

GEELONG BASEBALL ASSOCIATION JUNIOR RULES -2009 SEASON

These Junior Rules are to be read in conjunction with GBA Senior rules.

Unless specified in Junior Regulations normal rules of baseball apply.

1. Player Eligibility

1.1. To determine a player's age group and section a player must be under the age of group on 31st December of each year to compete in the section relevant to his age group.

1.2. **Competitions**- the GBA Junior section shall administer competitions in the following age groups

U8 Tee ball 5, 6,
U10 Tee ball 7, 8 years

The Geelong Baseball Association will endeavor to develop and implement an entry level Tee-ball program;- The proposed starting date of the Tee ball program will commence the second week in July the season and will be an 8 Week season. The Tee-ball program will be played at regional centres and will be played on a Friday night and will be run separately from the usual junior competition.

1.3. Age Qualifications;-

A Little League Minor competition may be scheduled
8, 9, 10, 11 years Center based played out of GBC
Little League Major 8, 9, 10, 11 years (Home and Away games)
U14 12, 13 years
U 17 14, 15, 16 year

1.4. Minimum age is 8 years to compete in the little league competition 5 years for Tee Ball.

1.5. A player can only play one age group above the age they are. I.e. A player of 11 years of age can play Little League or U14.

1.6. A Club may submit a written application to the Junior Chairperson requesting special consideration for a player to play out of their regular age group, that is signed by a parent /guardian.- refer Appendix One. The request shall be made based on unusual or circumstances such as a player's physical or mental disability.

1.7. This form must be used where dispensation is being sought for players to play in out of their age groups. Section 1 must be completed by the player's club/team coach. The parent/guardian must complete and sign section 2.

1.8. If club has two teams in a division, a player who plays more than 50% of a season's scheduled home and away games in one team, they are then bound to that team for season unless the approval of the Junior Chairperson is obtained.

1.9. A player playing more than 50% of a season's scheduled home and away games in an age level is not permitted to play in a lower age level without permission of Junior Chairperson.

1.10. Failure to comply with provisions in this section may result in Club being penalized as per GBA regulations.

2. Grading

2.1. Teams affiliating will be graded into a division of U17, U14, Little League Major & possibly Little League Minor or Tee Ball competition.

2.2. After 3 completed rounds a club may request the Junior Executive to consider re-grading a team.

2.3. Junior Executive has the right to re-grade a team after 3 completed rounds.

2.4.

3. Fixtures

3.1. The GBA Junior Committee will determine the fixture. and issue, changes to the draw will be via Email advise, the most recent fixture will be placed on the GBA Webpage.

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4. Umpires

- 4.1. An umpire is to be provided by each home club as listed in the fixture. Away Clubs are required to provide a base umpire were the game is called from behind.
- 4.2. All U17 and U14 games MUST be umpired from behind home plate by the home club appointed umpire
- 4.3. For U17, U14 & Little League the home side must supply the plate umpire, the base umpires to be supplied by away team.
- 4.4. If home team does not have umpire prepared to do this then away team will be given opportunity to provide umpire to officiate from behind plate.
- 4.5. Umpire fees shall be:
Single umpire - \$30 (\$15 per team)
2 Umpires – Plate \$20, Base \$10 (\$15 per team)

Failure pay umpires fees at game time will result in \$20 fine for such club (Plus the owed fees).
- 4.6. All umpires must be at least 15 years of age & must be at least 2 years older than the age group they are umpiring.
- 4.7. Un-notified walkover umpire to get paid by team giving the walkover – both fees
- 4.8. Notified walkover no umpires payment
- 4.9. Umpires still get paid for unnotified washout but MUST sign the match report.
- 4.10. Notified washout no payment to the umpire
- 4.11. All umpires to print their names on the match report each week.

5. Duration of Play

- 5.1. U17 games 120 minutes commencing at 8:30am and finishing at 10:30am, No 5 minute rule
- 5.2. U14 games 105 minutes commencing at 9:00am and finishing at 10:45am, No 5 minute rule
- 5.3. Little League games 90 minutes commencing at 9:15am and finishing at 10:45am, No 5 minute rule
- 5.4. Clubs may apply to the Junior Executive for a change in game time, location or day. All changes must first be approved by the Junior Executive and both teams, and must follow the below process. Application to the Junior Secretary in writing (maybe via E-mail).
- 5.5. Coaches of both teams must agree on location, time and day.
- 5.6. Rescheduled time does not impact senior Competition
- 5.7. Application to change a game is received by the Junior Secretary a minimum of 7 days prior to the scheduled game
- 5.8. Regulation game after 3 completed innings or 45 minutes play

