

**BASEBALL**  
NORTHERN TERRITORY

# BASEBALL NORTHERN TERRITORY REGULATIONS

ADOPTED 28 NOVEMBER 2020

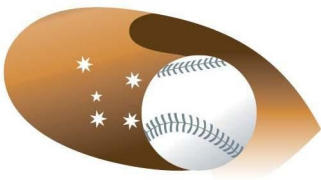
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## BASEBALL NORTHERN TERRITORY

### 1) PURPOSE OF THESE REGULATIONS

- a) These are the Regulations of Baseball Northern Territory Incorporated (BNTI) and are produced pursuant to clause 32 of the BNTI Constitution.
- b) These Regulations establish minimum requirements for the operation of baseball competitions within the Northern Territory and are binding on all Members of BNTI in accordance with the BNTI Constitution clause 32.2
- c) Any matters not dealt with or provided for in these Regulations may be dealt with in such manner as the Board deems fit.

### 2) DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS

- a) "Affiliate Member" means a Regional Association which is admitted as an Affiliate Member under Clause 5 of the BNTI Constitution
- b) "Board" means the body consisting of the Directors and constituting the committee for the purposes detailed in the BNTI Constitution
- c) "Club" means a club that enters teams in a competition in the Sport
- d) "Junior Member" means a Member of BNTI less than 18 years old
- e) "Officials" means a Member who umpires, coaches or scores
- f) "Rules of Baseball" refers to the Official Australian Rules of Baseball

### 3) FORMATION, ALTERATIONS AND APPROVAL OF THESE REGULATIONS

- a) The Board shall have the power to formulate, adopt, interpret, or amend these Regulations for the proper advancement, management, and administration of the Sport in the Northern Territory as it deems necessary or desirable in accordance with clause 32.1 of the BNTI Constitution.
- b) The Board, or its appointed delegates, shall have the power to alter or amend these Regulations as they deem necessary or desirable. Members of BNTI may also submit proposals for alterations of the Regulations to the Board for consideration.
- c) The Board shall have the power to approve all alteration proposals at a meeting of the Board which shall be decided by resolution of the Directors by a simple majority of votes of those entitled to exercise a vote. Any such approved Regulation may only be repealed by a majority of not less than seventy-five percent (75%) of votes exercised at any Board or General Meeting.
- d) Regulations and any amendments, alterations or other changes to or interpretations of the Regulations may be communication to Members by a notice on the Affiliate Member's website or in any journal or publication which is published by or on behalf of the Affiliate Member and which is circulated by the Affiliate Member to the Members.

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## BASEBALL

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### 4) OFFICIAL RULES OF BASEBALL

- a) All baseball games played in the Northern Territory are to be conducted pursuant to the latest edition of the Official Australian Rules of Baseball (Rules of Baseball).

### 5) REGISTRATION OF MEMBERS

- a) All Members (inclusive of players, coaches, scorers, umpires, and general volunteers) must register on the prescribed membership form prior to participating in a baseball game.
- b) BNTI retains the right to refuse membership to anyone in accordance with section 5.4 of the BNTI Constitution
- c) All Members remain bound by the rules of BNTI including but not limited to adhering to the Code of Conduct, Conditions of Entry, Anti-Doping, Smoke Free, and Social Media Policies.

### 6) PLAYER ELIGIBILITY AND CLEARANCES

- a) A registered Individual Member shall have the right to transfer from one Club to another within the Northern Territory or interstate.
- b) Neither the Club the Member is requesting a transfer from (Transferor Club), nor the Affiliate Member, or BNTI, may refuse its consent to a transfer unless it is owed money, or property by the Member requesting a transfer.
- c) Individual Members seeking a transfer must use the prescribed form to obtain consent in the following manner:
  - i) Where the Member is requesting a transfer where the Transferor Club and the Club to whom the Member is transferring to (Transferee Club) within the same Affiliate Member, consent must be obtained from the Transferee Club, Transferor Club, and the Affiliate Member
  - ii) Where the Member is requesting a transfer where the Transferor Club and Transferee Club are in different Affiliate Members, but within the Northern Territory, consent must be obtained from the Transferee Club, Transferor Club, Transferor Affiliate Member, Transferee Affiliate Member, and BNTI.
  - iii) Where the Member is requesting a transfer where the Transferor Club and Transferee Club are in different states/territories, consent must be obtained from the Transferor Club, Transferor Affiliate Member, and BNTI. Interstate Transfer Policies are to be adhered post-BNTI consent.
- d) Interstate players must produce a transfer form from their last Club prior to registering in the Northern Territory.
- e) New players may play their first game of baseball with any Club.
- f) Junior Member Eligibility
  - i) Junior Members are to participate in their natural age group, per the 2021 Little League Age Chart below:

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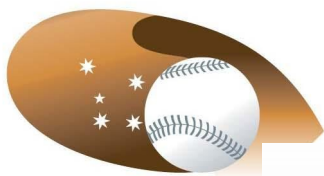
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## 2021 Little League® Age Chart FOR BASEBALL DIVISION ONLY

Match month (top line) and box with year of birth. League age indicated at right.

