



Manly Warringah District  
Baseball Association



# **Junior Competition Rules**

**Season**  
**2023-2024**



[www.manlybaseball.com.au](http://www.manlybaseball.com.au)



## Table of Contents

1	Introduction.....	4
2	Player Registration, Team Registration and Dual Registration.....	6
3	Non-Team Players and Forfeited Game .....	7
4	Environmental Conditions.....	8
5	Umpires.....	11
6	Equipment.....	12
7	Start of Game.....	14
8	Game Duration and Regulation Games .....	14
9	End of Innings and Innings Changeover.....	16
10	Player Participation .....	17
11	The Mercy Rule .....	18
12	Player Injury.....	18
13	Strike Zone .....	19
14	General Pitching Limits.....	20
15	Pitching Restrictions &Limits .....	23
16	Catching.....	25
17	Pitching and Catching in the Same Game.....	26
18	Deliberate Collision .....	27
19	Code of Conduct.....	28
20	Player, Team Official and Spectator Misconduct.....	29
21	Protests.....	30
22	Results and Result Sheets.....	31
23	Competition Standings.....	32
24	Finals Rules .....	33
25	Tribunal.....	37



## 2023 – 2024 Rule Updates

<b>Rule No.</b>	<b>Rule Title</b>	<b>Page</b>
6.1.3	Junior League players are permitted to wear metal cleat shoes	12
14.16	Removed LL Majors from the rule “Pitchers restricted to pitching fastballs and change ups.”	21
24.4	Pitching restrictions correction – Intermediate and Junior League	34
Under 8 Teeball	Reinstated competition.	Appendix A
LL (Zooka)	Little League Machine Pitch (Zooka) – Batting	Appendix B
LL 10/11 Minors	Little League 10/11 (Minors) – <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Game Duration (Hybrid Inning changed to maximum plate appearances)</li><li>- Umpire location (Behind plate during live pitch)</li><li>- Hybrid Rules (# of batters, scoring, catcher limitations)</li></ul>	Appendix C
Rules Guide	Junior Competition Rules Guide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Home run boundary distance changes</li><li>- No automatic double</li><li>- Bat requirements Senior League (allowing USA baseball)</li></ul>	Appendix L

## 1 Introduction

- 1.1 This document contains the playing rules (the “Rules”) for the Manly Warringah District Baseball Association Junior Competition (the “Competition”) which is played in the Manly Warringah District. Competitions are run in divisions 16 years and under in accordance with the Official Australian Baseball Rulebook (OABR) and Little League© Rules, Regulations, and Policies.
- 1.2 The Junior Competition Committee (JCC) is an appointed committee of the Manly Warringah District Baseball Association (MWDBA) and is responsible for establishing and conducting these competitions. Any queries arising from matters not covered in these rules will be resolved by the JCC.
- 1.3 The JCC reserves the right to amend or change any rule or rules it deems necessary to improve the standard of the competition or as otherwise directed by Little League Baseball, Baseball Australia or Baseball NSW.
- 1.4 The JCC is responsible for the enforcement of these rules and the establishment of charges for a reported breach or offence of either a player, official or spectator.
- 1.5 If a circumstance arises that is not expressly covered in these rules, then the ruling will revert to the Little League Baseball Incorporated Rules (“Blue Book”) and/or the Official Australian Baseball Rulebook (OABR).
- 1.6 Coaches and Assistant Coaches
  - 1.6.1 The Junior Competition Committee (JCC) is bound by all Local, State & Federal Legislation including the Child Protection (Working with Children) Act 2000.
  - 1.6.2 The JCC requires a current valid working with children (WWC) number for all team officials including, but not limited to coaches, assistant coaches, managers, scorers, umpires and Club committee members, over 18 years of age. Any officials who do not have a current valid WWC check will be required to have this requirement by a prescribed date as advised by the JCC.
  - 1.6.3 The JCC requires that all coaches and assistant coaches complete the Australian Sports Commission Community Coaching General Principles course (on-line) or the Intermediate Coaching General Principles and the Australian Sports Anti-doping Australia Coaches E-Learning Coaches Course by a prescribed date as advised by the JCC.
  - 1.6.4 The JCC recommends that all coaches and assistant coaches undertake the relevant NSW Baseball Coach Education Course as prescribed for their relevant age group.

1.6.5 The JCC requires that all club officials, including but not limited to coaches, assistant coaches, managers, scorers, umpires, canteen coordinators and volunteers are registered, in their respective capacity on the approved Baseball NSW registration portal for the relevant season. Individuals can register multiple times if more than one position is held.

## 1.7 Representative Player

1.7.1 For the purpose of these rules, a District Representative is any Manly Warringah District registered player selected in a Manly All Stars team in the current calendar year. (Rookies Cup players are excluded from this rule and are permitted to be NTPs for the Final Series.)

**A request for clarification of a rule, or a request for the review of a particular rules, or any errors are detected in the document, please put in writing to:**

**[JBCsecretary@manlybaseball.com.au](mailto:JBCsecretary@manlybaseball.com.au)**

**All requirements in these rules for the supply and/or reporting of information are to be forwarded to the following emails:**

**JBC Secretary [JBCsecretary@manlybaseball.com.au](mailto:JBCsecretary@manlybaseball.com.au)**

**JBC Competition Coordinator [JBCrecorder@manlybaseball.com.au](mailto:JBCrecorder@manlybaseball.com.au)**

## **2 Player Registration, Team Registration and Dual Registration**

- 2.1 All players should be registered in an appropriate division according to the current season's Baseball NSW Age Matrix as well as qualification rules and guidelines.
- 2.2 Clubs must obtain JCC Executive (via the JCC Secretary) approval:
  - 2.2.1 Before registering a Player in a team out of their league age division as stated in the Age Matrix for the relevant baseball season. Once approval has been given, the player is able to field in any position, including the battery.
  - 2.2.2 For any team with 3 or more over aged players

Note: The purpose of these rules is to allow Clubs to select teams that are competitive for that division and to assist new players to transition into the game.

- 2.3 The exceptions to Rule 2.2 are the following:
  - 2.3.1 A player meeting the Age Matrix requirements for Intermediate League, plus League Age 14 may register in the Intermediate League competition in addition to their League Age division (Dual Registration). A League Age 14 player is excluded from pitching or catching in an Intermediate League game, or
  - 2.3.2 A player meeting the Age Matrix requirements for Junior League may register with a Senior League team provided that Senior League team has 10 or less current registrations (Dual Registration). This player is excluded from pitching or catching in any Senior League game. (Action: UPDATE WITH 2023/24 CHANGES)
- 2.4 For the purposes of these Rules, excluding pitching restrictions, a Player once registered in a division shall be referred to as a member of that division and no longer be referred to in the context of their "League Age".
- 2.5 A Player may move to a different division during the season, only with consent of JCC. No player can be moved after 1 January.
- 2.6 Birth Certificates or certified copies must be made available to the JCC upon request.

### **3 Non-Team Players and Forfeited Game**

- 3.1 These rules do not apply to Under 8 and 9 Tee ball.
- 3.2 The minimum number of players required to take the diamond is as follows:
  - 3.2.1 A team unaffected by Representative (including
  - 3.2.2 shall forfeit the Game.
- 3.3 Should a coach or team official choose to not to use the NTP rule and compete with only 8 players, the following will apply:
  - 3.3.1 The team will bat 8 players in the lineup and receive an automatic out when the No. 9 position in the lineup is due to come to the plate.
- 3.4 At all times a team must field a minimum 8 players (or 6) unless due to the Blood Rule, Injury Substitution & Concussion (see Rule 12), otherwise the team forfeits the Game.
- 3.5 The Manager of any team which proposes to forfeit a Game shall notify by email as soon as practicable, its intention to the JCC Competition Coordinator and the Coach of the opposing team so as not to cause any more inconvenience than necessary.
- 3.6 When a team forfeits the Game, the team receiving the forfeit shall be considered as having a win, equivalent to one run for each inning of a Regulation Game (U9 to Junior League is 6-0;;Senior League is 7-0).

