
HOUSE LEAGUE RULES

MOSQUITO BASEBALL



TURTLE CLUB BASEBALL & SOFTBALL
LaSalle, Ontario



Rules of Play

Mosquito Baseball



Revision Date	Description
4/20/24	Developed for TC Website
5/24/25	2025 Pre-season review
6/11/25	Unlimited inning update

INTRODUCTION

This Division is the foundation for the development of our future pitch baseball players. It is in this division that we begin the process of teaching these players the real baseball game; now adding to the basics with pitching, and stealing. The Mosquito program needs to reinforce the basic elements with the players and teach them the new skills while remembering proper techniques to execute each properly for their age. The focus is all on developing the basic skills, introducing strategies and providing an environment that is fun, enjoyable and encourages the continued growth of each player.

The Mosquito division shall use the current edition of the Ontario Baseball Association Constitution containing Regulations and Playing Rules (available at www.baseballontario.com) and the following supplemental rules adapted by TC for the Mosquito house league season. (Including playoffs)

The Mosquito Program is comprised of 1 division with a 2 year age group:

- MOSQUITO – 9, 10 year olds (based on age as of January 1st)

The Mosquito Program shall be executed in a round robin format, based on approximately a 12 to 14 week season (The organization will adjust for a reduced game season as necessary).

General Season Information

Schedule:

- Typically Mosquito is played Tuesday and Thursday evenings.
- The season will start with a few practices in a row (Tues and Thurs), then progress to alternating practices (Thurs) and games (Tues), then to all games (Tues and Thurs) prior to the final House league tournament.
- 2 hour time slots each day; See website calendar for diamond allocations.
- Cancellations due to weather will be communicated via the website “Diamond Status”. No coaches or managers should be cancelling events; Assume we play unless the website says closed.



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Practices:

- Two teams share one diamond and split time in the outfield and infield within the allotted time slot.
- Diamonds must be setup (bow nets, tees etc.) prior to practice time; equipment will be provided, and assistance from coaches is appreciated in setup and tear down.
- Batting cages may be available during practice times also and will be scheduled by the division director. (Shared by entire division)

Equipment:

- All players are required to provide their own glove, batting helmet, bat and appropriate running shoes. Players will not be permitted to play without proper equipment.
 - Baseball cleats, water bottle, jock or jill are recommended. (no metal cleats)
- Coaches will be provided with a team equipment bag for balls, and catcher's equipment; please return equipment to the bag after each event.
- TC will provide all other field equipment for use at practices and games. This equipment (tees, bases, and bow nets) shall remain on the field and are not to be removed for any reason. Assistance to setup and tear down is appreciated when required.

Uniforms:

- TC will provide all players with a shirt, baseball pants and a hat. – Uniforms should be tucked in, hats forward, and no jewellery.

Regular Season (Games):

1) General Game Play

- a) Score will be recorded in the Mosquito (9u) division; Winning team to report score by texting division director.
- b) Outs will be removed from bases if called out by umpires.
- c) Two umpires per game (minimum) in this division.
- d) Strike outs will be called, all players will hit.
- e) 5 innings is a standard game; 3.5 innings will constitute a complete game if weather becomes an issue.
- f) No innings will start after 1hr 45mins from **scheduled start time**. (ie 7:45pm for scheduled 6pm game start.) Hard stop at 8:00pm. Scores revert to last completed inning.
- g) The infield fly rule is in effect in this division.
- h) There will be **no Balks** in this division.
- i) There will be **no intentional walks** in this division.
- j) Bases at 65ft.
- k) Mound at 44ft.
- l) Large 21" Oversized plate will be used.
- m) 5 runs max. per inning. All innings prior to the 5th. The 5th inning (ONLY) will be unlimited.
- n) If a team is short players, the opposing team is obligated to provide players to fill the gaps in the outfield up to a max of 9 players; only for defensive purposes. Less than 7 players, at any point in the game, becomes a forfeit.
- o) Call ups from an immediate lower division are permitted to fill roster spots.

2) Batting

- a) Every player will bat in a continuous order and every player will field in a rotation.
- b) Thrown bat: Any infraction of a bat being thrown will result in time being called; the batter will be instructed once on how to release the bat; future infractions may be penalized.
- c) Bunting is permitted.
- d) Doubles, Triples and Home runs are permitted (over the fence only).



