REP DIVISION
PROPOSED RULE CHANGES

TBA 1

Change RP2.5 i., ii and the beginning of iii. as follows:

ii. For all 14U and 15U play, except for 15U AAA, wood bats and non-wood bats may be used. Non-wood bats with a length-to-weight differential of -5 or less are permitted.

iii. For 15U AAA and all levels of play 16U and above,…

Rationale: Scores at the 2023 AAA provincial averaged double digits and game length was long.

SENIOR AAA ADVISORY COMMITTEE 1

Delete RP2.8 j) and replace with the following:

j. Senior AAA teams are permitted a maximum of 5 22U aged call ups for Eliminations.

Rationale: The Senior AAA teams voted 12 to 6 in favour of increasing the number of call ups allowed for the Eliminations from 3 to 5. The rule currently allows for 18U players, but they have submitted a Constitutional Amendment to restrict players 19 and older to play Senior AAA.

RC 1

Amend R1P2.14 as follows:

At 22U and below, the following extra inning procedure will be followed when the game is tied at the end of regulation play for all Baseball Ontario Rep sanctioned tournaments, Rep Play-offs, and Rep Elimination Tournaments:

a. Each team will begin the extra inning (and any subsequent necessary extra innings) with a player on second base only, no outs.

b. The placement of the runners of the extra inning will be determined by how the previous inning ended:

i. The hitter with the last plate appearance in the previous inning will be placed at second base.

ii. If the hitter with the last plate appearance was still at bat when the inning ended (ie: third out was made on R1 stealing second base), that hitter would be entitled

to continue their at-bat in the next inning and the previous hitter listed on the batting order before that batter will be placed on second base.

c. The traditional system of the visiting team hitting in the top of the inning and the home team hitting in the bottom of the inning will remain in effect until a winner is determined.

d. All other Official Baseball Rules and Baseball Ontario rules remain in effect during extra innings.

Example: *If the last inning ends with the #6 batter having the last plate appearance, then the extra inning begins with the #7 batter at bat, and the #6 batter at second base.*

Rationale: Follows Major League and Baseball Canada rule.

SPBA 1

Change RP2.11 m. as follows:

m. Any player who is playing in a series higher than their age appropriate series shall be restricted to the pitch count limitations and required rest periods applicable to the age of the player, provided:

i. Players aged 9 and under are not permitted to pitch under any circumstances

Rationale: Remove all pitching allowances for 9U players. The overall understanding is that pitching at 9U and under is not the safest for players safety.

RC 2

AMENDMENT TO RP2.11 (y)

(i) Any coach suspended for the first time under 2.11(y), and the suspension is considered administrative in nature, may have their suspension nullified by attending an Arm Care training session as identified by Rep Council.

AMENDMENT TO RP2.11 (y)

(ii) Any coach suspended, under 2.11(y) and the suspension is considered administrative in nature, need not serve their suspension in consecutive games. The suspension must be completed within one year of the suspension and served in games of consequence. The offending coach must send dates and opponents of the games served to the Baseball Ontario office, prior to the suspension being considered complete.

FOR REFERENCE RP2.11 y) currently reads:

Any coach or manager whose actions cause a player's pitch counts to be exceeded or not counted as required by these rules, and that action is not identified until after the game is completed, shall be subject to a suspension of not less than 2 games which may be extended at the discretion of the Series Chair.

RC 3

Add to RP2.17 e) the following:

In games where extra innings are required to determine a winner, an 8 run maximum will apply for all extra innings.

SPBA 2

Change RP2.17 g. as follows:

g. The number of trips to the mound by a Manager/Coach shall be limited to 2 trips per inning per pitcher.

Rationale: With the changes to the game length being timed, remove the ability to have coaches go out for indefinite mound visits for use of gaining advantage for timed out games. This was seen in OBA Provincials as well by various teams as a tactic. Remove this judgment from the umpire.

