



DANDENONG BASEBALL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

## **Section F JUNIOR COMPETITION RULES**

The following conditions will be operable for all junior Matches conducted by or under the Auspices of The Dandenong Baseball Association Inc. Note that these conditions should be read in conjunction with the Official Rules of Baseball and Rules of The Dandenong Baseball Association Inc.

### **1. Registration of Players**

All players must be registered as follows:-

- (a) If not previously registered as a Junior Player, a player need only be registered on the prescribed Junior Registration Form. The Junior Registration Form must include a declaration of Proof of Age, or must be accompanied by a copy of a Birth Certificate or similar evidence that the person is within the specified age limits. Such registration **MUST** be received by the Registration Secretary within seventy two (72) hours of the player appearing in their first match.
- (b) If a person has previously been registered with another Association or Club, they must be firstly cleared from that Association or Club on the prescribed Dandenong Baseball Association Clearance Form and then Registered on a Junior Registration Form.
- (c) The Clearance Form may also be sighted by, and if so sighted, **MUST** be signed by a member of the Executive of the Association **BEFORE** the said person can participate in a match. The completed and signed Form must be forwarded to the Association Secretary within 72 hours.

### **2. Eligibility of Players**

- (a) A player is eligible to take part of any match in the respective age groupings, provided that they are under the age of 13, 15, 17 on the 1st August of the year of Competition.
- (b) No player may participate in the Junior Competition until they attain their eighth birthday. To play Senior Baseball, Junior Players must attain the age of 14 years and to participate in the **A1** Grade Senior competition they must attain the age of 15 years. To play Women's Baseball, a Player must attain the age of 13 years.
- (c) For a player to be eligible to compete in Finals Matches, they shall have played at least **4 regular season games.**



## DANDENONG BASEBALL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

- (d) All Clubs will be sent a list of registered players prior to the Season commencing. This list must be updated and sent back to the Association Secretary one week before the commencement of the home and away games. Registration of players after the commencement of the home and away games must be forwarded within seventy two (72) hours of the player competing in a game.

### 3. Penalties

Failure by a Club to comply with any of the Rules detailed in Sections 1, 2 and 14 of these playing conditions, will result in the offending Club forfeiting any match points gained whilst playing such ineligible player(s). A fine as set by the Association from time to time for each individual offence will also be imposed.

### 4. Advertising on Junior Uniforms

Selective advertising is permissible on the back of Junior Uniforms, providing that the lettering / logo is not in excess of two inches in height.

### 5. Umpires

The Association is responsible for the provision of Umpires. Where no official Umpire is available, the Home team will provide the Umpire, and they may request the other team to provide a line Umpire. The Umpire is not permitted to smoke or consume alcohol whilst officiating during a game.

### 6. Baseballs and Bats

- (a) In Association run Junior Centres, the Association shall provide two match balls per game. In Home and Away games the Home team shall provide two match balls and have additional balls available.

- (b) Balls must be leather Waterproof Baseballs

- (c) Baseball bats shall conform to the rules and standards as set out Australian Baseball Federation (ABF)

T-Ball: 2 1/4" (Two and One Quarter Inches Diameter) shorter length bats may be used to suit smaller players.

Under 12/13: 2 1/4" (Two and One Quarter Inches Diameter)

Under 14/15: 2 5/8" (Two and Five Eighths Inches Diameter)

Under 16/17: -5 (No Barrel Restriction, maximum length 33")

Under 18: -3 (No Barrel Restriction, can only swing a -3 or a -5 weight drop)

Adult: -3 (No Barrel Restriction, can only swing a -3 weight drop)



## DANDENONG BASEBALL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

### 7. Batting Helmets

- (a) Double eared helmets MUST be worn by all players during their time at bat and for the entire duration of their time on the base paths in all matches. This will be enforced by the Umpires.
- (b) All bat boys MUST wear double eared batting helmets when on the playing field.
- (c) All catchers in all grades to wear helmet and throat protector.
- (d) Any player warming up a pitcher MUST wear a helmet, mask and throat protector.

### 8. Pre Match Diamond Warm Up

- (a) Fifteen minutes before the scheduled starting time of a game, the second named team shall be entitled to a warm up on the playing field, not to exceed five (5) minutes.
- (b) Ten minutes before the scheduled starting time of a game, the first named team shall be entitled to a warm up on the playing field, not to exceed five (5) minutes.
- (c) Five minutes before the scheduled starting time of a game, the playing diamond must be vacated. Both managers must meet with the Umpire(s) to determine ground rules, etc.

### 9. Duration of Games

Games shall be 9 innings or 100 minutes with games to commence at 8:45 am and finish at 10:25 am. There will be no time added on to a game to compensate for lost game time due to interruptions caused by weather or injuries. If time and game is called during the home club's at bat and the home club is leading, the match will cease immediately with the all runs up to that point be recorded as the final score. If the away team is at bat when time and game is called, the score shall revert back to the last full inning.

