

BLUENOSE LEAGUE OPERATING RULES

1. OBJECTIVES

1.1 Provide competitive baseball leagues for all areas of the province which fosters fun, learning and supports the spirit of good sportsmanship.

1.2 The Bluenose League is introducing a Fair Play Policy in all leagues up to and including Midget AA.

- **All Bluenose League games for Midget AA and lower divisions, all players must bat in the batting order.**
- **In Mosquito, players must play a minimum of two (2) innings in the field; in PeeWee, Bantam and Midget players must play at least three (3) innings in the field (unless game is shortened by mercy rule, rain, etc.).**

(a) An exemption of this rule may be used by a coach for “disciplinary” reasons. The coach of the other team is to be advised prior to the game.

2. ORGANIZATION

2.1 The Executive Director (ED) shall be responsible for the administration of all leagues organized by BNS. The ED shall appoint Administrators to oversee the day to day operation of the leagues.

2.2 The league operating rules and procedures shall be evaluated at the fall annual meeting and revisions shall be approved by the Board of Directors.

2.3 Teams wishing to enter the Bluenose league must apply no later than Friday, May 14, 2010.

(a) Entries to Bluenose League must be on Bluenose League Entry Form and must be accompanied by a fee of \$125. Forms and payment to be sent to BNS office, Late applications will not be accepted!

2.4 The Bluenose Coordinator (BC) shall examine all submissions and determine the composition and number of teams that are required in the league. The league will be organized in a manner that will keep costs to a minimum, yet ensure that all interested teams are placed.

2.5 Playoffs will be a one day event with the top four teams in each division advancing, based on total points.

(a) A team must play a minimum of 80% of its league games to qualify for play-offs. A team playing the normal 20 game schedule must play a minimum of 16 games; while a team playing an unbalanced schedule of 10 games, must play at least eight (8).

2.6 For Championship Play-offs, the 1st place team in each Division gets first choice of hosting. If they decline, next choice goes to 2nd place team, etc. Play-offs are to be cost shared (umpires/field rental/balls).

2.7 BNS will supply Bluenose League medals to both 1st and 2nd place teams.

3. PROCEDURES

Rosters

3.1 Rosters are to be provided to the office no later than June 5th, 2010.

3.2 Permanent changes to the roster (i.e. for the remainder of the season) must be brought to the attention of the BC prior to the player being utilized in the league.

3.2 Fan Control

3.2.1 Both teams are required to instruct their fans that comments should only be directed to their players and should be of a POSITIVE nature.

3.3 Uniforms

3.3.1 Uniforms, as supplied, shall be worn properly. Shirts are to be tucked in at all times. Baseball caps are to be worn by players at all times

3.4 Poor Field Conditions

3.4.1 It is the responsibility of the home coach to determine if a field is fit for play.

3.4.2 If the game has to be cancelled, the home teams shall attempt to provide as much notice time as possible to the visiting coach and umpire assignor (*or the minimum time required due to travel circumstances if three hours is insufficient*).

3.5 Insufficient Players

3.5.1 Coaches are responsible for ensuring that enough players are available for a game.

3.5.2 Maximum notice should be given to the opposing coach and umpire's assignor when it becomes necessary to cancel a game.

3.6 Rescheduling Games (regarding weather/extenuating circumstances)

3.6.1 The **home team** is responsible for rescheduling a cancelled game(s) and is to notify the visiting coach, umpires assignor and the BC. The home team will contact the visiting coach within a week to reschedule the cancelled game(s).

3.6.2 The game must be played prior to completion of scheduled league play. In cases where the game cannot be rescheduled due to the actions of one of the teams involved, the game will be forfeited in accordance with para c.10.

3.7 Player Pickups

3.7.1 Teams may pick up players from any of their association's teams playing at a lower level or lower division, provided they are registered members of BNS. This is intended for individual games where a team cannot field 9 players.

NOTE: A player added to a league game roster, whether from a house league team or from a lower level rep team, does not affect rosters for BNS Provincial Playdowns.

3.8 Batting Order

3.8.1 Coaches shall give their batting order, in duplicate, to the home plate umpire prior to starting each game.

The home plate umpire shall have any obvious errors corrected, confirm that the original and copies of each batting order are identical, initial all copies and give a copy of each batting order to the opposing coach. It is mandatory for all players, including substitutes, to be listed on the batting order presented to the home plate umpire.

3.8.2 For Bluenose League games for Midget "AA" and lower divisions, all players must bat in the batting order.

3.9 Playing Time

3.9.1 In Mosquito, players must play a minimum of two (2) innings in the field; in PeeWee, Bantam and Midget, players must play at least three (3) innings in the field (unless game is shortened by mercy rule, rain, etc.).