## 4 Environmental Conditions

4.1 The following environmental conditions may cause all or part of a round to be abandoned:

4.1.1 Unfit Ground Conditions

4.1.2 Ambient Temperatures/Relative Humidity Level (refer 4.9)

4.1.3 Adverse Weather Conditions (Rain/Wind/Light Conditions)

4.1.4 Lightning (refer 4.10)

4.1.5 Air Quality Index (refer 4.11).

4.2 The ultimate authority of a ground is the Host Club.

4.3 In the event of adverse environmental conditions causing the abandonment of all or part of a round, the Club Secretary or other designated club official shall decide on the environmental conditions at the Club's grounds, and

4.3.1 Advise the JCC Competition Coordinator and Secretary by:

4.3.1.1 No later than (NLT) 3.30pm on the Wednesday for Intermediate League,

4.3.1.2 NLT 7.00am on the Saturday morning round, and

4.3.1.3 NLT 3.30pm on the Friday for Senior League

4.3.2 The JCC Competition Coordinator will determine if the round is to be played.

4.4 If the Host Club considers the environmental conditions are fit for play:

4.4.1 The Coaches of both teams must agree the respective area of play is fit for play.

4.4.2 If the Coaches cannot agree, the Umpire(s), at the Plate Meeting shall make the decision.

4.5 Once the game has commenced the Umpire(s) shall determine whether play will be halted and/or restarted due to environmental conditions.



- 4.5.1 Should play be halted, the time play halted will be recorded by the scorers and if play does not recommence within 30 minutes, the game will have been considered to have been abandoned (except when play is halted in rule 4.10); unless,
- 4.5.2 The duration of play had already exceeded 45 minutes or 3 complete innings, constituting a Regulation Game.
- 4.6 Officials of the Host Club may intervene during a game to discuss with the umpire(s) as to whether play shall be halted and/or restarted due to environmental conditions.
- 4.7 The JCC Competition Coordinator may, where practicable, move games to another location. Coaches and managers of the affected teams are to be contacted by the JCC Competition Coordinator NLT one hour prior to the scheduled game start time to advise of the new location.
- 4.8 If any full round is cancelled due to environmental conditions, the JCC reserves the right to reschedule the round.
- 4.9 Any game not played in a partly abandoned round is to be rescheduled at an alternative time and venue as agreed upon by the affected team coaches.
- 4.9.1 The new date must be within 21 days of the original scheduled date;
- 4.9.2 The JCC Competition Coordinator and Secretary shall be immediately notified in writing, so the change can be reflected on the schedule;
- 4.9.3 Should no mutually accepted date and time be agreed to, the JCC Competition Coordinator and Secretary shall be immediately notified, by a representative of either team, in writing. The game will be rescheduled by the Competition Coordinator.
- 4.9.4 If neither team can participate, as directed by the Competition Coordinator, the game will be abandoned with no result. If one team cannot participate, as directed by the Competition Coordinator, that team will be declared as forfeiting the game and the opposing team credited with a win.
- 4.10 Once a game has been rescheduled, it can only move from the rescheduled date, time and/or location due to the environmental conditions on the rescheduled date, time, and location.
- 4.10.1 Refer to 4.9 for the rescheduling of a game abandoned under this rule.
- 4.11 Ambient Temperatures and Relative Humidity<sup>1</sup>

If at the scheduled game time or at any time during the game:

4.11.1 The ambient temperature is between 26-30 degrees and humidity exceeds 60%, team officials and umpire should be vigilant to the welfare of all game participants and consider longer breaks between innings for shade relief and hydration.

4.11.2 The ambient temperature is between 31-35 degrees and humidity exceeds 50%, team officials and umpires should discuss reducing the game duration to the regulation game time of 45 minutes (refer to Rule 4.4 & 8.5).

4.11.3 The ambient temperature is above 36 degrees and humidity exceed 30% humidity, team officials and umpires should discuss suspending or ceasing play (refer to Rule 4.4 – 4.10 & 8.5),

**The Australian Bureau of Meteorology App only is to be used for these calculations.**

#### 4.12 Lightning

4.12.1 30 – 30 Rule. After taking cover, if the duration between a lightning strike and a thunderclap is 30 seconds or less, then remain under cover for a minimum of 30 minutes after the last thunderclap heard.

4.12.2 This is a minimum requirement.

4.12.3 If the minimum requirement is met, the game may recommence regardless of rule 4.4.3.1.

#### 4.13 Air Quality Index

4.13.1 If at the scheduled game time or at any time during the game, the Air Quality Index (AQI) Particles PM2.5 is between 67 – 149 (as monitored by the NSW Planning, Industry and Environment Department), team officials and umpires should be vigilant to the effects on participants (particularly those with identified respiratory conditions) and consider suspending play (refer to Rule 4.4 & 8.5).

4.13.2 If at the scheduled game time or at any time during the game, the Air Quality Index (AQI) Particles PM2.5 reaches 150 or higher (as monitored by the NSW Planning, Industry and Environment Department) play should be immediately halted (refer to Rule 4.4 & 8.5).

4.13.3 The AQI data can be found at the site address below:

<https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/aqms/aqitable.htm>

4.13.4 Refer to Rules 4.4 - 4.10 and 8.5 should suspension or cessation of play be discussed between team officials and umpires due to air quality.

## 5 Umpires

- 5.1 Except where the League has delegated the responsibility of the appointment of umpires to another body or person each affiliated Club will be responsible for the appointment of the Umpires to Games at their respective home grounds.
  - 5.1.1 The Away Team must appoint a Field Umpire, if not already appointed by the home team.
- 5.2 In the event of an appointed umpire/s not attending at the time scheduled for a game, an umpire/s shall be appointed by the coach of the home team. This may result in an umpire/s being appointed from the away side, if the home team is unable to meet this request.
- 5.3 In the event of an umpire having to vacate their position during the game, the home teams' coach may appoint another umpire during the progress of the game. . In the first instance, the request is to go to the team originally supplying the umpire.
- 5.4 Providing there are no extenuating circumstances, all live ball games must be umpired from behind home plate.
- 5.5 Umpires for Little League Zooka games may umpire from behind the plate or in the centre of the diamond, in a position approximately behind the Zooka machine and pitcher.
- 5.6 Plate Umpires are to wear protective gear including face mask and throat guard or hockey style mask with a throat guard, chest plate or protective shield, protective cup, leggings and covered shoes. Any plate umpire, excluding Teeball, under the age of 16 must wear a hockey style mask with a throat guard.
- 5.7 All umpires under the age of 16 are to wear a helmet regardless of the age division being umpired. A batting helmet or coach's skull cap is permitted.
- 5.8 Each team will designate at least one umpire for their team, to be available for their games during the season. It is recommended that the umpire should complete the Level 0 Umpiring Course from BBNSW or successfully complete an Umpiring Workshop conducted by Manly Warringah Baseball Umpires (MWBU).