- (c) FINALS.  
No game shall proceed past the hour of 11.30am. If, at 11.30am, the game is tied, a new complete game shall be played at a later date to be arranged by the Association.

### 10. Choice of Innings

- (a) The first name team shall be the home team and shall field first.



## DANDENONG BASEBALL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

- (b) Semi-Finals: Team finishing higher on the ladder is the home team
- (c) Preliminary Final: Team finishing higher on the ladder is the home team
- (d) Grand Final: The first team into the Grand Final is the home team

### 11. Outright Winner

Points will be used to determine the winning team. If the points are equal, the percentage of the teams shall be used, calculated by dividing runs scored by runs scored and runs conceded. If teams are still tied, the number of hits, number of outs or stolen bases (in that order) will be used until the tie is broken.

### 12. Bases

In all age groups, bases must be pegged, except the home plate.

### 13. Regulation Game

It shall become a regulation game when the Umpire terminates play due to adverse weather or ground conditions after three (3) completed innings or a total or forty-five (45) minutes playing time.

### 14. Pitchers

- (a) In Under 13 games, a pitcher shall pitch NO MORE than nine (9) Defensive Outs, or a maximum of 60 pitches in a game, whichever comes first. If a pitcher reaches their pitch count during an at bat, they may pitch no more than 5 additional pitches to achieve that defensive out. If the pitcher fails to achieve a defensive out to retire the inning or the batter, they must be replaced by a substitute pitcher who will continue to pitch where the batter count left off.

Failure to comply will result in the offending Club being penalised in accordance with section 3 of these playing conditions.

- (b) Under 15 pitchers shall pitch NO MORE than 70 pitches in a game and Under 17 pitchers may pitch NO MORE than 80 pitches in a game. A pitcher shall pitch NO MORE than fifteen (15) Defensive Outs or part thereof in any one weekend in both age groups. If a pitcher reaches their pitch count during an at bat, they may pitch no more than 5 additional pitches to achieve that defensive out. If the pitcher fails to achieve a defensive out to retire the inning or the batter, they must be replaced by a substitute pitcher who will continue to pitch where the batter count left off.
- (c) If a Senior Club has no Under 15 or 17 Team, an eligible Junior must abide by the Pitch Count and number of Defensive Outs as per Rule 14 (b)



**DANDENONG BASEBALL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED**

- (d) Junior players may not pitch AND catch on the same day
- (e) Any Violation of rules a, b, c or d may result in the following:
  - (i) The Coach appearing before the Executive
  - (ii) Loss of Match Points
  - (iii) A fine of up to \$200
- (f) Defensive Outs and Pitches thrown to be marked on the scorecards.
- (g) A Balk Pitch delivered to the plate, whether it be hit safe or not, shall be considered to be valid pitch for the purpose of recording the number of pitches.
- (h) A “no pitch”, e.g. batter steps out of the batter’s box and the pitcher delivers the pitch, shall not be included in the pitch count.
- (i) Each game in which a player pitches is considered one assignment.
- (j) A player once removed as a pitcher may not pitch again in the same game.
- (k) Pitchers in the Under 13 and Under 15 competitions may throw only fast balls or straight change ups. Knuckle balls, split fingers, fork balls and curve balls are not permitted.
  - (i) if any pitch other than a fast ball or straight change up is thrown, the plate umpire will call “Illegal Pitch”. The illegal pitch call may also be made by a field umpire. If the ball is not batted then the pitch shall be called a “Ball”. If the pitch is hit by a batter, then normal rules of Baseball will apply. Where the ball is batted and an out is made, or the batter strikes out, then the batter runner is not out and the illegal pitch rule and penalty will apply.
  - (i) The pitched ball will count towards the pitchers pitch count.

**15. Base Running - Under 13**

A runner must not leave a base until either the ball is hit or reaches the home plate. If this rule is violated, the Umpire shall declare ‘No Play’, the ball is dead, the base Runners return to their bases held before the pitch.

**A runner coming into home plate to score must always slide.**

The offending player will then be warned by the Umpire. Any future violation of this rule by the TEAM during the game will result in the player being given out. Under 15 and 17 - Senior Rules apply.



## DANDENONG BASEBALL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

### 16. Third Strike - Under 13

The batter is 'OUT' when a third strike is indicated by the Umpire, whether or not the pitch is legally caught by the catcher.

A third strike, which is not caught by the catcher, is ALIVE until it goes out of play and base runners may advance at their own peril.

### 17. Batting Through - Under 13

All players listed and available on the team sheet must bat. The batting order shall be maintained regardless of fielding substitutions.

### 18. Game Re-entry - Under 13

Players removed from the game may re-enter the match once only but must play a different position. If replaced a second time, the player may not re-enter the game again except to bat.

### 19. Footwear

NO METAL CLEATS are to be worn, but moulded plastic cleats are permitted. Soccer or football boots with plastic moulded stops are permitted, as long as there is not metal protruding through the plastic stops.