6. Insufficient Players

- 6.1. 10 minutes is allowed from scheduled starting time for a club to obtain required 7 players
- 6.2. Except for finals, clubs may borrow players from other clubs to make up numbers. Such players to have their club indicated on the match report.
- 6.3. To encourage competition and to ensure that players get a game even when they are short the following shall apply
- 6.4. If after 10 minutes a team does not have 7 players and the opposing team has sufficient players, players are to be exchanged *and* a game for normal points to proceed

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7. Match Balls

- 7.1. Little League Minor- Each team is to supply one new or good quality RIB ball. (9 inch Reduced injury leather covered ball) for each game.
- 7.2. Little League Major- Each team is to supply one new or good quality Leather balls for each game.
- 7.3. U14 Home team is to supply two new or good quality GBA approved Leather baseballs for each game
- 7.4. U17 Home team is to supply two new GBA approved leather baseballs for each game

8. Ten Run Rule

- 8.1. U17 & U14 games will be called when a team is leading by 10 or more runs after 5 completed innings. The bottom of the 5th or subsequent innings is considered as a complete innings.

9. Adverse Weather

- 9.1. A match committee comprising Junior Chairperson and two other Junior Executive members will be the sole judge of whether or not games will start, suspended or cancelled in case of adverse weather.
- 9.2. If round is cancelled no points will be awarded. Clubs should leave a contact number with the Junior Executive to alleviate travel in bad weather. delete this as we don't have GBA Center any more...
- 9.3. If an individual match is washed out whilst other games go ahead, then participating teams will share the points.
- 9.4. If a home ground is in poor condition prior to a game, the decision to play should result from consensus from coaches/managers and umpire.
- 9.5. If agreement has not been reached on the condition of the ground, then the Plate umpire will make final and binding decision.
- 9.6. If decision can be made before visiting team is due to arrive then that visiting team should be notified by home team ASAP. Seven players need to be listed per team

10. Presentation of Games

- 10.1. At home grounds: Home team is to mark diamond, provides bases and plates and a backing net.

11. Scorecards and Match Results

- 11.1. Walkovers: notified email the GBA secretary and the opposition club and umpire
- 11.2. Home team is responsible for filling in the match report with all FIRST and LAST names for all age groups.
- 11.3. Votes only to be awarded for Little League Major, U14 and U17 levels. (Not for Tee Ball or Little League Minor)
- 11.4. The Home team shall complete and forward the Match card, including full names, safe hits, pitch counts and innings, catchers and innings per player.

12. Combined teams:

- 12.1. Player's home club needs to be written on the match report next to their name
- 12.2. Both scorers MUST sit together
- 12.3. Coaches are asked to include some match details in the report that can be used in the press report and this is to be emailed to the press correspondent by the home team.
- 12.4. Any complaints, including reports on coaches, players, spectators or umpires, are to be written on the match card and signed by both coaches.
- 12.5. Both coaches must sign form after the game and the UMPIRE (in conjunction with the both coaches) will allocate votes and sign form.
- 12.6. Any report the umpire wishes to make is to be written on the form before coaches' sign then a full report to be emailed to the junior secretary within 48hrs of the report.

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- 12.7. The home team is to provide the press report to the Press Correspondent
Email game details e.g. Box scores, hits, RBI's and game description to

Debbie Isbister

disbister@bigpond.com

(Email as a new blank email document or as a word document attachment)

No later than 7pm Mondays

Then post the original report, by the Wednesday to:

Debbie Isbister

4 Newland St

Newcomb 3219

Fines to home club will occur for missing reports

13. Protests

- 13.1. Protests must be in writing to Junior Secretary by 10am on morning following game. (Email will be sufficient)
13.2. \$10 deposit will be invoiced with each protest. This is forfeited if protest deemed frivolous.
13.3. Protest must be noted in scorebook, indicating point in game protest occurred including time, score at the time of the protest and on scorecard.
13.4. If protest upheld, the game will be replayed from point of protest at a time arranged by Junior Executive.

14. Reported persons

Umpire to email the junior secretary within 24 hrs of the report.

15. Finals

- 15.1. Ladder positions shall be based the number of wins a team has from games played.
A draw or washout shall count as 0.5 win if teams are still even, then the higher team shall be the one with the better head to head record. If teams are still even, then the teams shall be split by run percentages.
- 15.2. No finals in Tee Ball or Little League Minor
- 15.3. U17 final 4 determined. Page system finals will be played.
- 1v2, winner straight to grand final.
3v4, winner to play, loser of 1v2. Then winner to play in the grand final.
- 15.4. U14 or Little League Major Final 4 determined two week finals to be played.
Semi-finals: 1 v 4 and 2 v 3, with winners playing in the grand final.
- 15.5. Duration of play as per Section 5 of these rules.
- 15.6. The 5 minute rules shall apply in all finals
- 15.7. Highest finishing team shall be deemed home team for game presentation and batting.
- 15.8. Should the score be tied after even innings, at end of allocated playing time, extra innings to be played until result is achieved. If the score is tied after equal innings, and next innings has commenced before end of allocated playing time, match will continue until result is obtained or until 12.00 pm, or until another time which is determined by the junior executive.
- 15.9. Where a plate umpire is the only umpire provided, the home team has opportunity to provide line umpire. If they don't then other team will be given the opportunity.
- 15.10. In the event of a washout in finals, if there is spare weekend available, these games will be played then.