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	AGE
2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2016	2016	2016	2016	4
2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2015	2015	2015	2015	5
2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2015	2014	2014	2014	2014	6
2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2013	2013	2013	2013	7
2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2013	2012	2012	2012	2012	8
2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2012	2011	2011	2011	2011	9
2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2011	2010	2010	2010	2010	10
2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2010	2009	2009	2009	2009	11
2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2008	2008	2008	2008	12
2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2008	2007	2007	2007	2007	13
2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2007	2006	2006	2006	2006	14
2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2006	2005	2005	2005	2005	15
2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2005	2004	2004	2004	2004	16

**NOTE: This age chart is for BASEBALL DIVISIONS ONLY, and only for 2021.**

- ii) Where there is no suitable competition within the Junior Members natural age group, the Member may request dispensation to participate outside of their natural age group.
  - (1) The request must be in writing on the form prescribed by BNTI.
- iii) Where there is no suitable competition within any Junior competition, the Junior Member may be eligible to participate in Senior competitions, pursuant to the BNTI Juniors Playing Senior Baseball Policy.

### 7) ACCREDITATION OF OFFICIALS

- a) BNTI shall determine the officiating standards for baseball games within the Northern Territory. Where officiating encompasses coaching, scoring, and umpiring.
- b) Where a qualification is required, BNTI shall reference a qualification from the current BA accreditation program.
- c) BNTI shall maintain a register of BA accredited officials and shall liaise to promote and facilitate training courses to provide a sufficient pool of qualified officials.
- d) All officials involved in Junior Baseball must hold a valid Working with Children's Check (Ochre Card)
  - i) Officials are to provide a copy of the valid Ochre Card to BNTI. BNTI shall maintain the register.
- e) Junior Members, who are officiating, may only officiate games/training below their age group.

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## 8) EQUIPMENT AND FACILITY STANDARDS

### a) Baseballs

- i) Only baseballs that conform with Rules of Baseball 1.09 may be used, except where approved by BNTI for special events.

### b) Baseball Bats

- i) Only baseball bats that conform to the bat specifications of the Rules of Baseball 1.10 may be used.
- ii)

GRADE	AGE GROUP	BAT REGULATIONS
Little League	Under 13	<b>USA Baseball Certified</b> 2 5/8" barrel maximum No more than 33" in length
Intermediate League / Junior League	Under 15	<b>USA Baseball Certified</b> 2 5/8" barrel maximum  OR <b>BBCOR Certified</b> 2 5/8" composite barrel  No more than 34" in length
Senior Competitions	16+	<b>BBCOR Certified</b> 2 5/8" composite barrel  OR  Wood / Wood Composite

### c) Footwear

- i) All players and officials must always wear enclosed shoes during baseball games and training.

### d) Protective Helmets

- i) All batters, base runners and bat persons are required to wear two eared protective helmets in accordance with the Rules of Baseball 1.16
- ii) All base coaches are required to wear protective helmets as follow:
  - (1) Base coaches who are under 18 years of age must wear two eared helmets
  - (2) Base coaches who are over 18 years of age may wear skull cup style helmets

### e) Facemasks

- i) All catchers must wear a mask and a catcher's helmet during the pitcher's warm-up and games (this includes helmets with built in facemasks).
- ii) Any player or coach warming up a pitcher must wear a face mask and a helmet no matter whether in a bull pen or on the playing field.

### f) Protective Cups

- i) All male Junior players must wear a protective cup

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### g) Facility Standards

	<b>UNDER 13</b>	<b>UNDER 15</b>	<b>16+</b>
Pitching Distance	46ft (14.02m)	54ft (16.46m)	60ft 6in (18.44m)
Base Paths	60ft (18.3m)	80ft (24.38m)	90ft (27.43m)
Home Run Fence	LF: 200ft (61m) CF: 200ft (61m) RF: 200ft (61m)	LF: 230ft (70.1m) CF: 250ft (76.2m) RF: 230ft (70.1m)	Minimum Requirement LF: 250ft (76.2m) CF: 320ft (97.54m) RF: 250ft (76.2m)

### 9) EXTREME WEATHER

#### a) Heat Affected Games

- i) It shall be the responsibility of the Affiliate Member to monitor on a half-hour bases, current temperatures via the Bureau of Meteorology website weather information line. Should the current temperature reach 39° Celsius for seniors, or 36° Celsius for junior competitions, play shall be suspended immediately. The temperature shall be monitored during this time every 15 minutes. Play shall not resume until the temperature falls below 39° Celsius for seniors, or 36° Celsius for junior competitions.
  - (1) Junior players participating in any senior competition shall be subject to the conditions of that competition.
- ii) Notwithstanding the above, the umpire/s shall have the powers to abandon or suspend play at any time at their discretion.
- iii) No person is forced by BNTI to participate in any match and Clubs / Affiliate Members shall place no pressure on any participant if they consider withdrawing from any part of a match for health reasons.

