

Bolton Braves Baseball Association Constitution

As Amended 25 November 2007

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Articles

Article I Purpose, Name and Affiliations

- A. This non-profit organization shall be known as the Bolton Braves Baseball Association. Herein referred to as BBBA.
- B. BBBA shall be affiliated in good standing with the York Simcoe Baseball Association and Baseball Ontario. York Simcoe Baseball Association shall be referred to as YSBA.
- C. The purpose of this Constitution is to outline the conduct of the BBBA and shall consist of the Articles, By-Laws, Playing Rules and Code of Conduct.

Article II Objectives

- A. To promote enjoyment and the physical benefits to be gained from playing baseball, as well as sportsmanship.
- B. To carry out competitions for the series championships of this association.
- C. To promote the development and knowledge of baseball skills to our Players.
- D. To provide a fun, safe and educational activity for the children of Caledon.

Article III Boundaries

- A. The boundaries for this association are as follows: The Town of Caledon for House League. The Town of Caledon for Rep, as approved by YSBA.

Article IV Powers of Bolton Braves Baseball Association

- A. BBBA is empowered to elect its own Executive to handle its own local issues.
- B. BBBA is empowered to establish a House League, Select and Rep system in Caledon.
- C. The President or the Executive is empowered to establish committees (consisting of 5 BBBA members) as required to handle operations. The President or Executive will select the Chair, who in turn will choose four other committee members.

Article V Membership of the Bolton Braves Baseball Association

- A. The membership of the BBBA shall consist of; the Executive; any person age 18 or over; the parents or guardians of Players; or Coaches, that are registered with the BBBA of the current fiscal year.
- B. Membership in the BBBA shall have a duration of up to 1 year and shall be from the time of registration until the next Annual General Meeting.
- C. Officers of the Executive shall sit for the period beginning with the appointment to the Executive to the next Annual General Meeting.

Article VI Executive

- A. The Executive Officers of the BBBA shall be:

President
 Vice President (Rep)
 Vice President (H.L.)
 Secretary
 Treasurer
 Equipment Manager
 Uniform Manager

Past President
 Registrar
 Umpire in Chief
 Sponsorship Director
 Tournament Director
 House League Convenor
 Fund Raising Director

Publicity Director
 Snack Bar Director
 (With the exception of President, Past President, VP's, Secretary and Treasurer, all Executive positions can be filled by two people per position).

Article VII Election of the Executive

- A.** Nominations for the Executive can be made by any member in good standing.
- B.** Nominations for the Officers of the BBBA should be in the hands of the association Secretary as early as possible before the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Nominations will be accepted from the floor.
- C.** Nominations for the President and Vice President positions shall be restricted to those Officers who have sat on the Executive for a minimum of two years. If there is no Officer nominated who has two years on the Executive then the minimum shall be one year.
- D.** The Executive shall have the power to appoint replacements for any Executive Officer who resigns during their period of appointment or to appoint a member to an unfilled position.
- E.** The Executive shall have the power to relieve an Executive Member of their position if that Member is deemed to have either a) not fulfilled their duties, b) deliberately disrupted or undermined the purpose or objectives of the BBBA. A vote shall be taken and a 75% majority will result in dismissal of said Member. A quorum of 100% is required for this type of vote.

Article VIII Duties of Officers

- A. President**
 - 1. Prepare and conduct all Executive Meetings
 - 2. Oversee general operation of the BBBA
 - 3. Act as liaison between BBBA and the Town of Caledon and all other Baseball Associations.
- B. Vice President (Rep)**
 - 1. Manage the process for selection of the Rep Team Coaches.
 - 2. Set up Rep teams in conjunction with Coaches, Registrar and other Executive members as required.
 - 3. Attend YSBA meetings on behalf of BBBA.
 - 4. Act as liaison between BBBA, YSBA and Baseball Ontario.
 - 5. Set up NCCP Coaching clinics as required
 - 6. Attend Rep games to become familiar with the Players and Coaches
 - 7. Conduct meetings with Rep Coaches.
 - 8. Ensure the Rep Coaches understand the expectations of the BBBA and the Code of Conduct.
 - 9. Ensure all Rep team rosters are finalized with the YSBA registrar. This includes birth certificates, import quotas and Coaches NCCP certification.
 - 10. Assist the President in overseeing the operation of BBBA as required.
- C. Vice President (House League)**
 - 1. Select House League Coaching Staff.
 - 2. Set up House League teams in conjunction with the Convenor and Registrar.
 - 3. Set up playing schedule in conjunction with the Convenor.
 - 4. Set up Coaching clinic as required.
 - 5. Set up Opening Day and Champs Day in conjunction with the HL Convenor.
 - 6. Attend House League games to become familiar with Players and Coaches.
 - 7. Arrange for the trophies and awards for Champs Day.
 - 8. Deal with coaching and team issues as required.
 - 9. Attend all umpire and Coaches meetings.
 - 10. Ensure the expectations of the BBBA and the Code of Conduct are conveyed.
 - 11. Assist the President in overseeing the operation of BBBA as required.
- D. Secretary**
 - 1. Keep up to date minutes of all BBBA Executive meetings.
 - 2. Keep minutes of all meetings. Distribute minutes to Executive and arrange agenda for all meetings.
 - 3. Inform all Executive Officers of meeting dates, times and locations.
 - 4. Responsible for booking locations for meetings and clinics.
 - 5. Handle all correspondence of BBBA.
 - 6. Coordinate with Town Officials.