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3) Pitching

- a) Any one pitcher is allowed to pitch a maximum of two (2) innings per game.
- b) Every player is encouraged pitch a minimum of one (1) inning during the season.
- c) Four (4) walks in the inning or two (2) hit batters will qualify as a complete inning pitched towards the player's minimum one (1) inning.
- d) A 9 and 10 year old pitcher must pitch a minimum of one inning per game each where possible.
- e) A pitcher hitting three (3) batters in a game or two (2) batters in an inning shall be removed as the pitcher. Re-entry will be permitted in a different inning following OBA rules.
- f) Every team must use a new pitcher as a closer for the 5th inning; this will be that pitcher's only inning in that game.
- g) 2nd mound visit in same inning must change pitcher.

4) Base Running

- a) Lead-off from the base **are not permitted** until the ball has crossed the plate.
- b) On an overthrow to any base, runners may advance as far as 3rd base at their own risk.
- c) In no case shall a runner score on an overthrow.
- d) Stealing will be allowed in all games. There is no stealing of home.
- e) A Runner on 3rd base must be hit home or forced home.
- f) There is no head first sliding, unless going back to a base.
- g) Pinch runners due to injury are permitted; Must be the batter who was last out.
- h) No batter advancement upon dropped 3rd strike in this division.

5) Fielding

- a) All players must be rotated through all infield positions. All players must be rotated through all positions as equally as possible.
- b) In a game, a player shall play a minimum of 2 innings in the infield and 1 inning in the outfield. Pitching and catching are considered infield positions.
- c) No player shall play the catcher position more than 3 innings in any one game. The position of spare does not count as infield or outfield.
- d) No player can play the same position more than three times in a game.
- e) No player can sit twice until all players sit once; this continues throughout the entire season to ensure that all players take their turn sitting out equally. Failure to follow the mandatory playing rules may result in a forfeit of that game.
- f) Catchers must remain in full game gear at all times during play with the exception of removing their helmet, for better vision, once the ball has been put into play.
- g) Right fielders are not permitted to throw or make an out at 1st base; must use a cut off.
- h) End of inning: No defensive player is allowed to leave the field until all base runners have scored.
- i) Catchers cannot block home plate from a runner; collisions must be avoided.
- j) Max 3 outfielders.

6) General Coaching Responsibilities

- a) Communicate with the Division Director and/ or board members as required.
- b) Communicate with parents – Snack Schedule, Diamond #, game/ practices etc.
- c) Coordinate with other coaches for diamond setup (bow nets, tees etc.)
- d) Create Practice plans/ Lead practices
- e) Create/ manage lineups and position rotations.
- f) Lead/ guide players on the field to teach basics of positioning, and skills.
- g) Represent your team and TC as an organization in an honorable manner; treat everyone with respect.
- h) Approaching an umpire is only permitted once you have requested “time”, and the umpire has agreed to grant “time” **and** permission to approach.
- i) If a coach or manager is ejected for any reason during the season, that coach/ manager must leave the park, and is subject to further discipline before permission is given to return to action.



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Discipline will be at the discretion of the TC board.

- j) No coaches permitted on the field beyond those designated as 1st and 3rd base coaches. All other coaches must be in the area of the dugouts.

Playoff Season/ Tournament: (Last Weekend in July)

1) No Change in rules

- a) Same rules as regular season.
- b) Scores will be recorded, and standings kept.
- c) Playoff format will be a round robin ending on the Day of champs.
- d) If a game ends (by time or score) in a tie, the score will be recorded from the last inning that did not end in a tie
- e) Each team is allowed to field up to 9 players (3 outfielders). Less than 7 players results in a forfeit and the game will not be played. The winning team will be awarded an 8-0 score.

Division Director's Note

The intention of the playoff will be to compete on a higher level than the regular season while maintaining the integrity of the game. The intention will be to challenge the players to step up their games in a round robin format. The hope will be to have the players shine and not the coaches.

Player Evaluations: The player evaluations are requested to be completed at the end of the season to help with next year's draft.

Skills to work on:

- a) Proper throwing technique – make a T..... Point, Step, Throw.
- b) Fielding – consistent fielding, double plays, relays from outfield...
- c) Base running – stealing, watching/ listening to base coaches, taking extra bases.
- d) Batting – situational hitting, bunting, placement vs power.
- e) Pitching – throwing strikes, changing speeds, pitch location.