

LGSSAA BASEBALL PLAYING REGULATIONS

1. Date:

The date of the LGSSAA baseball league shall commence no sooner than May 1 (and when your Municipality gives permission to use outdoor fields) of the given year and the championship game must be played, if possible, no later than 4 days prior to EOSSAA.

B) Format:

If possible, teams can play 2-6 league games including LGSSAA Championship prior to EOSSAA. Format of games/tournaments for LGSSAA will depend upon number of teams entered. The playoff format will be determined by the Convenor and again depending on the number of teams entered.

2. Location:

The location of the championship game shall be determined by the Convenor.

3. Expenses:

An entry fee will be charged to cover the operating costs of the league: umpires, field rental. **The entry fee or fees will be determined after all expenses are received and an email will be sent to each participating school with the amounts owed by each school considering games played. Cheques made payable to host school convenor.**

4. Eligibility:

To represent a school in any activity coordinated by LGSSAA, a student must:

(i) be eligible for competition under the Constitution, By-Laws, and Standing Rules (Playing Regulations) of the Association to which his school belongs;

(ii) be certified as eligible by the Principal of the school;

(iii) meet the following age requirement: the individual's birth certificate indicates that he has not reached his 19th birthday by January 1st prior to the start of the school year in which the competition is held;

(iv) be in Grades 9-12;

(v) be eligible under the OFSAA Transfer Policy; (By-Law 5, Section 4(f)).

(vi) be eligible for no more than five (5) consecutive years from date of entry into Grade 9 (By-Law 5, Section 4(g));

5. Rules: The Official Rules of Baseball shall govern all play at the LGSSAA baseball championship with the following exceptions:

(a) All games will be seven (7) innings except when a team is leading by 10 or more runs after five (5) innings or four and a half (4½) innings if the home team is ahead. Then the mercy rule will apply, and the game is ended.

(b) Tie games will be broken as follows:

1. the teams will place a runner at second base (last player who made an out) and play extra innings until a winner is declared;

2. A designated hitter may be used for the pitcher as per the Official Rules of Baseball.

(d) A pitcher may not pitch more than twenty-seven outs in the LGSSAA round robin/winner loser semifinals that are played in one day (meaning, if you play at least 2 or more games in one day or 2 day continuation of day 1 due to extenuating circumstances) If the 27th out occurs during the course of an inning, the pitcher may complete the inning.

**The previous pitch rule does not apply to one game division and League Championship final games

(e) With two outs, and the catcher on base, the last player making an out shall be substituted for the catcher.

(f) Runners are instructed to slide or try to avoid contact with a fielder. A player who maliciously runs into another player is to be declared out (unless he or she has scored prior to committing the infraction) and is to be automatically ejected from the game.

(g) Any individual ejected from a game shall be automatically ineligible to participate in his team's next game

(h) All bats used must conform to the Ontario Baseball Association rule that a bat cannot weigh more than three ounces less than the length of the bat. (For example, a 33-inch-long bat cannot weigh less than 30 ounces.) The bat cannot have a diameter at its thickest part of more than 2 5/8 inches. All bats must be composed of wood or wood composite. Metal, ceramic, and other polymer bats are not allowed at the EOSSAA baseball championship.

(i) Only baseballs approved by Baseball Canada for use by Midget age and up (16 and over) shall be used in High School competition. It is recommended that all High School teams use the Worth MLH baseball.

(j) Shoes with metal cleats or rubber molded cleats are permitted.

Catchers must wear a helmet and mask with adequate throat protection. Note: This includes practice and warm-ups. Coaches must wear at least a mask in all practice and warm-up situations.

(l) The use of all tobacco products, including smokeless tobacco by all on-field participants (players, coaches, managers, trainers, umpires, etc.) is prohibited and subject to automatic ejection from the game.

(m) No visible jewelry is allowed.

8. Uniforms

(a) All competitors are expected to dress in uniforms as best as possible that are neat, clean and which maintain the integrity of the school and Association's name, colours and logos. All uniforms must have numbers on the back of the uniform shirt.

All players and coaches must wear their official team cap if possible.

(c) Student-athletes must remain fully clothed in the appropriate team uniform in the competition area,

9. Awards

Championship medals will be awarded if the minimum number of teams are participating as per the LGSSAA Constitution.

APPENDIX ONE –

INCLEMENT WEATHER PROTOCOL 1) The decision to halt or postpone the LGSSAA league and/or championship rests with the convenor and umpires involved in the championship.

i) Every reasonable effort should be made to return field conditions to a level of playability. Reasonable effort includes the use of rakes, shovels, drying agent [i.e. cat litter] and clay. Pumps or vacuums may be used to remove water from a field; however, their use is considered beyond reasonable effort.

i) If the convenor determines that the game and/or Championship must be postponed in its entirety on the scheduled date they will notify all involved coaches early enough that coaches can alter travel arrangements if necessary. Notification would typically occur by e-mail or text (if you have the coach's number) no later than 7:15 a.m. on the date of the championship.

If a league game is affected by weather the convenor and umpires will determine the result/winner based on

i) whether the game can be completed in its entirety;

ii) or if 5 innings have been completed, the team leading will be determined the winner