## 6 Equipment

- 6.1 For the safety of all players and officials, the umpire(s) is to ensure that correctly fitting protective gear is worn throughout the game. The umpire's decision or ruling will be final.
- 6.1.1 All Helmets are to be 2-eared helmets and shall not be altered in any way from the manufacturer's design and specification. Helmets shall be worn by all batters and runners. It is recommended that players wear a helmet fitted with a C-flap to better protect the face while batting.
  - 6.1.2 All players should wear baseball or moulded-stud shoes. Screw-in or tacked on studs of any type are not permitted. It is recommended that players not wear smoothed soled (sneakers) shoes.
  - 6.1.3 Senior League and Junior League players are permitted to wear metal cleat shoes.
  - 6.1.4 All players in the field must wear a properly fitting glove.
  - 6.1.5 Umpires, coaches, base coaches and any other person entering the playing area or a dugout in any capacity must wear covered shoes. Thongs, sandals and bare feet are not acceptable footwear. Umpires will direct any person not complying with footwear requirements to leave the playing area.
  - 6.1.6 Any person warming up a pitcher, whether on the playing area, or any other designated area in a traditional crouched catching position, must wear covered shoes and wear a catcher's mask. Any person under 16 warming up a pitcher must wear the hockey style mask with throat guard.
  - 6.1.7 All persons acting as base coach in all divisions from Little League 10/11 (Minor) and up must wear a protective skull cap.
- 6.2 Balls
- 6.2.1 Baseballs to be used are set out in Division rules.
  - 6.2.2 All Reduced Injury Baseballs (RIB) used during a single game are to be of the same brand.
  - 6.2.3 At the commencement of a game, all game balls are to be new. Once play has commenced and additional balls are required, they should be of a quality acceptable to the umpires.

6.2.4 For Zooka, the replacement balls must be the same brand as was introduced at the commencement of the game.

### 6.3 Bats

6.3.1 All Bats must comply with the relevant Age Division rule as set out in the Division Rules in the Annexures.

### 6.4 Catchers Gear

6.4.1 All Baseball and Zooka catchers are required to wear:

A hockey style catcher's mask with a dangling throat guard,

A correctly fitted breastplate and leg-guards,

A properly fitting catcher's mitt; and

A protective cup.

6.4.2 T-ball catchers are required to wear only a correctly fitting batting helmet, baseball glove and protective cup.

### 6.5 Protective Gear

6.5.1 Male players of all divisions are to wear a protective cup;

6.5.2 Female players of all divisions are encouraged, but not required, to wear a protective cup.

6.5.3 Mouth guards are recommended for all players in all divisions.

### 6.6 Equipment Inspection

6.6.1 For all divisions, whilst the plate meeting is being undertaken by the Umpires and Coaches, the following will occur:

6.6.1.1 Both catchers will come to home plate wearing all the catcher's gear intending to be used for the game to be inspected by the Umpire(s) for condition and compliance with the rule 6.4;

6.6.1.2 All bats intended to be used are to be shown to the Umpire(s) to ensure that they comply with the Bat Rule pertinent to that Division; and

6.6.1.3 All baseballs intended for use as game balls are to be inspected by the umpire(s) and coaches to ensure that are all in a suitable condition and in the case of the Reduced Injury Baseball, they are all the same brand.

## **7 Start of Game**

- 7.1 All games shall begin at the times appointed by the JCC. Games are to be played at the designated time date & venue as determined by the published draw on the game management site as prescribed by the JCC.
- 7.2 The team listed first on the draw shall be deemed the home team and occupy the first base dugout and field first.
- 7.3 A plate meeting will be held, no later than 5 minutes before the scheduled start time of the game, between the umpire(s) and coach(es) of both teams. This meeting will allow for the introduction of all parties, discuss player participation including representative restrictions, and to discuss any ground rules.
  - 7.3.1 The Home Team will hand the plate umpire two new baseball for game use. For Zooka, both baseballs must be the same brand.
  - 7.3.2 The result sheet must be filled out with all player's names before the start of the game.
- 7.4 Non-Team players (NTP) are to be declared to both scorers and recorded in both scorebooks and the result sheet as well as noted by the umpire & coaches.
- 7.5 Only players who are present at the ground are to appear on the Line Up sheet & Result Sheet. Any player who arrives late can be added to the bottom of the Line-Up Sheet & Result Sheet upon their arrival.
- 7.6 The Umpire(s) will ensure that the time the game officially commences is recorded on the result sheet, prior to the first pitch. This may differ from the prescribed start time on the draw.
- 7.7 In all divisions, games can be scored in an official baseball scorebook or using a suitable digital scoring platform, such as GameChanger. Any reference to "scorebook" in these rules means either of these scoring methods.

## **8 Game Duration and Regulation Games**

- 8.1 All games shall be played to the duration as set in the Division rules.
- 8.2 The top of an inning shall not commence within 10 minutes of the scheduled completion time. The 10 minutes shall apply when the last defensive out of the previous inning is made.

- 8.3 Should the top of an inning commence, it is to be completed in its entirety unless:
- 8.3.1 The home team is ahead after the completion of the top half of the inning, or
- 8.3.2 The home team moves ahead of the away team before three outs are made, or
- 8.3.3 15 minutes past the scheduled end time has been reached. At this time, the following will apply:
- 8.3.3.1 The batter in the box shall complete the at bat; and
- 8.3.3.2 The score at the completion of the last at bat will revert-back to the last complete inning unless,
- the outcome of the last at bat results in a completed game with a legal result, or;
  - the outcome of the last at bat results in a completed game under rule 8.3.2.
- 8.4 The exception to rule 8.3 is Senior League games (played on a Friday night) which will have a hard finish at the completion of 2 hours. The following will apply:
- 8.4.1 The batter in the box shall complete the at bat; and
- 8.4.2 The score at the completion of the last at bat will revert back to the last complete inning unless:
- 8.4.2.1 the outcome of the last at bat results in a completed game with a legal result; or
- 8.4.2.2 the outcome of the last at bat result in a completed game under rule 8.3.2.
- 8.5 If a game is called, due to environmental conditions or other circumstances, a minimum of 45 minutes or 3 complete innings (2 ½ innings, if the home team is ahead) must be played to constitute a Regulation Game.
- 8.5.1 The 45 minutes will be calculated from the official start time recorded on the result sheet, as required in Rule 7.6.
- 8.5.2 Any game that is not a Regulation Game shall be declared a 'No Game' by the Umpire and recorded as such on the result sheet.

## 9 End of Innings and Innings Changeover

9.1 For all divisions:

9.1.1 Teams must bat through their lineup until three (3) outs are recorded or 6 runs are scored, or

9.1.2 The coach of the team batting declares their batting half inning ended (eg. away team is ahead by 10 runs in the top of the 3rd or 4th innings).

9.2 A game cannot be called before the 10 minutes rule (Rule 8.2).

9.3 A maximum time limit of ninety (90) seconds is allowed when changing between innings. Team Coaches and Players are responsible for keeping the game moving and are encouraged against deliberate time wasting and slow play.

9.4 In the opinions of the Umpire(s) a team is deliberately or continually breaching Rule 9.3, the following penalty will apply:

9.4.1 If the fielding team breaches the rule, a runner (the 3rd out from the previous inning) will be placed at first base.

9.4.2 If the batting team breaches the rule (not placing a batter in the batter's box when called by the plate umpire):

9.4.2.1 The plate umpire will call for the pitcher to commence pitching, each pitch will be called a strike until the batter enters the box. Once the pitcher commences their pitching motion, the batter will not be permitted to enter the batter's box until that pitch is concluded.

9.4.2.2 Should three pitches be thrown, the batter will be given out as a called strike out (KC) and the next batter will be called to the batter's box.

9.4.3 Should this rule be used, it is to be recorded in the "Notes" section of the score sheet, including the innings it occurred and the team penalized.

9.5 The current pitcher returning to the mound is allowed a maximum of four (4) pitches as a warm-up.

9.6 New pitchers will be allowed up to a maximum of one (1) minute or eight (8) pitches, as a warm-up unless warmed-up in the Bullpen, then only four (4) pitches are allowed.



