



CAPE TOWN BASEBALL FEDERATION

Junior Rules 2019-2020 Season

Version 1 – 10/10/2019

UNDER 8 RULES (PEE WEE T-BALL)

Base Distance	Pitching	Boundary	Start Time	Duration	Pitch Count
18.25m	N/A	N/A	10.00am	1hr 30mins	N/A
No new innings to start after 12.00pm					

UNDER 10 RULES (T-BALL)

Base Distance	Pitching	Boundary	Start Time	Duration	Pitch Count
18.28m	14.00m	53m-60m	8.30am	1hr 30mins	TBA
No new innings to start after 9.45am					

UNDER 12 RULES

Base Distance	Pitching	Boundary	Start Time	Duration	Pitch Count
22.86m	15.54m	67m – 82m	10.30am	1hr 45mins	50 – 1st half 65 – 2nd half
No new innings to start after 12.00pm					

UNDER 15 RULES

Base Distance	Pitching	Boundary	Start Time	Time	Pitch Count
27.43m	17m –(Oct) 18.44m	84m - 97m	08.30am	2.00	60 – 1st month 75 - thereafter
No New inning to start after 10.15am					

UNDER 18 RULES

Base Distance	Pitching	Boundary	Start Time	Time	Pitch Count
27.43m	18.44m	84m - 97m	10.00am	2.15	100
No New inning to start after 12.00pm					

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GENERAL RULES APPLYING TO ALL JUNIOR TEAMS:

1. General Baseball rules apply to all Leagues
2. Time limit games. No new innings to start 15 minutes before of a later game
 - This rule does not however apply if there is no late game as it is in place to give the players of the late game a chance to get onto the infield
 - The operative work is START and not finish. If it is not 15 mins before the last game according to the official time keeper of the game (NOT THE COACHES), then a new inning must start
3. Girls may play one age group down from their biological age and can play in any position. However only for the period of 1 year. They are not considered as "over aged" players as this is their league.
4. Any junior player, who has played the position of catcher in 2 or more innings in a game, is not eligible to pitch on that calendar day.
5. A pitcher cannot become a catcher
6. A player may not pitch and catch in the same game under any circumstances!
7. Age Groups:

U18	-	born 2002 – 2004
U15	-	born 2005 – 2007
U12	-	born 2008 – 2009
U10	-	born 2010 – 2011
Pee Wee	-	born 2012 and after

 - NO overage player can play in the U18 league as they are seniors
 - Written permission must be obtained from CTBF for any overage player
 - Overage players can only play in the outfield
 - Overage players can only bat at no. 8 or 9
 - Overage players CANNOT play ahead of a legitimate aged player
 - In the case where a club has 2 teams in an age group, the overaged player can only play in the "B" team
8. Pitch counts to take place in all age groups. This will ensure that we manage the players' arms and to encourage development of new pitchers
 - Should the above rule not be adhered to (as we are trying to develop arms), clubs will be penalised and coaches will be liable to CTBF.
 - The process to be followed to protest pitch count is the opposing coach would have to call time and then approach the umpire. On agreement of the pitch count, the umpire will enforce the rule by informing the coach that the pitcher reached his/her count and may only finish the batter.

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9. A side may take the field with a minimum of 7 players to constitute a legal game. Both the missing 8th & 9th players will count as an out in the batting order.

10. If the game starts late, it MUST finish at the prescribed above times regardless of the fact that it started late. This rule only becomes void should there be no later game

11. Postponements and Late Arrivals:
 - NO postponement will be considered
 - Any team that fails to take the field within 15 min of the scheduled start time shall forfeit the said game
 - Points are shared for all games affected by the weather. NO postponements of any junior fixtures will be allowed
 - Any team which fails to arrive for a fixture without notifying CTBF and the opposition of the unavailability shall be liable for a fine. Any cancellation of junior games must be communicated in writing 24 hrs prior to the fixture

12. Team Returns
 - Official Team Returns are to be used for ALL junior games. One page for scorers, one for the opposition with the original remaining in the line-up book
 - The final result will be recorded in the book which the umpire will sign
 - No dispute will be entertained without a proper team return
 - **All age groups to have a scorer who must submit pitch counts, per pitcher, on the line sheet where the final result is recorded and signed by the umpire**

13. Registration
 - NO player may take the field if they are not registered with CTBF
 - Players who transfer from one club to another MUST have received clearance from the former club and be registered with their new club prior to taking the field.