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16. Player Eligibility for finals:

- 16.1. Player must play at least 5 home and away matches with club to be eligible to play in finals. Application for waiver to be made in writing to Junior Secretary at least 48 hours prior to scheduled final match.
- 16.2. A player eligible to play in two different age levels cannot play finals in lower age group if they have played more home and away games in higher age level.
- 16.3. Where a club has 2 or more teams in the one division, a player must play the final series in the team in which they played the most home and away games. Where equal number of games have been played in each team then player must choose which team to play final series with, and stay with that team for the whole final series
- 16.4. Do we need to adapt the same as the senior rules as in 7 players must be named and those players cannot change between teams.

17. Champion Club

- 17.1. A trophy will be awarded to the Champion Club based on points allocated per win during home and away matches.
- 17.2. Points will only be allocated for Little League Major, U14 and U17 competitions.
- 17.3. Two points awarded for each win in Division 1 of each age competition, one point for ties and draws.
- 17.4. No points allocated where both teams forfeit.
- 17.5. Should a team have 2 or more teams in an eligible division then points will be awarded to their highest placed team in that division.
- 17.6. A combined team must have a minimum of four players to be eligible to share points.
- 17.7. The club scoring the highest number of points over the season will win the club championship trophy.

18. Special Rules for ALL AGE LEVELS:

- 18.1. Seven Run Rule - A maximum of seven runs can be scored in any one innings. When seven runs have been scored in any innings, it finishes. Does not apply to Tee Ball -see special rules in that section.
- 18.2. Illegal Pitches:
- 18.3. In all grades, other than U17, curve balls/breaking balls and split finger fast balls are illegal pitches. Called no pitch, player and coach given warning, if the player re-offends then they are to be removed from game.
- 18.4. All batter rule is optional in all age groups. Decision MUST be made at the start of the game between both coaches and the umpire.
- 18.5. NO METAL CLEATES in any junior games. If any player has been found in breach of this rule the player will be asked to change their shoes and will sit on the bench for 1 one complete innings (6 Outs) before they can take the field again.
- 18.6. If a player refuses to take the cleats off then they will be ejected from the game and reported.
- 18.7. The umpire MUST make notes on the match report and email the junior secretary within 48hours of the offence.

19. Tee Ball:

- 19.1. Age: A player is eligible to take part in any match in Under 8 or Under 10 Tee Ball provided he/she is under the age of 5 on the 31st December
- 19.2. Qualification: To participate in the Tee ball Tournament a player must be registered on the 'My Club' system.
- 19.3. Equipment: Each Club is to supply a Tee with their players
- 19.4. Aluminum or wooden bats are allowed.
- 19.5. NO CLEATS or FOOTBALL BOOTS ALLOWED, only flat or dimple soled shoes are to worn.
- 19.6. Helmets must be worn by all batters, base runners, pitchers, catchers and players base coaching.

20. Little League Minor:- No Little League minor is scheduled for the 2009 Season

- 20.1. An adult from batting side pitches the ball (under or over arm) to each batter in the team. How the ball is pitched is the decision of the coach made according to the ability of the batter. The idea is to pitch the ball in such a way that batter can hit ball.
- 20.2. A fielder is designated pitcher and stands approximately 1 to 2 metres beside coach pitching ball. Player must be able to see batter and can field the ball normally.
- 20.3. The coach pitching will not field ball unless it is matter of self-protection. A batted ball that bounces off adult is in play.
- 20.4. With the coach pitching once full count has been reached the player MUST bat from a batting tee.
- 20.5. Batting side supplies own tee.

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- 20.6. Stealing bases not permitted. Base runner must remain on base until ball is a hit. Runner can only advance base when ball is hit.
- 20.7. Adult pitching is responsible for umpiring decisions.
- 20.8. Each team can have up to 10 players in the field with four outfielders. No player can occupy fielding position for more than 3 innings.
- 20.9. Coach/Manager of fielding team may enter playing area at anytime and instruct their players provided there is no interference with the normal course of play.
- 20.10. Fly ball rule does not apply. If ball is caught, the ball is dead & runners return to their previously occupied base without penalty.
- 20.11. No pass balls. Once a ball passes out of playing area runners stay at their last legally touched base.
- 20.12. Each team bats through its line-up once per innings.
- 20.13. All runs scored count, regardless of number of outs. Following last batter players left on base count, even if last batter is out.