7. Assist the President in areas as required.

E. Treasurer

1. Responsible for all monies in the BBBA.
2. Keep up to date bank statements and records of expenditures.
3. Reconcile bank Statements on a monthly basis and report to the Executive at meetings.
4. Set up banking facilities with appropriate signing authorities.
5. Prepare a budget for each fiscal year.
6. Prepare the financial statements to be presented at the AGM.

F. Equipment Manager

1. Handle the purchases of all new equipment and repairs to existing equipment.
2. Set equipment bags for each team and organize their distribution.
3. Monitor condition of equipment.
4. Manage the tenders for purchases.
5. Research equipment vendors to obtain the best possible type and pricing.
6. Review needs of BBBA annually and prepare an equipment budget.

G. Uniform Manager

1. Handle the purchases of all new uniforms and repairs to existing uniforms.
2. Set up uniforms for each team and organize their distribution.
3. Establish a uniform policy that will include mandatory items and standardized optional items and review the policy periodically.
4. Manage the tenders for purchases.
5. Research uniform to obtain the best possible type and pricing.
6. Review needs of BBBA annually and prepare a uniform budget.

H. Umpire in Chief

1. Set up umpiring schedule for playing season in conjunction with V.P.'s.
2. Set up the Umpiring Clinic on an annual basis.
3. Hold coaching meetings as required.
4. Attend games throughout the season to; ensure consistency in rule application; evaluate umpires; address any issues.
5. Monitor time cards and pay to ensure proper remuneration to all Umpires.
6. Prepare expected costs for the upcoming season.

I. Sponsorship Director

1. Arrange sponsors for all House League and Rep teams.
2. Arrange for sponsors for special events (i.e.: opening day, tournaments, etc...)
3. Co-ordinate with Uniform Manager for team sponsors
4. Manage the collection of sponsorship monies and report to Treasurer.
5. Collaborate with Treasurer and Fund Raising Director to determine needs for the year.
6. Set sponsorship fees in conjunction with Executive

J. Registrar

1. Set up dates for registration.
2. Create registration form as required.
3. Ensure with Treasurer and Uniform Manager that fees are paid prior to issuance of uniforms.
4. Manage the registration of all players.
5. Coordinate with VP House League and the House League Convenor as necessary in establishing teams.

K. Tournament Director

1. Handle all correspondence for tournaments
2. Set up tournament schedule with VP Rep by January 15th and apply to Baseball Ontario by January 25th.
3. Organize each tournament weekend and establish tournament convenors. List details on Website.
4. Ensure trophies and awards are ordered and available for the tournament.

5. Ensure proper equipment is available with Equipment Manager.
6. Organize the preparation of diamonds prior to each weekend.
7. Prepare and track a budget for each tournament with the Treasurer.

L. House League Convenor

1. Assist the VP House League with the organization and schedule of the House League.
2. Attend House League games to become familiar with Players and Coaches.
3. Deal with team and coaching issues as required.
4. Monitor and track standings.

M. Fund Raising Director

1. Organize and direct all fund raising projects.
2. Collaborate with Treasurer, Publicity Director and Sponsorship Director to determine needs for the year.
3. Prepare and report budgets for each project.
4. Responsible for Christmas Float along with Publicity Director.

N. Snack Bar Director

1. Responsible for all snack bar purchases
2. Handle daily functions of the snack bar
3. Liaison with Treasurer, Umpire in Chief and Head Coaches as required.
4. Responsible for all proceeds derived from the snack bar.
5. Work with Treasurer to prepare financial statements for the snack bar.

O. Publicity Director

1. Organize all publicity requirements for BBBA
2. Ensure that registration and special events are well advertised in Caledon.
3. Coordinate with other members of the Executive to establish advertising and publicity needs.
4. Ensure articles for BBBA games and tournaments are submitted to the local papers.
5. Responsible for Christmas Float, along with Fund Raising Director.