## 10 Player Participation

- 10.1 Over the course of the season, all players must have approximately the same number of defensive innings to ensure equal player participation.
- 10.2 No fielding player shall be sat off for two or more consecutive innings, unless due to injury or disciplinary reasons.
- 10.2.1 Should a player be sat off for two or more consecutive innings the reasons should be clearly stated on the result sheet.
- 10.3 For divisions Under 9 Teeball, Zooka and Little League 10/11 (Minor), a player can only field at the same position for two (2) innings for the duration of the game.
- 10.4 A Coach may exclude a registered team Player from a game for disciplinary reasons without breaching Rule 10.2, providing a letter from the Coach to the respective Club is submitted prior to the Game.
- 10.5 All teams are to bat through their team line-up.
- 10.6 Scorers are required to record each player's defensive inning on the Result Sheet for the game by recording each player's defensive position by number (1-9) or an 'X' to designate that player is on the bench for that inning.
- 10.6.1 Failure to submit a fully completed Result Sheet may result action being taken by the JCC.
- 10.7 The JCC Competition Coordinator will monitor adherence to the provisions of Rule 10.
- 10.7.1 If the JCC Competition Coordinator determines that players within a team have unequal defensive outs, the JCC Competition Coordinator will immediately notify the JCC who will contact the Club and coach concerned and direct the player participation within the team be balanced.
- 10.7.2 Should the Coach fail to take appropriate remedial action within the time directed by the JCC, further action can be taken at the discretion of the JCC.
- 10.7.2.1 First offence will result in a written warning.
- 10.7.2.2 Second offence will result in a one game suspension.
- 10.7.2.3 Third offence will result in exclusion from the remainder of the season.

## 11 The Mercy Rule

11.1 The mercy rule can only be applied when the following criteria has been met:

Division	Minimum Innings Completed	Runs Lead
Machine Pitch (Zooka) LL 10/11 (Minor) LL Major Intermediate League Junior League	3½	10 or more
Senior League	4½	

11.2 The mercy rule will only be applied after the above criteria have been met and the home team has had their turn at bat or is in a position where it does not require a final at bat.

11.3 When the home team scores a run to make the margin 10 runs or greater, and the above criteria has been met, the game officially ends, regardless of the point in the inning, and the score recorded on the result sheet at that point.

## 12 Player Injury

12.1 Should a player be forced to leave the playing field due to an injury or an injury that causes a bleed, the Player is to be removed from the game until such time as:

12.1.1 The Coach and the player's parent/guardian/carer are satisfied that the player has recovered from the injury.

12.1.2 In the case of an injury producing a bleed, the Player must not return to the Game until the wound is dressed and the flow of blood is stopped.

12.2 During treatment, the game is to continue with the injured player's position in the batting lineup being skipped without penalty.

12.3 If injury occurs and the team with the injured player is unable to field 9 players, the injured player's position in the batting lineup will be skipped without penalty. The team is to borrow a fielder in accordance with rule 3.4.2.

12.4 Should a player lose consciousness or suffer from a suspected concussion for anytime, then that player shall not be permitted to take the field that weekend and must seek medical attention. Their position in the batting line will be skipped without penalty (see BA & BBNSW rules).

- 12.5 A player who has been assessed as having suffered a concussion at any time, under any circumstances, during training or playing baseball:
- 12.5.1 Must produce a medical clearance from a qualified medical practitioner to the Club Secretary to which they are registered before that player can resume club or association training or participate in a club or association game.
  - 12.5.2 The Club Secretary must complete a “MWDBA Junior Injury [Follow Up] [Return to Play] Form” and email to the JCC Secretary and/or Competition Coordinator prior to the player returning to training and the competition.
- 12.6 If a player is injured, regardless of the extent of the injury, a team official is, as soon as practicable, notify a member of their Club Committee of the following:
- 12.6.1 The time of the injury,
  - 12.6.2 The name of the player,
  - 12.6.3 The nature of the injury,
  - 12.6.4 If a medical practitioner or paramedic attended, and
  - 12.6.5 If the player was transported to a medical facility, the time transported, the name of the facility, how transported and name of the person accompanying.
- The Club or Team Official is to complete an “Injury Reporting Form” and forward to JCC Secretary and/or Competition Coordinator via email within 24 hours of the injury being reported to the Club Official.
- 12.7 The JCC, as it deems necessary, may require a medical clearance from a qualified medical practitioner before an injured player returns to the Competition.

### **13 Strike Zone**

- 13.1 Little League 10/11 (Minor) - A larger strike zone will be used. Umpires will call a strike zone that, at the discretion of the umpire, is up to the arm pits and down to the bottom of the knees and one (1) ball width either side of the plate. The entire ball must pass within this zone.

13.2 Little League Major - Umpires will call a regulation Little League Major strike zone as defined in the Little League International Rule Book; as defined as:

13.2.1 That space over home plate which is between the batter's armpits and the top of the knees when the batter assumes a natural stance. The umpire shall determine the strike zone according to the batter's usual stance when that batter swings at a pitch. (Action – monitor during season to see if we tighten)

13.3 Intermediate League, Junior & Senior League - Umpires will call a regulation strike zone.

13.4 Coaches and umpires will not enter into agreements to alter the strike zone and will not argue ball and strike calls.

## **14 General Pitching Limits**

**14.1 This rule is to be read in conjunction with Rule 17 Pitching and Catching.**

14.2 All teams are required to keep an accurate pitch count during each game for their pitchers. The pitch count is to be checked with the Official Scorebook to ensure that no coach allows any pitcher to breach the maximum pitching guidelines for that game.

14.3 All pitchers are subject to pitch limits relevant to their league age, as prescribed in the Baseball NSW Age Matrix for the relevant year, not the Division they are participating in. (See Annexure I for the pitch limits for each age)

14.4 A pitcher who reaches his pitch limit must be removed from the mound once they have reached the maximum pitches allowed in accordance with their age.

14.5 A pitcher may finish the batter in the box at the time of reaching their maximum limit, unless the pitcher is subject to the pitching/catching Rule 17, which directs that the maximum limit is a hard finish.

14.6 A pitcher once removed from the mound must not pitch again in that game.

14.7 A player playing in a division above their league age division is limited to the pitch and consecutive out restrictions that apply to their league age, not the age division they are participating in.

- 14.8 A player, who has been permitted to play over age, is limited to the pitch and consecutive out restrictions that apply to their league age, not the age division they are participating in.
- 14.9 All pitchers are limited to a certain number of pitches in any one assignment. The maximum number of pitches thrown or consecutive outs during the assignment (whichever occurs first) that a pitcher may throw in any one Club game is shown in the Division rules.
- 14.10 Umpires shall only apply the balk rule in Intermediate League, Junior League and Senior League.
- 14.10.1 When a balk is called by the Umpire the following will take place:
- 14.10.1.1 Intermediate League: Unlimited warnings per team, per game. No Penalty applied for subsequent balks called by the umpire.
- 14.10.1.2 Junior League: One warning per team, per game. Appropriate penalty to be applied by the umpire for every subsequent balk that is called by the umpire.
- 14.11 When a balk is called, regardless of whether a pitch is delivered, a pitch will be added to the pitcher's count.
- 14.12 A Coach who over-pitches a Player may be requested by the JCC to appear before JCC and be subject to a penalty as determined.
- 14.12.1 First offence will result in a written warning.
- 14.12.2 Second offence will result in a one game suspension.
- 14.12.3 Third offence will result in exclusion from the remainder of the season.
- 14.13 The current pitcher returning to the mound is allowed a maximum of four (4) pitches as a warm-up.
- 14.14 New Pitchers will be allowed up to a maximum of one (1) minute or eight (8) pitches, as a warm-up unless warmed-up in the Bullpen then Rule 14.13 applies.
- 14.15 It is the responsibility of the team's Coach to ensure that a Pitcher does not overpitch.
- 14.16 Pitchers in Little 10/11 (Minor) are only permitted to pitch fastballs and change ups.
- 14.16.1 This is a Player protection rule and the emphasis is on the throwing action of the Pitcher and any forward rotation on the ball, NOT the movement in the air of the ball.