14. Results
 - Results are to be submitted by **HOME** teams via the online results system. All clubs to however keep record of scores in case of discrepancies

15. Proposed Start Time of Games (see above)
 - **These start times are proposed. Clubs are to negotiate these times if necessary and if consensus cannot be reached by both clubs, the start time will revert back to CTBF's proposed times**

16. Extra Safety Measure
 - **NO HEAD FIRST SLIDING IS ALLOWED**
 - **NO BARGING OF CATCHERS AT HOME PLATE IS ALLOWED**
 - **ALL COACHES TO WEAR BASEBALL ATTIRE WHEN COACHING** – NO JEANS OR FLIP FLOPS ALLOWED

17. The league structure will be as follows:
 - **Demographical league
 - **Cup league
 - **Championship league

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UNDER 8 RULES (PEE WEE T-BALL)

- This is a friendship league and all scheduled matches are mandatory
- 3 Meter foul ball circle to be marked and applied.
- Play format will be all 9 batters.
- No bunting
- Soft touch baseballs to be used.
- Infielders must stand on the outside of the diamond until the ball has been hit

UNDER 10 RULES (T-BALL)

- U10: Born 2010 and after
- As a result of the league structure, U10 will no longer be a friendship league
- All scheduled matches are mandatory
- Logs will be kept for all league matches and all scheduled matches are mandatory
- 3 meter foul ball circle to be marked and applied
- Play format will consist of all 9 batters, 3 up 3 down - repeat. Batting lineup to continue with next batter when offensive team comes in to bat again.
- No Bunting off the Tee is allowed
- The batter's stance in the batter's box to be correct (coaches are **not** to position a child to hit in a certain direction). Batter to line up as if facing a pitched ball
- No fielding inside the diamond until the ball is batted.
- Hard ball is to be used for all games unless agreed between clubs that soft touch can be used. Any dispute between clubs the game will fall upon default rule and hard ball will be used.

Demographical league **(T-BALL ONLY)

Cup league **(T-BALL ONLY)

Championship league **(First 2 innings - pitch ball then remainder T-BALL)

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UNDER 12 RULES

- U12: Born 2008 to 2009
- Logs are kept for all league matches and all scheduled matches are mandatory
- The start time of the game is a guideline which must be followed. Clubs to negotiate amongst themselves (and not dictate a change in time). The away team is to be notified by Tuesday of any changes in the start time and the away team must agree otherwise the time will revert back to the CTBF proposed start time of 10.30am
- The 5 run rule applies to this league (5th run in ends the inning)
- Players are allowed to steal bases, leads are allowed
- Dropped 3rd strike applies in this league
- 3 up 3 down rule applies
- No DH allowed
- Hard ball to be used
- Junior coaches to coach in baseball attire
- The bat shall be made of wood or of other materials as it complies with the MBSC Baseball Division specifications as written in this rule
- The bat shall be a smooth, rounded stick with a constant radius at any point. There must be a direct line from the centre of the knob to the centre of the large end. The knob and the end plug, if any, must be firmly attached. The bat shall not be more than 33 inches (83.82cm) in length. The diameter of the bat shall not be more than 2 5/8 inches, nor less than 2 ¼ inches. The bat should be labelled with BPF (Bat Performance Factor) of 1.15 or less, if is not made of solid wood. If the label is not legible, the bat cannot be used and shall be removed from the game
- **No catcher to pitch and vice versa under any circumstances in an U12 game.**
- **No pitcher to pitch in more than 1 game per day**
- **Pitch count per pitcher to be included on the line up sheet before the umpire signs**
- **If a pitcher has less than 3 balls left for his/her pitch count, NO new batter to be started. If more than 3 remaining, a new batter can be started.**
- Equal game time for each team – each team to complete innings. Ie The home team to complete the last inning with their batting turn up last

Should the above rules not be adhered to – especially rules regarding pitching (as we are trying to develop arms), clubs will be penalised and coaches will be liable to CTBF.

*for consideration for the 2nd half of the season:

- 1 strike rule – the pitcher will get to start with 1 strike on the batter and after then 3rd inning start with a runner on 2nd base. This will develop more aggressive hitting

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UNDER 15 RULES

- U15: born 2005-2007
- Logs are kept for league matches but all scheduled matches are mandatory
- The 5 run rule applies to this league; 5th run ends the innings.
- Players are allowed to steal bases with leads and pick-offs from the pitcher.
- Dropped 3rd strike applies in this league.
- Pitch count will be a maximum of 60 in first month and 75 for the rest of the season. We want to develop pitchers NOT one pitcher per team.
- Pitching distance will be 17m (56 feet) in October (instead of 18.47m,/60.6 feet). We will review at the beginning of November.
- First three innings (or 1 hour) normal baseball rules. From 4th inning (2nd hour) hitter starts on 2 ball/1 strike count. We want to encourage pitchers to throw strikes and hitters to hit NOT look for walks.
- Metal cleats are allowed in this league as per new SABU rule, following on to WBSC rule.

UNDER 18 RULES

- Logs are kept for league matches but all scheduled matches are mandatory
- The 5 run rule applies to this league; 5th run ends the innings.
- Players are allowed to steal bases with leads and pick-offs from the pitcher.
- Dropped 3rd strike applies in this league.

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