P. Past President

1. Be available as consultant to current President
2. Act as Chair for the nomination (voting) portion only, at the AGM.

Article IX Meetings

- A.** The Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held; possibly sooner then, but no later then the last weekend in October each year. Notification of the meeting must be advertised in the local papers, on the website, on the registration forms and on Champs Day.
- B.** The Executive shall meet as often as necessary to carry on efficiently the business of BBBA. The minimum is once per month.
- C.** A Constitutional Amendment meeting shall be held, at the most, 30 days after the first Executive meeting. The Constitutional Amendment Meeting shall be the only one of it's kind held during the course of the fiscal year.
- D.** Minutes are to be taken at all meetings and kept in records for seven years. Minutes of meetings must be accepted at the beginning of each subsequent meeting.
- E.** Any committee established by the Executive shall follow the rules set out in this Constitution and the guidelines given by the Executive.
- F.** The passing of a motion and decisions are to be made by consensus where practicable. A quorum of 2/3 of the Executive is required for a vote. The quorum for a committee is five. A majority will pass the vote. A consensus on issues should be the first means to pass a motion.
- G.** At the AGM all members are entitled to one vote

- H. During votes at Executive meetings each Officer is entitled to one vote. Where an Executive Officer's position is held by two Officers, (due to work levels) each Officer will have one vote. One person only can hold the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Registrar positions. If a person holds more than one position they are entitled to one vote.
- I. If a motion is made at the AGM the process will be by a majority vote.

Article X Order of Business

- A. The regular order of business at all Executive meetings of the BBBA, when not inconsistent with the constitution of BBBA, shall be as follows:
 - 1. Call to Order
 - 2. Roll call of Officers
 - 3. Distribution of minutes and other information
 - 4. Appointment of Sub Committees
 - 5. Presidents update
 - 6. Report of Officers
 - 7. Agenda (prepared prior to meeting)
 - 8. New Business
 - 9. Adjournment
- B. Order of Business at AGM Meetings
 - 1. Call to Order
 - 2. Roll call
 - 3. Presidents address
 - 4. Report of Officers
 - 5. Open Forum
 - 6. Election of new Executive
 - 7. Adjournment
- C. Order of Business at the Constitutional Amendment Meeting
 - 1. Call to Order
 - 2. Review of Constitution
 - 3. Presentation of amendments
 - 4. Vote
 - 5. Adjournment
 - 6. If necessary, Constitutional amendments can be voted on via email. Same timetable applies, as per Article XV.

Article XI Conduct of Meetings

- A. The President shall chair the AGM and all Executive meetings unless he/she appoints another Officer. The Past President shall be the Chair for the nomination (voting) portion only, at the AGM.
- B. The Chairperson shall go over the meeting Agenda. Meetings will be confined to the Agenda and the Order of Business as defined in Article X.
- C. When an Officer/member intends to speak or submit a motion, they will confine themselves to the subject and avoid personalities.
- D. The Chair may request motions to be submitted in writing with the names of the mover and seconded, except; a motion to adjourn; to lay on the table the previous question; or a motion to adopt minutes of a previous meeting or reports of a Committee.
- E. No Officer/member shall address the meeting unless a motion is before the Chair, except when general business is being discussed.
- F. When a question is before the meeting, no other motion shall be in order, except to; adjourn; to leave on the table the previous question, or to postpone it indefinitely.

- G. Questions shall be decided by a show of hands, but the Chair, at the request of three Officers/members shall have a secret ballot taken.
- H. No Officer/member shall speak for a second time to a motion, until all Officers/members desiring to speak once have done so.

Article XII Financial Policy

- A. The fiscal year of BBBA shall be from October 1st to September 30th
- B. The Executive shall be responsible for the financial affairs of BBBA.
- C. The Executive shall authorize all expenditures of the BBBA.
- D. A budget shall be prepared annually.
- E. Fund raising must be approved by the Executive and will be for the benefit of BBBA as a whole.
- F. Individual teams may solicit sponsors for speciality items or events with the approval of the Executive.
- G. Any changes to fees shall be made by November 15th of each year and shall be posted on the website.
- H. BBBA can provide financial aid (re: registration fee) to those members of the BBBA that are referred to the BBBA by Caledon Community Services. This will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Article XIII Bolton Braves Baseball Association Responsibility

- A. BBBA does not accept any responsibility for any debts incurred by any Officer/member.
- B. Any Officer of the Executive shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred during the course of performing their elected duties. The President and Treasurer must approve the expenses prior to payment. Proof must be provided.

Article XIV Honorariums and Awards

- A. Any member who has performed some distinguished service may be elected as an honorary member of BBBA for a period of one year. This person will have full privileges of an Executive Officer.
- B. BBBA shall offer awards to members and others as is deemed appropriate.

Article XV Amendments

- A. Amendments to this Constitution shall be made once a year prior to December 1st during a special Executive meeting.
- B. Any member in good standing can suggest changes to this Constitution. Changes must be presented in writing to the Executive during the AGM or at least 30 days prior to the Constitutional Amendment Meeting.
- C. The Executive will be responsible to record and present any amendment submitted by a member.

By Laws

By Law I Series Divisions

- A. The BBBA shall operate the following series subject to registration:

House League: T-Ball, Atom, Rookie, Mosquito, Peewee, Bantam and Midget.