### 20. Seven Run Rule

A team shall bat for a maximum of seven runs in any offensive innings. As the seventh run crosses the plate, the scorer shall notify the Umpire. At the completion of the seventh run, the Umpire shall call 'Time'.

### 21. Wasting of Time

It is contrary to the spirit of Junior Baseball for teams to engage in the practice of wasting time, particularly in the closing minutes of a time limit game. Umpires are hereby instructed to take all necessary steps to prevent such malpractice and adults in charge of teams are warned that the Association will not tolerate such tactics.

### 22. Managing and Coaching

- (a) One adult Manager or Coach suitably attired in Club colours may be used in each Coach's box at first and third base.
- (b) Players, Managers and Coaches must remain on the benches or in the prescribed area during a game.



## DANDENONG BASEBALL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

- (c) If a Manager or Coach goes onto the Playing field (crosses the baseline), more than TWICE during his defensive half or an inning while the same player is pitching, such Manager or Coach MUST make a pitching change upon the third occasion. This rule will be enforced by the Umpire. A Manager or Coach may, at any time, without penalty, go on to the ground for the sole purpose of giving aid to a sick or injured player.
- (d) Adult Manager or Coach is NOT to wear metal cleats
- (e) Base coaches must wear helmets.

### 23. Grounds

The Association or Club providing the Grounds for the Match is expected to have the playing field properly marked and defined with particular emphasis on the boundary limits. The Home Club is responsible for the provision of bases, home plate, pitchers plate and foul flags. Bases, etc. must be whitened. The host Association or Club is responsible for making sure First Aid is available at the grounds.

### 24. Alcohol

NO ALCOHOL is to be available or consumed at any Junior Match.

### 25. Behaviour of Players, Coaches, Officials and Spectators

- (a) Good relationships must be fostered between teams before, during and particularly after games.
- (b) The authority and decisions of the Umpire must be respected. Abuse and intimidating language or tactics must not be directed to any Umpire by any person.
- (c) The Coach of each team must insist that his players behave in a sportsmanlike manner, especially towards members of the opposing team at all times. The use of intemperate, foul or unseemly language by players or coaches is ABSOLUTELY FORBIDDEN.
- (d) Representatives of each team, including coaches and managers are required to draw the attention of their respective spectators or their own players to the above conditions regarding behaviour, if these conditions are being disregarded.
- (e) No player or coach is to throw any equipment in a show of temper (bats, helmets, etc.). The Umpire will give a team a warning, then the next player will be ejected from the game for similar offence.
- (f) No Coach or Manager is permitted to smoke whilst being involved in a game.



## DANDENONG BASEBALL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

### 26. Playing Field Dimensions

The following condition will apply to the playing field and other equipment for Under 13, 15, and 17 games.

Under 13 / Under 15 / Under 17

Pitching Distance:	46' (14.02m) / 54' (16.46m) / 60'-6" (18.44m)
Base Paths:	60' (18.29m) / 80' (24.38m) / 90' (27.43m)
Diagonal Distances:	84'- 10.25" (25.86m) / 114'-3" (34.52m) / 127'-3.375" (38.79m)
Passed Ball Line:	25' (7.62m) / 40' (12.2m) / 60' (18.3m)
Bases & Plates:	Full Size / Full Size / Full Size
HR Fence LF-RF:	200' (61.0m) / 230' (70.1m) / 320' (97.54m)
HR Fence CF:	200' (61.0m) / 250' (76.2m) / 374' (114.0m)
HR Fence Radius:	200' (61.0m) / 196' (59.7m) / 247' (75.3m)
Centre of HR	
Fence Radius:	Home Plate / Pitchers Plate / Second Base
Coaches Box:	8'x 4' (2.44m x 1.22m) / 16'x8' (4.88m x 2.44m) / 20'x10' (6.10m x 3.05m)
Batting Box:	6'x3' (1.83m x 0.92m) / 6'x4' (1.83m x 1.22m) / 6'x4' (1.83m x 1.22m)
Catchers Box:	Senior Size / Senior Size / Senior Size
Bat Size (Max):	All bats must be Baseball Victoria compliant

### 27. Multiple Teams in one Age Group

To be eligible for Finals a Player must appear in at 4 games for their club. The Player shall play final matches in the grade where they have played the majority of their games. In the event the Player has played an equal number of games in two grades, the Player must play in the lower grade team. **Final eligibility subject to application to the Executive.**

### 28. Misdemeanours

Any misdemeanour by a player, coach official or spectator during a game, shall be reported to the Executive of the Association. Any such report shall be dealt with by the Executive and may incur any fine and or penalty it considers appropriate.

### 29. Match Cards

Match Cards must be filled out correctly and shall include the Players full names. Biro or pens are to be used (not pencils). The completed Match Cards must be sent to the Association Secretary within 72 hours of completion of the game. Failure to do so shall result in a fine as determined by the Association. The Home Side is responsible for the sending of the Card.