21. Little League Major:

- 21.1. Fly ball rule applies.
- 21.2. Pitchers - may pitch for a maximum of 3 innings or 60 pitches, whichever comes first.
- 21.3. Pitcher after being removed they may take up any other position other than catcher.
- 21.4. Three innings is 9 outs, an innings where 7 run rule is applied equates to 3 outs.
- 21.5. Catchers may catch for a maximum of 3 innings.
- 21.6. Catcher after being removed they can take up any position other than pitcher.
- 21.7. A catcher cannot return to the position once removed, regardless of innings caught.
- 21.8. No player can pitch and catch in the same game.
- 21.9. Stealing base: normal rules apply.
- 21.10. If a breach of 21.2, 21.3 or 21.5 is brought to attention of coach and umpire and pitcher and/or catcher is not changed team will lose points for that game.
- 21.11. Fielding team's coach/manager is allowed to take field to instruct players provided they do so outside the infield area and do not interfere with normal course of game.
- 21.12. Speed up rule for Little League Major after 2 are out (as per U14 and U17 rules)

22. Under 14:

- 22.1. Pitchers may pitch for a maximum of 3 innings or 75 pitches, whichever comes first.
- 22.2. After being removed they may take up any position other than catcher.
- 22.3. Three innings is 9 outs, an innings where 7 run rule is applied equates to 3 outs.
- 22.4. Catchers may catch for maximum of 3 innings. After being removed they can take up any position, other than pitcher.
- 22.5. A catcher cannot return to battery once removed regardless of innings caught
- 22.6. No player may pitch and catch in the same game.
- 22.7. Speed up rule for catcher applies after 2 outs.
- 22.8. If a team in breach any of the above rules, is brought to attention of coach and umpire and pitcher and/or catcher is not changed team a penalty of loss of points will be imposed.

23. Under 17:

- 23.1. Pitchers may pitch for a maximum of 5 innings or 90 pitches, whichever comes first.
- 23.2. After being removed they may take up any position other than catcher. Five innings is 15 outs. Where 7 run rule applies this equates to 3 outs.
- 23.3. Catchers can catch for maximum of 5 innings. After being removed they can take up any position, other than pitcher. A catcher cannot return to battery once removed regardless of innings caught. 5 innings is 15 outs, if 7 run rule applied this equates to 3 outs.
- 23.4. No player can pitch and catch in the same game.
- 23.5. Speed up rule for catcher applies after 2 outs.
- 23.6. If brought to attention of coach & umpire that breach of 23.1, 23.2, 23.3 or 23.4, has occurred and coach does not change pitcher and/or catcher a penalty of loss of points will be imposed.

24. Carnival Rules:

- 24.1. Any junior player wanting to tryout for Little League, U14 or U16 carnival teams MUST be playing juniors.

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25. Ground Measurements

Age group	Pitching dist	Base Path	Diagonal		Pass Ball	Outfield
					Lines	Centre
Tee Ball	N.A.	60'	84'10"	25'	200'	200'
		18.29m	25.86m	7.62m	61.0m	61.0m
Little League Minor	43'	60'	84'10"	25'	200'	200'
	13.11m	18.29m	25.86m	7.62m	61.0m	61.0m
Little League Major	46'	70'	99'	25'	200'	200'
	14.02m	21.34m	30.18m	7.62m	61.0m	61.0m
U14	54'	80'	113'3"	40'	230'	250'
	16.46m	24.38m	34.48m	12.2m	70.1m	76.2m
U17	60'6"	90'	127' 3 3/8"	60'	300'	320'
	18.44m	27.43m	38.64m	18.3m	91.4m	97.5m

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GEELONG BASEBALL ASSOCIATION – Appendix One PLAYER AGE DISPENSATION FORM

DATE OF APPLICATION /...../2009

DATE RECEIVED BY GBA .../..../2009

PLAYERS NAME:

ADDRESS

Street and Number _____

Town / Suburb _____

Postcode _____

Phone Number

Home

Other Contact Number

DATE OF BIRTH:

GENDER: Male / Female

Section One: Reason for Dispensation Request.

Stipulate which age group.

Team Coach Name:

Date:

Signature:

Section Two: Parental/Guardian approval.

Parent/Guardian Name: Date:

Support Statement from parent - request

Signature:

Approval given to play out of Age Group, or reason for Rejection.

Accepted Yes / No

Restriction if applicable:

GBA Junior Section Chairman / Secretary

Signature:

26. NOTE: THE ORIGINAL MUST BE SENT TO THE GBA AND A FULLY COMPLETED COPY HELD BY CLUB