Opening Day for all House League divisions shall be on a Saturday after Victoria Day, but no later than June 25th.

Select: Mosquito, Peewee, Bantam, Midget. **Note: All Select Players must play House League.**

Rep: Senior Rookie, Mosquito, Peewee, Bantam, Minor Midget, Midget, Junior and Senior.

By Law II Registration

- A. Ages throughout the BBBA shall be 5 years old and up on or before December 31st of the playing year.
- B. Anyone falsifying proof of age at registration shall be suspended immediately without refund.
- C. A copy of the players Birth Certificate must be submitted for first time registrants.

By Law III Managers and Coaches

- A. To obtain approval each Manager and Coach must agree to abide by the Constitution of the BBBA, in particular to Article II and the Code of Conduct.
- B. Managers and Coaches shall be responsible for the conduct of their team, personnel and fans at all times during, before and after games while the team is on or adjacent to the playing field. This responsibility shall be extended to any activity the team takes outside of a game when away on tournaments or other special events.
- C. Managers and Coaches shall be responsible for all equipment issued to their team by the BBBA.
- D. Coaches are responsible to ensure all players are in full uniform for all games as identified in By Law IX.
- E. The Head Coach is responsible to return all the equipment to the Equipment Manager at the end of the season and report any damaged equipment immediately.
- F. The Executive may suspend a Coach or Manager for any of the following reasons:
1. Missing three consecutive games without a valid reason or for not seeing that someone takes charge of their position during an absence.
 2. Not giving equal attention and consideration to every Player on the team.
 3. Showing disrespect to any Executive Officer, fellow Coach, Player or umpire.
 4. Demonstrating unsportsmanlike conduct in the presence of Players.
 5. Acting in contravention of this Constitution.
 6. Smoking within 100' of playing area.

By Law IV Rep Managers and Coaches

In Addition to the above the following applies to Rep Coaches and Managers:

- A. All applicants for Head Coach of a Rep team must submit an application and resume by August 24th of the current playing season to the VP Rep. All applicants will be given an opportunity to come before the Executive to speak on their own behalf. After all applicants have been interviewed, the Executive will vote to decide who will be the Head Coach for the coming season.
- B. The VP Rep or President may appoint a Head Coach where no applications have been made for the position.
- C. All applicants must have reasonable knowledge of the game of baseball
- D. All Managers and Coaches shall be registered with the BBBA and must become active members. All Coaches must be NCCP certified in accordance with YSBA rules. All Coaches will be asked to have an OPP background

check performed on them. Refusal to do this will result in a dismissal. Findings are confidential. Certain findings can result in suspensions or dismissal. This will be determined by the Executive.

- E. Each Rep team shall have no more than one Head Coach, one Manager and four Coaches.
- F. All Managers and Coaches must wear the full uniform supplied by the BBBA, as identified in By law IX, while on the field or bench.
- G. The Head Coach is responsible to ensure that the completed score sheet is signed by the umpires and scores reported to the YSBA convenor.

By Law V Rep Teams

- A. Rep teams are established to participate in YSBA regular season play and Baseball Ontario Tournaments and Championships. Feb. 28 of the upcoming playing season will be the deadline date for determining if the BBBA will enter Rep teams in each respective division.
- B. Rep teams shall consist of at least 10 local Players unless circumstances do not permit. The Executive shall determine if it is acceptable that a Rep team consists of less than 10 local Players.
- C. Import Players are allowed to the maximum of YSBA rules.
- D. The total number of Players on the roster shall not exceed YSBA rules.
- E. Rep tryouts will be held in the fall after the completion of the Rep season. They must be held prior to the AGM.
- F. A minimum of 3 tryout dates is to be held (weather permitting) in the fall. Optional tryouts may be held in the spring (April) depending on whether or not a final roster has been set. The Head Coach of each team will convey this option to the VP of Rep.

By Law VI Players

- A. Any Player desiring to play for a BBBA team must register at the specified time. Players under 18 years of age must have their parent or guardian register on their behalf.
- B. Players must agree to abide by this Constitution.
- C. No BBBA, OBA carded Rep player shall be permitted to play in any BBBA Select or BBBA House League games, regardless of age or division. Penalty for doing so will result in a forfeit for the House League or Select team and a 2 game suspension for the Rep player. A second offence by the same House League or Select team will result in that teams Coach (es) being suspended for the remainder of the season.

By Law VII Player Releases

- A. Release from the BBBA will be decided on an individual basis. The President and VP Rep will discuss each case and only they can sign a release form.
- B. If the BBBA does not allow a release, that Player can appeal to the YSBA.
- C. No Player in the BBBA can leave his or her age group without prior approval of the Executive.
- D. Players, parents and Coaches must obey the rules in regards to trying out for a Rep team that is not in the Players' home centre. These rules are set by the YSBA. Failure to do so will be considered tampering and subject to disciplinary action by the BBBA and/or the YSBA.