- 14.16.2 When any pitch other than a fastball or changeup is called by the Umpire, the pitch will be called a ball and the ball is dead. Runners stealing shall return to their base occupied at the time of the pitch.
- 14.16.3 Should the Batter hit the ball and the Batter and all Runners legally advance at least one base, play will continue without reference to the pitch.
- 14.16.4 If a Pitcher continues to pitch any pitch other than a fastball or changeup after a warning by the Umpire to the Pitcher and the Coach, the Pitcher shall be removed from the mound, by the Umpire. Should this occur, the umpire will submit an Incident Report to the JCC Secretary within 24 hours of the completion of the game.
- 14.16.5 All illegal pitches called by the Umpire will still count to the pitcher's pitch count.

## 15 Pitching Restrictions & Limits

15.1 Pitching restrictions and limits apply to all players registered with Baseball NSW when they are playing in any form of competition.

The following table outlines Pitching Restrictions against the MLB Pitch Smart mandates:

Manly Warringah District Baseball Association										
USA BASEBALL MLB PITCH SMART CHART										
Age	Maximum Pitches per Game			Required Rest Days per recorded Pitch Count <small>(note 1)</small>						Recommended Max Innings per calendar year
	MLB Pitch Smart	Manly Juniors Mandate		0 days	1 day	2 days	3 days	4 days	5 days	
7-8	50	NA	NA	1-20	21-35	36-50	NA	NA	NA	60*
9-10	75	LL 10/11 (Minor)	30	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+	NA	80*
		LL Major	50							
11-12	85	LL 10/11 (Minor)	30	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+	NA	100*
		LL Major	50							
		LL Intermediate	60							
13-14	95	LL Intermediate	60	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+	NA	100*
		Junior League	60							
		Senior League	70							
15-16	95	Senior League	70	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76+	NA	100*
17-18	105	Overage#	70	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-80	81+	NA	100*
19-22	120	Overage#	70	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-80	81-105	106+	Varies Pitcher to Pitcher <sup>^</sup>

note 1 Rest days are calculated by calendar days, not 24 hour periods.

# Overage players participating in the Senior League competition with the consent of the Manly Warringah Baseball Junior Competition Committee.

\* Take 4 months off from competitive pitching each year with 2-3 months continuous break.

^ Take at least 3 months off from competitive pitching each year, including at least 4 consecutive weeks break off from all overhead throwing.

See Annexure for Full Size chart

15.2 All Players, regardless of where and when they pitch, these limits always apply to them when pitching in any competition.

15.2.1 This can include but is not limited to weekday training bullpen sessions, school games, midweek games or any club or representative game.

15.2.2 This also includes players who may be playing for other Associations on a regular weekly basis i.e., State League, Women's League, Central Coast, PCBL, School Teams, etc.

15.3 A pitcher who pitches over two consecutive days in games must then take two full days rest from pitching and catching. Days are expressed as calendar days and not 24hours blocks.

15.4 If any Coach, Player, Parent, or Official believes that the pitching restrictions have been breached all details are to submit in an Incident Report to the JCC Secretary within 24 hours of the completion of the game.

15.4.1 The JCC will gather evidence for review by the JCC, who may impose such penalties (see Rule 14.12) as it sees appropriate for the incident. Your co-operation is sought to make these restrictions work for the benefit of the Player's protection and participation.

15.5 The Manager of a MWDBA Representative or Development Team that is scheduled to play on a given weekend must notify the JCC Secretary, in writing by midday Thursday, prior to the affected round, of all pitching restrictions for all players within that team.

15.5.1 A maximum of three Pitchers from any Representative or Development team can be put on Full Restrictions (0 pitches) on a Friday or Saturday club rounds.

15.5.2 A maximum of one pitcher from any one club team can be placed on full restrictions.

15.5.3 Representative Coaches may also limit other pitchers to Minor restriction:

LL 10/11 Minor	20
LL Major	20
Intermediate League	35
Junior League	35
Senior League	45

15.6 The JCC Secretary will notify the Coach, or in the absence of the coach another team official, of the affected team, of the name of the player and the pitching restriction, in writing, as soon as possible, prior to the commencement of the affected club round. The relevant Club Secretary will be included in same communication.

15.7 Any affected club coach who has objections to the restriction must immediately communicate those objections in writing to the JCC Secretary for review by the JCC Executive.

15.8 A breach of any restriction imposed shall be regarded as a breach of Rule 14 and subject to disciplinary action, as outlined in Rule 14.12.



## 16 Catching

16.1 This rule is to be read in conjunction with Rule 17 Pitching & Catching

16.2 The following catching limits apply:

16.2.1 Little League Zooka – 2 innings.

16.2.2 Little League 10/11 (Minor) – 2 innings.

16.2.3 Little League Major - 3 innings.

16.2.4 There is no limit for all other Divisions.

16.3 Coaches should encourage catchers not to remove their catchers gear during their batting inning, unless:

16.3.1 The catcher is one of the first three (3) batters due up that inning; or

16.3.2 For comfort due to environmental conditions, particularly hot weather.

16.4 Catcher Speed Up.

When there are two (2)outs and the Catcher reaches or is on base, a Pinch Runner shall come into the game to replace the Catcher.

The Pinch Runner shall be the last member of the batting team given out.

Upon their return to the dugout, the Catcher is to immediately place their catcher's gear on in preparation for the next half inning.

## 17 Pitching and Catching in the Same Game

17.1 In Divisions, Little League Major to Senior League, a player may pitch and catch in the same game of a club round under the following conditions:

17.1.1 The player can only pitch half of the full pitching restriction for their league age; and

(An example being a Little League Major player can only throw 25 pitches in the game).

17.1.2 The player can only catch a maximum of two (2) innings in the same game.

17.2 The pitch count under this rule will be a hard finish, regardless of the count on the batter in the box.

17.3 The player may pitch/catch or catch/pitch in the same game.

17.4 The subject player, once removed from the mound, will be deemed to have completed their pitching assignment, regardless of pitch count and cannot return to the pitch again in the game.

17.5 If any Coach, Player, Parent, or Official believes that the pitching and/or catching restrictions have been breached all details are to submit in an Incident Report to the JCC Secretary within 24 hours of the completion of the game.

17.5.1 The JCC will gather evidence for review by the JCC, who may impose such penalties (see Rule 14.12) as it sees appropriate for the incident. Your cooperation is sought to make these restrictions work for the benefit of the Player's protection and participation.

## **18 Deliberate Collision**

18.1 If a play on a runner is imminent at any base, except 1st Base.

18.1.1 The runner must slide or otherwise attempt to avoid a collision with a fielder who has the ball or is in the act of fielding the ball.

18.1.2 If the runner violates this rule and a collision occurs, the runner shall be given out.

18.1.3 In such cases, the ball will be “dead” and Runners will return to the last base legally occupied at the time of the collision unless forced to advance;

18.1.4 The position of other Runners is a judgment call by the Umpire(s).

18.2 A runner attempting to score may not deviate from their direct pathway to the plate to initiate contact with the catcher (or other player covering home plate).

18.2.1 If, in the judgment of the Umpire, a runner attempting to score initiates contact with the catcher (or other player covering home plate) in such a manner, the Umpire shall declare the runner out (even if the player covering home plate loses possession of the ball).

18.2.2 The Umpire shall call the ball dead, and all other base runners shall return to the last base legally occupied at the time of the collision.

18.3 Unless the catcher is in possession of the ball, the catcher cannot block the pathway of the runner as they are attempting to score.

18.3.1 If, in the judgment of the Umpire, the catcher without possession of the ball blocks the pathway of the runner, the Umpire shall call or signal the runner safe.

18.3.2 Notwithstanding the above, it shall not be considered a violation of this OABR Rule 7.13 if the catcher blocks the pathway of the runner to field a throw, and the Umpire determines that the catcher could not have fielded the ball without blocking the pathway of the runner and that contact with the runner was unavoidable.

18.4 Where the Umpire judges that a Player intentionally makes contact with an opponent, the Player shall be ejected from the Game. (See Rule 25)

## 19 Code of Conduct

19.1 See Rule 25

19.2 No Player, Team Official, or Spectator shall, at any time, whether from the bench, playing field or elsewhere:

19.2.1 Incite, or try to incite, by word or sign, a demonstration that negatively reflects upon Umpires, players, team officials or spectators.