SPBA 3

Change RP2.17 i. as follows:

i. If a player is removed from the game due to injury, illness, or official ejection, the player's spot in the batting order shall be deleted. In the event a batter must be removed during their time at bat, the next batter in the batting order shall come to bat assuming the balls and strikes count at the time the batter is removed. If the batter becomes an out, such batter shall then take their regular turn at bat. The player removed is not allowed to re-enter the game or the batting order.

Rationale: a 12 or 13th batter is injured or unable to bat, but then is able to re-enter the game the next inning for defence purposes. This was an issue during the OBA 11U for a couple of teams. This clears up the rule and intent for convenors and organizers of tournaments.

RC 4

Amend RP4 Field Dimensions to read as follows:

Series	Mound	Bases	Diagonal	Foul Area	Left	Centre	Right	Radius
13U	54'	80'	113' 1 5/8"	50'	270'	335'	270'	85'

RC 5

RP6 REP ELIMINATION TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES

e. The teams participating in a Rep Elimination Tournament shall automatically be classified by the Rep Council as follows:

i. 13U – AAA
ii. 15U – AAAA
iii. 18U – AAAA
iv. 22U – AAA
v. Senior – AAA
vi. Any team participating in a National Championship as a host team shall be classified as indicated corresponding by the age category in RP6(e)(i)-(v).

z. At 15U and 18U, recognized OBA High Performance Partners may participate in the OBA Rep Elimination Tournament so long as they adhere to the OBA Arm Care rules throughout the season and comply with OBA Coach Certification.

RC 6
COBA 1
YSBA 1

Delete RP7.1 – Playing Non-Registered Teams and Players

Rationale: This would allow Rep teams to play non-recognized teams. NOTE: there is also a corresponding Rep Constitutional Amendment.

RC 7

Delete RP7.3(j), re-letter the remainder.

~~j. Before distribution to the teams by the Tournament Host Association the complete schedule must be forwarded to the Rep Tournament Chair at least two weeks prior to the tournament for approval. Failure to comply with such provisions may lead to the tournament not being approved the following year. Failure to comply with this section will result in a $200 fine.~~

Rationale: Reduce paperwork. Let the marketplace determine whether a host runs a good tournament or not.

RC 8

Amend RP7.3(k) and (l) as follows: .

k. The complete schedule of tournament games must be sent to each participating team at least two weeks prior to the first game. A fine of $500 will apply for Local Associations in violation of this timeline for each tournament.

l. Only Rep rules shall apply for all Rep tournaments, with the exception of curfews, game length (ie: 7 or 9 innings), time limits, and playoff formats, local rules shall not apply. Tournament convenors shall determine curfews, game length, and schedules, including playoff formats. Tournament hosts are responsible to send a list of these rules as well as a copy of the OBA Arm Care and mercy rules out to all participants with the tournament schedule at least two weeks prior to the first game.

RC 9

Amend RP7.3(t) as follows:

t. At 22U and below, except as set out in this paragraph, no team may play more than two games in a calendar day. At 8U and 9U (Rookie ball) and Senior, teams may not play more than three games in a calendar day. At Senior only, a team may consent but may not be required to play four games in a calendar day. At all age categories, on one day of the tournament, a maximum of three games may be played. A suspended game shall count as a game played on both the day it commenced and the day it is completed if three or more innings are played on each day. If less than three innings are played on the day it is completed, it will not count as a game played on that day. Regardless of these rules, pitch counts must be entered on the day the pitch was actually thrown and days rest are applied according to the day the pitch was actually thrown.

ICBA

Amend RQ2.4 to read:

Any baseball approved for 8U or 9U play in accordance with the chart found in rule RP2.6.

Rationale: Rawlings has recommended the use of 65CC/RTDC/RTD1/ROLB1X for 8U/9U likely for safety reasons. Using a baseball not recommended by manufacturer can open us up to liability. Associations need to know what the regulations are for the balls are, to make their 2024 purchases.