By Law VIII Suspensions and Defaults

- A. Players ejected from any game by an umpire must immediately leave the playing area. Failure to leave may result in further suspension.
- B. Managers or Coaches ejected from a game by an umpire must immediately leave the playing area. If this is not adhered to and the ejected Manager or Coach continues to voice opinions or attempts in any way to give

advice to the team, the umpire shall award the game to the opposing team and report the incident to the Executive. Further suspension may occur.

- C. The playing area shall consist of the playing field, team benches, coaching areas, stands and any other area within 100 feet of the diamond.
- D. Managers or Coaches suspended for any reason may not be on the playing field as defined by Section C of this by law.
- E. A Player, Coach or Manager ejected from three ball games will be automatically suspended from the BBBA and will not be allowed to participate in further games for the duration of the playing season.
- F. Any member of the BBBA, including the Executive, Manager, Coach or Player, violating any part of this Constitution or refusing to abide by the directions of the Executive shall be liable to suspension.
- G. A Player shall be suspended for one game or more for the following infractions committed during, immediately before or after any team activity:
 - 1. Swearing
 - 2. Smoking within 100' of playing area.
 - 3. Being absent for three games without reason
 - 4. Destroying or mishandling property belonging to the BBBA or another Player
 - 5. Unsportsmanlike conduct
 - 6. Stealing property belonging to the BBBA or another person. This offence will carry a one-year suspension from all BBBA activities. The person concerned shall have the right to appeal.
- H. The BBBA reserves the right (if warranted or necessary) to suspend for the remainder of the season or permanently any player(s) who does not abide by the BBBA By Laws. This will also apply to the parents of a player, where a player may be partly or permanently suspended due to the action of the parent(s). In both cases, the BBBA Executive would make the ruling.

By Law IX Championships

- A. The BBBA shall conduct playoffs in all House League divisions to declare a champion. The Championships, known as "Champs Day" shall be held the last Saturday in August for the T-ball, Atom and Rookie divisions. The Mosquito, Peewee, Bantam and Midget divisions will have "Champs Day" on the second Saturday in September.
- B. The playoff format shall be set each year, depending on the number of teams, by the VP House League and the Convenor. The schedule, regular season format and playoff format for all divisions will be set by May 24th.
- C. The BBBA will support and require all Rep teams participate in the YSBA Championships and if necessary, the YSBA Playdowns (OBA Qualifiers). The BBBA will support and require that all Rep teams that qualify for the Baseball Ontario Championships (OBA Playoffs) participate in said Championships.
- D. Rep teams are encouraged to participate in tournaments throughout the playing season. The number each team is able to attend will be determined by the VP Rep and the Treasurer.

By Law X Protests

- A. The President or Executive shall establish a Committee to deal with all protests pertaining to rule interpretation. The Committee shall be selected as per Article IV. The Committee shall inform the President of the decision and it will be final.
- B. Protests against the interpretation of the playing rules are to be made in writing within 48 hours of the game in question. An e-mail will be considered "in writing" to an officer.
- C. Protest against conduct of a Manager, Coach, umpire or player shall be made as soon as possible to the Executive.
- D. The umpire must be notified of the intent to protest at the instant of the complaint and before commencement of the inning.
- E. The decision of the Committee must be made before the next scheduled game between the two teams involved. Minutes of the Committee meeting will be taken and recorded at the next Executive meeting.

- F. Upon notification of a protest the umpire shall outline their remarks on the back of the game score sheet at the completion of the game.
- G. The fee for a Rep team protest shall be \$100.00.

By Law XI Uniforms and Equipment

- A. The standard uniform for House League players shall be: The Team hat, Team shirt and base ball pants. Baseball shoes are optional. The shirt must be worn tucked into the pants.
- B. The standard uniform for Rep and Select teams shall be: the Team hat, Team jersey, Team pants, Team socks, Team belt and baseball cleats. Cold weather attire shall also consist of the Team turtleneck. Other parts of the uniform are optional but will be of the same type and colour as specified by the Uniform Manager and VP Rep.
- C. All equipment is the property of the BBBA and shall be returned by the third Saturday of September each year to the Equipment Manager.