19.2.2 Use language which will in any manner, negatively reflects upon Umpires, Players, Team Officials or Spectators.

19.2.3 Bring the game into disrepute by engaging in unsportsmanlike conduct.

19.2.4 Trick or misrepresent the status of a play (eg. Hidden Ball Trick). Should this conduct or a play of this type occur, the umpire(s) are to nullify any outcome from the play and continue the game as if the play had not occurred.

19.3 Umpires may caution a Player, Team Official or Spectator regarding misconduct.

19.3.1 If a caution occurs, a written report from the Umpire(s) will be submitted to the JCC Secretary, on the Incident Report form, within 24 hours of the caution.

19.4 Umpires may eject any person connected with the game should a warning not be heeded.

19.5 The person ejected must not remain on or approach any field area.

19.5.1 If an ejection occurs, a written report from the Umpire(s) will be submitted to the JCC Secretary, on the Incident Report form, within 24 hours of the ejection.

## **20 Player, Team Official and Spectator Misconduct**

20.1 See Rule 25

20.2 Should any Player, Team Official or Spectator conduct themselves in a disorderly manner either on or off the field to cause the Umpire to eject that person, a written report, on the Incident Report form, from the Umpire(s) will be submitted to the JCC Secretary, within 24 hours of that action.

20.3 Should any Player, Team Official or Spectator conduct themselves in a disorderly manner either on or off the field to cause another person concern or distress, that person may report the incident to the JCC Secretary by any means necessary.

20.4 The JCC will investigate the incident (under Rule 25) and may suspend or otherwise deal with the offender. This rule will also embrace ejection from the Game.

20.5 Where a Player, Team Official or Spectator is ejected from a game, they are NOT permitted to participate in that Game and must leave the confines of the entire playing facility.

20.6 Any Player, Team Official or Spectator reported under this rule, may NOT participate in other Games covered by MWDBA Junior Competition until the JCC has dealt with the matter, or written permission is given by the JCC.

20.7 Any decision handed down by the JCC is binding on all games covered by MWDBA Junior Competition. It may also be imposed on participation in other affiliated competitions.

20.8 At the discretion of the Umpire(s), if deliberate and persistent misconduct continues the game can be ceased.

20.8.1 Before taking such action, the Umpire must first warn the Coaches.

20.8.2 A written report from the Umpire(s), on the Incident Report form, will be submitted to the Secretary of the JCC, in 24 hours of ceasing the game.

20.8.3 The JCC will determine the ultimate outcome of the Game

## 21 Protests

21.1 Should any Coach consider a decision during a game is not in accordance with the rules and the decision has a direct bearing on the outcome of the Game, an official protest can be lodged under the following conditions:

21.1.1 In the event of an umpire giving a decision on a point of the Rules and refusing to alter their ruling.

21.1.2 The Umpire's decision is final (with a team's right to continue to play under protest).

21.1.3 The protest will not be recognised unless the Umpire(s) are notified at the time of the play and before the next pitch, play or attempted play to retire a runner.

21.1.4 All protests shall be recorded on the result sheet at the time of the play. Notice of Intention to protest the game must be confirmed by the Coach on the result sheet within 15 minutes of the completion of the game. The Umpire must co-sign the protest on the result sheet at this time.

21.1.5 Where the Protest is confirmed, details of the protest clearly stating the nature and reasons for the protest, on the Incident Report form, shall be lodged in writing to the JCC Secretary within 24 hours of the conclusion of the game in which the alleged incident occurred. The team involved in any Protest must advise their Club at the same time as notifying JCC.

21.1.6 A fee \$50 is payable upon the lodgement of any protest. This fee is forfeited should the protest be dismissed.

21.1.7 The JCC reserves the right to fine a Club for any unsuccessful protest lodged by one of the Club's teams that JCC considers being frivolous and ill considered.

21.1.8 Judgment decisions cannot be protested. Examples of judgment calls include balls & strikes, catches, bang-bang plays, fair or foul balls.

21.1.9 The JCC will adjudicate all protests.

21.1.10 In determining their decision, the JCC may call upon any person to assist them in any way they see fit.

21.1.11 The decision of the JCC shall be final.

## **22 Results and Result Sheets**

- 22.1 Result sheets can be completed by either team. The completed result sheet is to be verified as correct by an official from both teams.
- 22.2 In the case of a disputed result sheet, Team officials (including the scorers of the day) and the umpires are not to leave the playing area until the dispute is resolved.
- 22.3 If a disputed result sheet cannot be resolved in a reasonable time following completion of the game, a team official from both teams is to submit an incident report outlining the dispute and forward by email to the Junior Competition Coordinator and/or JBC Secretary within 24 hours of the completion of the game.
- 22.4 Result sheets will be uploaded to the Competition Management System by the home team or as directed by the Junior Competition Coordinator.
- 22.5 All fully completed result sheets are to be uploaded, no later than the 11:59pm the Sunday after each weekend round or 5pm the following day of a mid-week round.
- 22.6 Failure to upload the fully completed result sheets will incur a warning in the first instance and a penalty to be prescribed by the JCC for every subsequent instance.
- 22.7 Teams are to check that the score has been submitted correctly within 7 days of the result being posted. After that time, no changes will be made.
- 22.8 A hardcopy is to be kept on file by the home club for the duration of the season. In the event of a game protest, they may need to be produced as well as the score book from the game in question.

## 23 Competition Standings

23.1 For deciding Competition Standings, the following formula will be used:

23.1.1 The number of Games won by a team is divided by the number of games played with the result to be expressed to 3 decimal places. A draw counts as half a win and a game played. Example:

Team	Played	Wins	Draws	Losses	Win/Loss%
Manly Warringah	20	15	3	2	0.875

Formula:  $\text{Wins} + (\text{Draws} \div 2) \div \text{Played} = 0.825$  ( $16.5/20=0.825$ )

23.1.2 The team finishing the competition with the highest winning percentage will be declared the minor premier.

23.1.3 If teams finish the competition on an equal win percentage, then the method used by the Baseball Australia to determine tied positions will be adopted as follows:

23.1.3.1 Results of games played between tied teams only as if those team(s) were in a competition solely, then if still equal

23.1.3.2 The percentage of runs for and runs against between the tied teams only as if those teams(s) were in a competition solely, if still equal;

23.1.3.3 The percentage of runs for and runs against in total competition.

23.1.3.4 The percentage referred to in 23.1.3.2 and 23.1.3.3 shall be determined as the total runs scored by the team divided by the total runs against. The higher percentage being best.



## 24 Finals Rules

24.1 The Junior Competition Rules will apply to games played during the Finals Series, unless specifically addressed in this Section.

### 24.2 Finals Format

24.2.1 The standard finals format as described below will be used for all MWDBA Junior Competition Finals Series (except Intermediate League) unless the structure of any division warrants a different finals format. This is solely at the discretion of the JCC.