3.10 Forfeit Games

3.10.1 Teams must have a minimum of **nine registered players ready for the start** of the scheduled game (*20 minute grace period*). At no time can unregistered players be used.

3.10.2 Teams forfeiting two games on the field will have their status reviewed by the BC. If a third game is forfeited on the field, then the team will be ejected from the

3.10.3 If the visiting team is responsible for the forfeiture, they will be responsible for payment of any umpire fees required to be paid. (*The home team shall pay the umpires and be reimbursed by the visiting team*).

3.11 Umpires

3.11.1 Umpires shall be scheduled by an assignor and shall be registered BNSUD umpires. Two umpires are required for regular season games with three recommended for Midget and above. Three umpires are recommended for playoff in Midget and above.

3.11.2 In cases where the umpire(s) do not show up, both teams will attempt to find suitable replacements and agree to placement on the field.

3.11.3 The umpires shall be in full authority of the game once commenced.

3.12 Scores

3.12.1 **Both Teams** are responsible for emailing the game results of each game to Baseball Nova Scotia (the BC) within 48 hours. The BNS game score sheet should be filled out and emailed to bluenosescores@sportnovascotia.ca.

It is imperative that the scores be returned to BNS. These scores will be faxed to the media and used to tabulate the league standings.

Any problems associated with the League can be directed to the Baseball Nova Scotia office at 425-5450, ext. 355.

(a) Scores reported to BNS should be in the following format so that newspapers will print them in the sports section. Scores not in this format will not be accepted by the media. When you email/fax them in, they should include Division, score, winning pitcher and top two hitters and the losing pitcher and top two hitters. (Example: Bantam AAA, Toronto Blue Jays 5 (WP) John Smith, Joe Smith double/single, Steve Smith two (2) singles – New York Yankees 4 (LP) John Brown, Paul Brown home run, Steve Brown single.)

3.12.2 A win shall count for 2 points in the league standing. A tie will count for 1 point and 0 points will be awarded for a loss. Both teams are responsible for reporting the scores of games to the BC. If a game is tied after regulation, both teams will be awarded 1 point. If a team out scores the other in the extra inning, that team will be awarded with the win (2 points total).

4. RULES

4.1 *Baseball Canada, BNS Handbook*

4.1.1 Unless otherwise specified in the following clauses, all rules of Baseball Canada Rule Book or the BNS Handbook Rules shall apply.

If there is any conflict between these rules, the BNS Handbook has priority.

4.1.2 A game consists of 7 innings (6 innings for Mosquito). If the score is tied after 7 innings (or 6 innings for Mosquito), there shall be an extra inning of play with time permitting.

4.1.3 The 10 run “mercy rule” is in effect after 5 complete innings (4 1/2 innings if the home team is ahead).

4.1.4 Mosquito A, AA Only – A runner on 3rd base cannot score on a pass ball or wild pitch.

4.1.5 Mosquito A, AA Only – Teams cannot score more than 5 runs in an inning with the exception of the last inning being an open inning.

4.1.6 Bantam Division – Females can use -5 bats. Males in the bantam division cannot use more than a -3 bat.

4.1.7 Bantam Division – Beginning in 2010, Metal Cleats are legal.

4.2 *Suspended Games*

4.2.1 All playoff and league games shall be resumed from the point at which play was suspended, provided it is not a regulation game as for Baseball Canada Rules.

4.3 *Protests*

4.3.1 Protests may only be made regarding a rule violation or the interpretation of a rule.

4.3.2 The protest must be in writing and submitted to the BC with a copy provided to the opposing coach within **48 hours** of the incident. The protest must be signed by the coach's association president and accompanied by a **\$50** association cheque.

4.3.3 The BC shall arrange for a ruling on the above protest. This decision shall be final.

4.3.4 The \$50 shall be returned only if the decision upholds the protest.

4.4 Re-Entry

4.4.1 In cases where a team cannot continue a game due to a player injury, the coach may substitute a player who was removed from the game. If more than one substitute is available, the player will be selected by the opposing team coach.

4.5 Pitch Count

Level	Daily Pitches (No rest)	Daily Pitches (1 day rest)	Daily Pitches (2 days rest)	Daily Pitches (3 days rest)	Daily Pitches (4 days rest)	Daily/Max.
Mosquito	1-25	26-40	41-55	56-65	66-75	75
Peewee	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-85	85
Bantam	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-90	90
Midget	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76-100	100

PART A

a) A pitcher can not pitch in 3 consecutive days regardless of pitch count

PART B

- a) A player cannot pitch and catch or catch and pitch in the same game.

- b) 1 nights rest is defined as Midnight the night the player pitched to midnight the next day.

- c) If you pitched today, that determines when you can pitch again: (consult the chart). If you did not pitch today, when you pitched last and how many pitches were thrown determines when you can pitch again: (consult the chart).