#### b) Rain Affected Games

- i) If the Umpire considers that play is unsafe due to rain, the Umpire shall stop play immediately.
- ii) Should the Umpire consider that there is a reasonable expectation that the rain will ease to the point that play is safe within sufficient time to achieve a Legal Game, the Umpire is to suspend play and periodically assess the conditions. If the Umpire determines it is safe to do so, play will resume.
- iii) Should the Umpire consider that there is not a reasonable expectation that the rain will ease within sufficient time to achieve a Legal Game, the Umpire is to Call the game.

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- c) Lightning
  - i) On game day, the Umpires have the responsibility to decide when it is safe to play baseball, considering the risk of injury from lightning.
  - ii) During training, the Coach is responsible for deciding when it is safe to be training. In the absence of a Coach, the highest-ranking present member of the Club Committee is responsible.
  - iii) Players, officials, and guests must take shelter in the club rooms or their cars while play is suspended. Dugouts do not provide appropriate protection.
  - iv) Play must not be resumed until it is safe to do in the opinion of the Umpires (on game day) or the Coach (during training).
- d) Rescheduling of Games
  - i) Games incomplete or not played due to extreme weather should be rescheduled where practical.

### 10) JUNIOR PLAY – MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

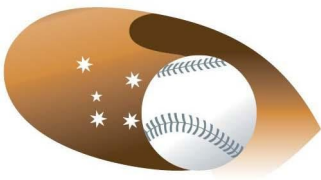
- a) Sliding / Collision Rule
  - i) There is no “must slide” rule, except for the following:
    - ii) A runner attempting to break up a double play at 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> base must slide directly into the base and not beyond the base. It is an illegal slide if; the runner slides away from the base line in the direction of the fielder; the runner uses a rolling or cross body block; or if the runner uses a pop-up slide into the fielder.
    - iii) When sliding the runner’s lead leg must be below the knee of the fielder and should first contact the base at its nearest side.
    - iv) Contact is allowed if the runner; makes a legal slide directly to the base; or is on the ground at the time of contact and the fielder moves directly down the line between the two bases to attempt a play. Interference shall NOT be called.
    - v) If the runner does not slide, they shall not intentionally create contact or intentionally attempt to dislodge the ball on a tag play. On close plays the runner should slide. When the player is obviously out, the runners should get in a rundown, try to avoid the tag, or give themselves up.
  - vi) Game Penalty
    - (1) If the slide is deemed to be illegal, the runner shall be called out.
    - (2) If the illegal slide has occurred on a forced play, irrespective of what base is involved, the batter runner shall also be called out due to the interference of his team mate whether or not the fielder attempts to complete the play.
    - (3) A player who intentionally creates a collision or intentionally dislodges the ball shall be called out and ejected from the game.
    - (4) If interference is called, other runners shall not be allowed to advance.

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### b) Participation Rule

- i) Any player named on the line-up shall be required to participate in a minimum of six (6) defensive outs (or three (3) defensive outs if the game duration is three (3) completed innings or less)
  - (1) Pitchers are exempt from the Participation Rule if the BNTI Junior Pitching Regulations inhibit their ability to meet the Participation Rule.

### c) Pitching / Catching Restrictions

- i) Pitchers must adhere to the BNTI Junior Pitching Regulations.
- ii) A player may catch then pitch but may not pitch then catch in the same day.
- iii) No player may catch in more than two games in any given day.
- iv) A courtesy runner for the catcher is mandatory with two outs.

## 11) SUSPENSION AND PENALTY

- a) BNTI may endorse any suspension, penalty or disqualification imposed by any controlling body of Baseball, either in or outside of the Northern Territory, provided notification of such suspension, penalty or disqualification is received in writing.
- b) BNTI may fine, suspend or otherwise deal with a player, coach, umpire, scorer, member of a Club, a Club, or an Affiliate Member for any act or misdemeanour not provided for in these Regulations or Policies.
- c) Any person suspended or disqualified by BNTI may appeal pursuant to Section 25 of the BNTI Constitution.

## 12) APPEALS

- a) A person or Club wishing to appeal a decision made by a Tribunal, or Affiliate Member, shall do so only through the policies established from time to time by BNTI. These policies will be published on the BNTI website or available directly from BNTI.
- b) A Club may appeal other matters relevant to these Regulations to BNTI provided that the Club has first taken their grievance to the Affiliate Member in accordance with the grievance procedures established by the Affiliate Member.
- c) Such appeals will be dealt with in accordance with the Dispute Resolution Procedure set out in Section 25 of the BNTI Constitution as if the parties to the grievance were Members of BNTI.
- d) Following an appeal heard by BNTI, BNTI will offer no further opportunities to appeal within its auspices.

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### 13) AWARDS

#### a) BNTI Life Membership

- i) Life Membership is to be awarded pursuant to Section 5.5 of the BNTI Constitution.

#### b) NT Junior of the Year

- i) NT Junior of the Year is the highest honour that can be bestowed to a Junior Member
- ii) At the request of BNTI, and using the forms provided, each Club and Affiliate Member is given an opportunity to nominate one (1) person for this prestigious award. Nominations are presented to the Board for a final decision.

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