Major Semi Final	First	Second
Minor Semi Final	Third	Fourth
Preliminary Final	Loser Major Semi Final	Winner Minor Semi Final
Grand Final	Winner Major Semi Final	Winner Prelim Final

#### 24.2.2 Intermediate Finals Format

Week 1	Major Semi Final	1 <sup>st</sup> v 4 <sup>th</sup>
	Minor Semi Final	2 <sup>nd</sup> v 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Week 2	Grand Final	Winner Major Semi Final v Winner of Minor Semi Final
	Third Place Final	Loser Major Semi Final v Loser Minor Semi Final

### 24.3 Game Duration

Little League Zooka	Little League 10/11 (Minor)	Little League Major Intermediate League Junior League	Senior League
6 Innings	105 Minutes including hybrid	6 Innings	7 Innings

24.3.1 If after the regulation number of innings, the Game is tied, the Game is to continue until a result is reached.

24.3.2 In the event "B" finals are run (within one competition division) finals games will be normal competition duration

24.3.3 Where a timed game is played, Rules 8.2 & 8.3 (10-minute rule will apply.)

## 24.4 Pitching Restrictions

<b>Little League 10/11 (Minor)</b>	<b>Little League Major</b>	<b>Intermediate League Junior League</b>	<b>Senior League</b>
30	50	60	70

## 24.5 The Mercy Rule

<b>Division</b>	<b>10 Runs ahead after the below innings completed</b>	<b>7 Runs ahead after the below innings completed</b>
Little League 10/11 (Minor)	2 ½	4
Machine Pitch (Zooka) Little League Major Intermediate League Junior League	3 ½	5
Senior League	4 ½	6

24.6 Any Game, suspended by an Umpire due to environmental conditions which cannot recommence within 30 minutes (excluding lightning Rule 4.10), will only become a regulation Game, providing the following number of innings have been completed:

24.6.1 Senior League – 4 innings.

24.6.2 All other divisions – 3 innings.

24.7 Any Game that due to environment conditions (Rule 4):

24.7.1 Is not commenced; or

24.7.2 Is commenced but has not become a regulation Game when play was suspended; or

24.7.3 Is a regulation game and is tied when play had was suspended.

The JCC will determine whether:

24.7.4 Team finishing higher on the competition table will advance; or

24.7.5 Play will recommence at point of the stoppage on another day prior to the next round of the final series.

24.7.6 In the event, the Grand Final is not commenced or is suspended due to environmental conditions, it may be rescheduled, or play recommence on the first available day at the discretion of JCC.

## 24.8 Tie Breaker/Extra Innings

24.8.1 When a game is tied at the end of the regulation innings for that division, extra innings will be played with the following conditions:

24.8.1.1 The batting team will start each batting inning with a baserunner on 2nd base.

24.8.1.2 The baserunner will be the 3rd out from the previous batting inning, and

24.8.1.3 This will continue until a result is obtained or the game is suspended due to environmental conditions, where rules 24.6 and 24.7 will apply.

## 24.9 Umpires for Finals

24.9.1 Each Clubs must supply 3 umpires with a minimum Level 0 qualification for each week of the final series; these umpires do not have to be the same individual. Penalty for non-compliance is \$100 for each week a Club is not compliant.

24.9.2 The Secretary of the Clubs of the qualifying teams must nominate their umpires as soon as it is known that the team will qualify.

## 24.10 Player Participation

24.10.1 Dual-Registered Players. Where a conflict exists with dual-registered players having both their teams participating in either the preliminary week or Grand Final week of the Final Series in the same time slot, the JCC may choose to:

24.10.1.1 Move one or both games to non-conflicting time slots, or 24.10.1.2 Make no change and direct the player(s) to participate in their league age team.

24.10.1.2 Make no change and direct the player(s) to participate in their league age team. The NTP Rule will be utilised to assist their secondary team to participate in their preliminary final.

24.10.2 Non-Team Players may only be used with the approval of the JCC.

24.10.3 All NTP's must be used in accordance with Rule 3.

24.10.4 A player must be registered with a Club no later than 31st January of that competition period (i.e.31st January 2021 for the 2020/2021 season) to be eligible to play in the final series.

## 24.11 Home Team

24.11.1 The Team finishing higher on the points table is the HOME Team and will occupy 1st base dugout and field first.

24.11.2 In the Grand Final, the Team finished highest on the table at the end of competition will be the Home Team and will occupy the 1st base dug-out and field first.

## 24.12 Grounds

24.12.1 Providing the Local Authority has not closed the ground, the host club may close the ground if it is unfit for play prior to 7.30am on each day of the final series.

24.12.2 If the host club has not closed the ground, the JCC Executive may close the ground if it is unfit for play at any time prior to the plate meeting of any game.

24.12.3 If the JCC has not closed the ground, the Umpire, once obtaining control of the game at the Plate Meeting, has control as to whether the game will continue due to environmental conditions (Rule 4).

## 24.13 Protests and Rescheduling of Finals Games

24.13.1 The JCC shall appoint a committee consisting of 2 members of the JCC and 1 member of the MWDBU Committee to hear all protests on the diamond at the time of the protest.

24.13.2 Where a protest is initiated during a finals game, the game is to be halted and an official from the protesting team is to attend the Finals Committee room to advise of the protest and escort the Protest Committee to the game location.

24.13.3 The JCC shall reserves the right to reschedule any final game(s) as it sees fit.

## 25 Tribunal

25.1 All participants under the control of the JCC will abide by and be subject to these Rule, OABR and Little League© Rules, Regulations, and Policies and any other instruction regarding the conduct of the game of baseball by the JCC.

25.2 Any player or team/club official who contravenes these requirements may be:

25.2.1 Ejected from a game by the Umpire;

25.2.2 Cited by an Umpire for an incident that occurs after the game has been “called”

25.2.3 Cited by a MWDBA, JCC or Affiliated Club Official.

25.3 The JCC will appoint a “Tribunal” to process all incidents referred to in Rule 25.1

25.4 When a person is ejected from a game of baseball, cited, they will:

25.4.1 Conform strictly with the OABR;

25.4.2 Not participate in another game with a Club, League or Association affiliated with Baseball NSW until such time that the Tribunal process has been instigated (See Rule 25.6.14).

### 25.5 Tribunal

The Tribunal will be appointed by the JCC to act in accordance with the rules and/or other codes.

It does not follow Judiciary “Rules of Evidence”, but looks at all sorts of evidence including hearsay, written reports, verbal statements, past history etc, and forms an opinion based on probability of incident being true and if finding a breach, and has the power to impose a penalty for that breach. It has the power to call other witnesses. It also has the power to raise more charges if the evidence so suggests.

25.5.1 The Tribunal will consist of a minimum of three (3) persons, but always an odd number, to process the reported incident(s) as they are reported.

25.5.2 The “Chair” will be a member of the JCC Executive.

25.5.3 The other members will be independent registered members of the MWDBA,

25.5.3.1 For an Ejection, preferentially being an experienced coach and an association/club official.

25.5.3.2 For a Code of Conduct violation, preferentially being experienced association/club officials.

25.5.4 Ideally, all members should be independent of the Club(s) the concerned persons are affiliated to.

25.5.5 The members of the Tribunal may differ from incident to incident.

## 25.6 Disciplinary Procedure for Ejections

25.6.1 The Umpire or the Umpire's Club (in the case of a junior umpire) will notify the Secretary of the JCC, on the Incident Report form, that there has been an ejection within 24 hours of the ejection.

25.6.2 The Umpire will submit a written report of the ejection, in a form determined by the JCC, to the Secretary of the JCC within 48 hours of the ejection.

25.6.3 The ejected person (the "Respondent") will be asked to submit a written report, in a form to be determined by the JCC, in response to the incident in their defence, if they wish to do so. The response to be received by the Secretary of the JCC within 48 hours of the request.

25.6.4 The JCC and the Respondent's Club is to provide the Respondent with all information and/or reasonable advice to ensure a fair tribunal process is followed.

25.6.5 If the Umpire is a minor, then the Manly Warringah Baseball Umpires (MWBUs) or the Umpire's affiliated Club will assist with their reporting. The content of any submission(s) from the Umpire are to be in their words.

25.6.6 If the Respondent is a minor, then a parent or guardian can act/communicate on their behalf. The content of any submission(s) from the Respondent are to be in their words.

