middle of a batting count the pitcher may finish the count. A pitcher will not exceed more than **70 pitches in a week**.
19. No player shall pitch more than **2 innings per game**. Any player who assumes the pitching position in an inning will be charged with an inning pitched regardless of the number of pitches thrown. **NO RE-ENTRY FOR PITCHERS ALLOWED**.
20. A pitcher who hits 2 batters during a game will be removed from pitching for the remainder of that game.
21. A player may only play the same position **TWICE** per game. **ONLY EXCEPTION THE CATCHER**. Catchers can play 3 innings.

22. Pitchers are not permitted to be a catcher in the same game.
23. Catchers are not permitted to block the plate without possession of the baseball; and runners must slide to minimize the effects of a collision on any play at the plate. In the event of a collision where the runner should have entered his or her slide, the runner shall be declared out and the run will not count.
24. Players must wear uniform including hat and must have shirts tucked in AT ALL TIMES.
25. Runners must slide or attempt to avoid making contact with a catcher at home plate. A player who runs into a catcher without sliding is to be declared out (unless he/she has scored prior to committing the infraction). For clarification, if there is a “bang-bang” play at the plate and the runner is safe, prior to immediately colliding with the catcher, then the runner is out; if the collision occurs incidentally after the runner has scored, then the run counts.
26. If a defensive player blocks the base path clearly without possession of the ball, obstruction shall be called. The runner is safe and a delayed dead ball is called.
27. A runner is only allowed to steal second and third base; there will be no stealing of home. The penalty for such an infraction is the runner will be declared out and the ball is dead.
28. A runner may not advance on a passed ball/over though. A player may only steal one base at a time. In this case, a runner already in CONTINUOUS motion may take the original base (the “stolen base”) and may not take any additional base(s).
29. A runner will not be able to run to first base after a dropped third strike.
30. There is no leadoff. The baserunner must wait until the ball leaves the pitcher's hand before he/she attempts a steal. A team shall receive a warning on the first infraction and the runner will be returned to the originating base. Any subsequent violation committed by any member of that team will result in an out being recorded.

### **Rain-outs:**

31. Rained out games may be declared by the City and the convener where weather conditions warrant early in a game day. Coaches are encouraged to work cooperatively with the umpire in declaring rainouts on late arriving inclement weather. The umpires decision is final. Player safety (slippery conditions, lightning, etc.) is to be the primary concern. Of secondary importance is the limited field time available for make-up games. Any unplayed games at the end of the season will be declared a tie. Please notify the convener at [dnorman30@hotmail.com](mailto:dnorman30@hotmail.com) as soon as possible of any rained out games so that they may be rescheduled.

## **Scores / Standings:**

32. **Winning team must email scores and pitcher pitch counts for both teams to [rsleblond@gmail.com](mailto:rsleblond@gmail.com) and [scmleblond@gmail.com](mailto:scmleblond@gmail.com).** Even if the convener is at the field, please email the score within 24 hours. If not, the first offence will be warning and in the event of future infractions, the game will be recorded as a tie.
33. In the event of a tie between two teams at the end of the season, the team with the best head-to-head record will be ranked higher. In the event of a tie between three or more teams, the teams will be ranked from highest to lowest based on runs ratio. The ratio is calculated by taking a team's runs scored divided by total runs (runs scored plus runs given up).

## **Umpires**

1. The decision of the umpires shall be final.
2. Umpires are the only ones that can call "TIME". Coaches must ask.
3. The umpires will watch for and indicate lead-offs and steals.
4. Watch for runners that do not retouch the base when the batters' fly ball is caught.

## **Mosquito Stingers:**

- The mosquito stingers will play in the peewee house league division for practice. As the game is for practice they shall follow all the rules within the mosquito division.

## **Conduct of Coaches, Managers and Parents**

34. North Bay Baseball recognizes that you are a volunteer in the position of coach or manager. A coach must be a good role model; therefore guidelines of conduct must be established.
35. A coach shall be ejected from the game by the umpire and may be suspended by the League for any of the following infractions:
  - Using profane and or obscene language.
  - Showing disrespect, unsportsmanlike conduct particularly in the presence of players or spectators, towards other coaches or managers, and umpires.

- Not giving equal consideration to every player on the team. In a regulation four inning game during any season or playoff game all players must play two innings in the infield. Breach of this rule could result in disciplinary action.
- Coaches, managers, spectators or other personnel ejected from a game must completely leave the vicinity of the ballpark. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture.

Please remember that the game is for fun, so please coach accordingly. Winning is not everything. Building a child's confidence and self-esteem, while teaching them the fundamentals is what our league is all about.

Have a great summer and thanks for volunteering your time to coach the kids!