By Law XII Umpires

- A. All Umpires must be certified as per Baseball Ontario Rules.
- B. All Umpires must be in full uniform for each game. Full uniform consists of Umpire hat, shirt and grey pants. HL Umpires will be given hat and shirt in exchange for 1 games pay. All Umpires should have their own counter and brush. Face mask and chest protector are optional purchases and can be provided for each game by the BBBA.
- C. The yearly total amount of games will be assigned to each qualified Umpire as equally as possible. Each Umpire is responsible to report to the Umpire in Chief if he/she cannot make an assigned game. The Umpire in Chief has the right to assign more or fewer games to each Umpire as the season progresses based on performance, attendance, attitude, etc.
- D. Qualified Umpires will be assigned games in the following priority: 1) BBBA Members/Players, 2) BBBA boundary residents who are not affiliated or playing with other organizations, 3) non BBBA boundary residents, 4) BBBA boundary residents who are affiliated or playing with other organizations. This includes all BBBA boundary residents who are playing with or are affiliated with other organizations by choice. (ie; have requested a release from the BBBA). This applies regardless of the year in which a release was obtained, and shall continue until the resident returns to the BBBA. Exceptions will be any Player/Member who is playing with an outside organization because the BBBA could not field a team at the Player's/Member's age group by the deadline date of Feb. 28 of the upcoming season (see By Law V, A.), or any individual who plays for an Elite team. These residents will fall under rule D. 2). If a boundary resident requests or obtains a release prior to the Feb. 28 upcoming season deadline, and the BBBA does not field a team in the resident's age group, that is to be considered the same situation as if there was a BBBA team at said resident's age group. Therefore, the initial sentence in rule D. 4) applies.
- E. All Umpires (HL and Rep) must be familiar with the game and ground rules for each division and diamond they are working. HL and Rep Umpires are to go over these rules prior to the game commencing, at home plate with a Coach from each team.
- F. Rep Umpires shall be paid prior to or directly after each home game by the Head Coach of that game. HL Umpires will be paid every 2 weeks and are responsible to show pay cards and proof of games worked to the Umpire in Chief.
- G. All Umpires are encouraged to report any abuse by Coaches, Players, Parents or Fans immediately after the game in which they occurred. Incidents can be reported to any Executive Officer. The Executive will deal with each case in a timely matter.

Playing Rules

BBBA will follow the official rules of baseball as stipulated by Baseball Ontario except where changes have been made to improve the quality of baseball played within the BBBA.

RULES COMMON TO ALL HOUSE LEAGUE LEVELS

1. The official rules of baseball apply except where changes by Baseball Ontario rules or as outlined in the sections below.
2. Metal spikes are prohibited at all levels
3. Four runs or three outs will be considered an at bat inning in: Rookie, Mosquito, Peewee, Bantam and Midget divisions.
4. Throwing a bat a second time after a warning by the umpire results in the batter being declared out.
5. Players must slide in at home plate when the catcher is fielding the ball at or near the plate. Failing to do so will result in ejection from the game. Intentional collisions with the catcher shall result in a 1 game suspension.
6. Players must be in uniform at all times during the game.
7. Helmets with straps must be worn while at bat and running the bases. Helmets must be worn by the pitcher position in T-Ball, Atom and Rookie.
8. All games shall be 1 hour and 30 minutes in length. No new inning may start after 1 hour and 15 minutes. If the game ends in the middle of an inning the score will revert back to the last inning.
9. Diamond time shall be 2 hours, with the first 20 to 30 minutes being set aside for practice. Regular season games in August and September are to begin immediately with no practice beforehand. Bantam/Midget may begin their games immediately with no practice beforehand from the start of the season.
10. All Players and Coaches shall arrive 15 minutes prior to the scheduled time.
11. Score sheets must include the first and last name of each Player.
12. Score sheets must be signed by both the Coaches and the umpire, then submitted immediately after the game in the location provided.
13. No Player shall play in the outfield two innings in a row. Players MUST be rotated. It is strongly encouraged that Players have the opportunity to play all positions. Any extra fielders must be placed in the outfield. The outfield is defined by the grass line, except for T-ball and Atom which is a line 10' from the base lines.
14. Ground rule doubles will be awarded if the ball goes under a fence
15. At the Ted Houston Park a single base shall be awarded if a fair ball lands in the right field ditch.
16. No alcohol, drugs, or profanity will be accepted.
17. Minimum amount of players to be considered an official game will be 7 per side.
18. **ABUSE OF UMPIRES BY PLAYERS, COACHES, OR PARENTS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.**

T-BALL RULES

A. DIAMOND LAYOUT

1. The distance between all bases shall be 55'.
2. The distance between home plate and the pitcher's rubber will be 44'. The pitcher must stand on the rubber when a batter is hitting the ball.
3. If there is no rubber in place, then an 8' diameter circle directly in front of home plate at a distance of 44' must be drawn using lime. The pitcher must be within this circle while a batter is batting.
4. There is another imaginary line in the shape of an arc 10' in front of home plate to be used by both teams and the umpire to determine the line the ball must be thrown over on last batter.

5. A one-foot line of lime will be drawn exactly half way between first and second base, second base and third base, and between third base and home plate. These lines will be used by the umpire to determine the advancement of runners once time has been called.

B. DEFINITIONS

PLAYING LINE – Is an imaginary line running from one side of the diamond to the other, directly in front of the pitching rubber, which is a guide for the plate umpire to determine a fair hit ball.

FAIR HIT BALL – Is a legally batted ball that in the plate umpire's opinion will or could have crossed the playing line in fair territory, even if it is fielded before crossing the line.