25.6.7 The Tribunal will be convened, either in person or via electronic means, to consider all reports received within 48 hours of all correspondence being collated by the Secretary and

- 25.6.7.1 Confirm the validity of the incident and impose breach penalty, or
- 25.6.7.2 Call for further evidence or advice, via the Secretary of the JCC, defer their consideration before completing their duties under rule 25.6.6.1. (The period of deferral should be only as long as necessary)
- 25.6.8 Notify the Secretary of the JCC, in writing, of the outcome of the Tribunal, including the penalty imposed.
- 25.6.9 The Secretary of the JCC will notify the Respondent, in writing, of the outcome within 24 hours of the Tribunal notification.
- 25.6.10 The Respondent is to acknowledge the notification, either,
- 25.6.11 Accepting the penalty, or
- 25.6.12 Advising of their intention to appeal
- 25.6.13 If the penalty is accepted, and the matter is closed.
- 25.6.14 If the Respondent does not acknowledge the notification, the penalty will be enforced, and the matter closed.
- 25.6.15 If the Respondent does not accept the penalty, the matter will be referred to the MWDBA committee for consideration of the appeal.
- 25.6.16 Any penalty imposed by the Tribunal must be served in full before the respondent is eligible to resume playing in any MWDBA or affiliated association games.
- 25.6.17 The respondent cannot participate in any MWDBA or affiliated association games, whilst the tribunal process is being undertaken without permission of the JCC. The respondent must submit their request to play in writing to the Secretary of the JCC.

## 25.7 Disciplinary Procedure for Code of Conduct (CoC) Violations

- 25.7.1 Depending on severity, CoC violations should be first dealt with by the Club(s) involved.
- 25.7.2 If this process is not successful, then the following procedures will apply.
- 25.7.3 The JCC will be informed, in writing to the JCC Secretary, of the alleged breach.
- 25.7.4 Written reports, in a form determined by the JCC, will be called for from the Complainant and/or witnesses.
- 25.7.5 If the Complainant is a minor, then their parent/guardian and/or the Umpire's affiliated Club will assist with their reporting. The content of any submission(s) from the Umpire are to be in their words.
- 25.7.6 The Tribunal will be appointed by the JCC to act in accordance with the rules and/or other codes.
- 25.7.7 If the Tribunal decides there is a case to answer, the Respondent will be informed of the complaint and the CoC breach.
- 25.7.8 The Respondent will be asked to submit a written response to the complaint in a reasonable timeframe. The Respondent may also submit witness submissions.
- 25.7.9 The Tribunal will consider all submissions, determine if there has been a CoC breach and decide if any penalty should be imposed.
- 25.7.10 Notify the Secretary of the JCC, in writing, of the outcome of the Tribunal, including the penalty imposed.
- 25.7.11 The Secretary of the JCC will notify the Respondent, in writing, of the outcome within 24 hours of the Tribunal notification. If the penalty is accepted, and the matter is closed.
- 25.7.12 If the Respondent does not acknowledge the notification, the penalty will be enforced, and the matter closed.
- 25.7.13 If the Respondent does not accept the penalty, the matter will be referred to the MWDBA committee for consideration of the appeal.
- 25.7.14 Any penalty imposed by the Tribunal must be served in full before the respondent is eligible to resume playing in any MWDBA or affiliated association games.



25.7.15 The respondent cannot participate in any MWDBA or affiliated association games, whilst the tribunal process is being undertaken without permission of the JCC. The respondent must submit their request to play in writing to the Secretary of the JJC.

## 25.8 25.8 Enforcement of Penalties

25.8.1 The Tribunal will follow the prescribed penalties outlined in the “Prescribed Penalties - Baseball NSW Tribunal” document as it appears on the Baseball NSW website.

25.8.2 The Tribunal may also recommend:

25.8.1.1 For individuals:- deregistration (from the current season), multi-year or life suspension from all MWDBA competitions.

25.8.1.2 For Teams:- loss of points, exclusion from competition finals or removal from the current competition.

25.8.1.3 For Clubs: - loss of points, exclusion from competition finals or removal from the current competition.

25.8.1.4 These recommendations may require ratification by the MWDBA committee

## Tee Ball (Under 8)

## Annexure A

Game Duration	1 Hour; or 5 Innings
Game End	Rule 8.2 (10 minutes innings start) applies
Base Path	50 feet (15.24m)
Pitching Distance	37 feet (11.28m) 150 feet (45.7m) <input type="checkbox"/> HR Boundary is laid out by marking an arc 104 feet (31.7m) from the pitcher's plate <input type="checkbox"/> [Calculation: 150 feet – 46 feet (pitching distance) = 104 feet]
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The HR Boundary is only used for HRs on the full. Balls that hit the ground before and roll through the HR Boundary are live (<u>NO</u> automatic double applied)</li></ul>

### Baseball



Reduced Injury Baseball (RIB)

**All baseballs used in the game must be the same brand.**

### Bat

- 2 5/8 barrel diameter bat, Aluminium or Composite.

**or**

USA Baseball Standard is recommended.  
(Logo displayed)



Mercy Rule Not Applicable

Max Runs per Innings Not Applicable

Coaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A coach is permitted to stand in the outfield to assist with positioning of fielders and offer encouragement to the fielders when a batted ball is in play.</li> <li>• A coach is permitted to assist the batter in the box with adopting the correct stance and positioning/height of the tee.</li> <li>• Coaches are not permitted to assist in the fielding of a batted ball.</li> <li>• Coaches are not permitted to assist batter in hitting the ball from the tee.</li> </ul>
Pitching	See Pitcher's position under "Fielding"
Catching	Must wear a batting helmet
On Deck Batter	No
Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bat through the lineup each innings;</li> <li>• Coaches must agree at the plate meeting to choose whether to leave any batter given out at first base to run;</li> <li>• If no agreement can be reached, then all batters put out will return to the dugout.</li> <li>• Fielding positions may be changed during an innings after "time" is granted by the umpire.</li> </ul>
Batting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Batter will remain in the dugout until the Umpire calls "Batter Up."</li> <li>• The Batter will not commence their swing until the Umpire calls 'Play.</li> <li>• The "At Bat" will end only after the batter has hit the ball;</li> <li>• Full and forceful contact must be made with the ball;</li> <li>• Bunting is not permitted;</li> <li>• A batted ball must travel outside an imaginary arc the distance being halfway to the pitcher to deemed a "hit ball";</li> <li>• A batted ball remaining inside an imaginary arc the distance being halfway to the pitcher to deemed a "dead ball" and the batter will continue the at bat without penalty;</li> <li>• The batter's feet will be square with an imaginary line drawn between the centre of home plate and the centre of the pitcher's plate;</li> <li>• A Batter who throws the bat after contact will be warned by the umpire. A subsequent offence, the batter will be given out and runners will last base legally occupied;</li> <li>• Infield Fly rule does not apply;</li> <li>• The "Last Batter" will be declared by the scorer to the umpire, who will announce, prior to the commencement of the at bat. The inning will cease when time is called.</li> </ul>

- Runner
- All runners will remain in contact with the base until the ball is hit;
  - Umpire will ensure all runners are in contact with their base before calling play;
  - Umpires will call “Left Early”, if a runner does so, “Time” is called;
  - If the batter has hit the ball, the play will be nullified, the batter returned to complete the at bat.
- Time Rule
- When an infielder is “in control” of the ball.
  - Time call is a judgment call of the umpire.
  - Umpire will direct runner(s) to the correct base(s), in their judgement.
  - A fielder standing within or immediately adjacent to the infield may be deemed an infielder.
  - “In control” may be defined as in possession or within reach or about to catch a thrown ball.
  - Coaches are not to encourage base running in the hope of forcing an error.
  - Commonsense will be applied to this rule.
- Fielding  
(Before calling  
“Play”)
- A player can only field at the same position for a maximum of 2 innings during the game.
  - All fielders will be in orthodox fielding positions.
  - The pitcher will have both feet on the pitching rubber.
  - The catcher will be in a safe position.
  - No fielder is, in the judgment of the umpire, to field too close to the batter.
- Overthrown  
Ball
- Runner(s) may not advance on a ball thrown into foul territory or beyond the pass ball line.
  - “Time” shall immediately be called.
  - Point 1 will be applied to an enclosed field if the ball rebounds off the fencing.