DEAD HIT BALL – Is a legally batted ball that, in the plate umpire's opinion will or could not have firmly crossed the playing line, even if fielded in front of the playing line. This excludes a ball put into play by an illegal swing. If the ball is caught in flight by the defensive team, the batter is out and the ball is in play until time is called.

A STRIKE IS WHEN – The ball is swung at by the batter and is completely missed. The ball is a dead hit, fouled or put into play by an illegal swing by the batter. The ball is swung at and the tee is hit instead of the ball.

C. RULES

1. Five (5) strikes to put the ball in play. A dead hit ball or foul on the fifth swing is an out as determined by the umpire.
2. The batting order will be once through the line up. All players will bat in every inning. If the opposing team has more players, then you bat as many as the opposing team, starting at the top of the order again only for the first inning. In subsequent innings you start where you left off in the batting order in the previous inning and bat as many batters as the opposing team has.
3. No bases awarded on an overthrow to first base.
4. The final out of an inning on last batter must be made at home plate by the catcher touching home plate while having the ball. The ball has to be thrown in to the catcher from outside the 10' arc.
5. An out is made by anyone who catches a fly ball. An out can also be made by an infielder (only) by tagging the runner, or touching the bag (excluding the pitcher) on a force play. When the pitcher fields a batted ball, he MUST make a throw to a base OR tag a runner. The pitcher CANNOT run the ball over and touch a base for an out. If he does this, the runner will be declared safe.
6. Only an infielder may hold up the ball for time to be called and the infielder must be on the infield. A fielder must make an attempt at an out before time can be called. The ball has to be thrown into an infielder, an outfielder cannot run onto the infield and hold up the ball for time to be called.
7. No lead offs or stealing of bases is allowed.
8. A maximum of two Coaches are allowed to be in the outfield to help position the Players.
9. Coaches are allowed to position children at tee for their turn at bat.
10. Players are allowed to slide.
11. ALL PITCHERS MUST WEAR A MASK.
12. All Players may play on the field during their defensive half of the inning.
13. All games are to be a minimum of 2 innings or maximum time limit.

ATOM BALL RULES

A. DIAMOND LAYOUT

1. Will be the same as for T-Ball.

B. DEFINITIONS

The same as for T-Ball

C. RULES

1. Same as T-ball except for the following rules.
2. If the Coach who is pitching touches the ball, the batter is out.
3. First inning off the tee, second inning Coach pitching, third inning tee and so on. After July 1st if agreed upon by ALL Coaches and Convenor it may change to first inning tee and remaining innings pitched ball by Coaches.

ROOKIE BALL RULES**A. DIAMOND LAYOUT**

1. The distance between all bases shall be 65'.
2. The distance between home plate and the pitcher's rubber will be 44'.
3. An 8' diameter safety circle will be drawn with lime around the pitching machine, which the defensive team cannot enter to field a ball. If the player enters the safety circle then the batter will get first base and all other runners will advance one base.

B. RULES

1. Five (5) strikes to put the ball in play. (Fifth strike foul the batter is NOT out). There will be no walks. Umpires are to call a 'no pitch' for balls that are well outside the strike zone.
2. The Coach will feed the ball into the machine.
3. Machine speed can only be adjusted at the end of an inning. The speed should be between 35 and 40 mph.
4. Height of the pitching machine can be adjusted at any time.
5. No bases awarded on an overthrow to first base.
6. No lead offs or stealing of bases is allowed.
7. Sliding is allowed and encouraged.
8. All Players may play on the field during their defensive half of the inning.
9. The home team Coach is responsible for setting up the pitching machine.
10. If a batted ball hits the pitching machine, Coach feeding the machine or ball bucket, the batter is awarded first base. All other runners will advance one base. The ball is in play if it is batted through the safety circle without contacting anything. Play stops once a 'baseball play' has been made, then any infielder can hold up the ball to show they are in control. No runners may advance after this. It is the umpire's judgement if the runner advances or not. It is also the umpire's judgement when a play is over. Umpires may send runners back.
11. Pitchers must wear a mask.

MOSQUITO BALL RULES**A. DIAMOND LAYOUT**

1. The distance between all bases shall be 65'.
2. The distance between home plate and the pitcher's rubber will be 44'.
3. There is to be a pitching rubber in place.

B. RULES

1. An at bat is a fair hit ball, 4 balls (the batter walks), or 3 strikes.
2. Any one pitcher is ONLY ALLOWED to pitch 2 innings or 6 outs.
3. Stealing of bases is allowed. However the pitch must reach home plate before the runner advances. No Lead offs.
4. Sliding is allowed and is necessary where ever contact is possible.
5. One base is awarded on an overthrow to first base. The batter and any base runners will advance
6. The maximum number of fielders on the field is 11. No Player shall sit two innings in a row.
7. If required, two Players may share the catching duties (for one team) during a game instead of being the position being rotated among all players.

PEEWEE, BANTAM/MIDGET RULES**A. DIAMOND LAYOUT**

1. The distance between all bases shall be 75' for Peewee and 90' for Bantam/Midget. (If Peewee division is mixed with Bantam division, then base distance shall be 75')
2. The distance between home plate and the pitcher's rubber will be 50' for Peewee age, 60'6" for Bantam/Midget age.
3. There is to be a pitching rubber in place.

B. RULES

1. An at bat is a fair hit ball, 4 balls (the batter walks), or 3 strikes.
2. Any one pitcher is ONLY ALLOWED to pitch 2 innings or 6 outs. Pitching rotation must alternate between ages each inning (i.e. pee wee, bantam, pee wee, etc...) or (bantam, midget, bantam, etc...)
3. The maximum number of fielders on the field is 10. No Player shall sit two innings in a row.
4. Lead offs and stealing of bases are allowed.
5. One base is awarded on an overthrow to first base. The batter and any base runners will advance.
6. Sliding is allowed and is necessary where ever contact is possible.
7. If required, two Players may share the catching duties (for one team) during a game instead of being the position being rotated among all players.

RULES FOR REP GAMES

- A.** All regular season games played shall be consistent with YSBA and Baseball Ontario rules.
- B.** Game length shall be 1 hour and 45 minutes for Sr. Rookie, Mosquito, and Peewee with no new inning starting after this time. The last inning must be completed. Game length shall be 2 hours for Bantam, Midget, Junior and Senior with no new inning starting after this time. The last inning must be completed.
- C.** All local tournaments are to be played consistent with BBBA and Baseball Ontario rules.
- D.** The YSBA mercy rule is in effect in all regular season games.

Code of Conduct

The goals of the BBBA are to encourage and promote fair play, tolerance, sportsmanship, fun, and respect through proper example, instruction, and conduct.

Any Player, Coach, parent, or fan using negative language, profanity, violence, throwing equipment, abusing, or intimidating officials will be ejected from the game. This kind of behavior is unacceptable and will be subject to disciplinary action by the Executive.

Fans/Parents

- Try to make sure your child arrives at the appropriate time for games and practices (e.g. at least 15 minutes prior to the start, or according to the Coach's instructions).
- Do not leave your child unattended without talking to the Coach or another parent.
- Please respect the park. Put trash in trashcans. Make sure when leaving the park you and your child have picked up everything that belongs to you including garbage.
- Do not shout negative remarks to anyone. Profanity and abusive language are prohibited.
- Cheer for your child and your team. Taunting and trash talking are not acceptable; regardless of the other teams unsportsmanlike conduct.
- Parents and fans shall not use abusive or intimidating language toward umpires.
- Respect the wishes/requests of your child's Coach.
- Parents/fans shall not enter the dugout area unless they have the Coach's permission.
- Let the Coach question the umpire's call.
- Feedback is important. Fans and/or parents can inform an Officer of the Executive of improper coaching conduct. All reports are confidential.

Players

- Please be on time for all games and practices. Make sure you let your Coach know if you will be absent. Be prepared with your necessary equipment and uniform.
- Respect your team mates, Coaches, umpires, and the other team.
- Try your best always, play fair, have fun!
- Swearing, bad language, and fighting are not allowed.
- Talk to your Coach about any problem.
- Cheer for your team, not against the other team.
- Any Player who intentionally runs into another player with malice is to be declared out and automatically ejected.
- At games end, shake hands with the other team.
- Afterward, pick up all garbage. Make sure you collect all your equipment.

Coaches/Managers

- Ensure fair play, fun, honesty, teamwork, and responsibility.
- Regardless of skill, treat your Players with respect. Encourage effort over skill.
- Positive reinforcement is best.
- Teach your Players skills, game knowledge, and self-control.
- Remind them to respect umpires, team mates, Coaches, and the other team.
- There may be times that warrant Player discipline. A Coach must still treat the Player in a dignified manner. If discipline is still required, the parent/guardian will be asked to remove his/her child from the playing field.
- A Coach should not allow an injured, non-registered, or over aged Player to play. Make sure they are using the proper equipment.
- A Coach should not allow verbal or physical attacks by Players, other Coaches, parents or fans on the umpire, other Players, or other Coaches.
- Umpire's judgment calls are not to be challenged. You may challenge an umpire's interpretation of a rule in a polite manner.
- Coaches should report any incident that violates the rules or the Code of Conduct to the Executive.
- Try to remember: the game is for the kids. Do not have a win-at-all-costs attitude.
- Coaches are to ensure all league equipment is returned to equipment room/box after each game. Do not take home items that are to be left in equipment bins - there are more teams than yours using the equipment.

Bolton Braves Baseball wants to ensure that all Players have an enjoyable, fun, learning experience that keeps them coming back year after year, win or lose. So try hard, have fun, and have a great season!