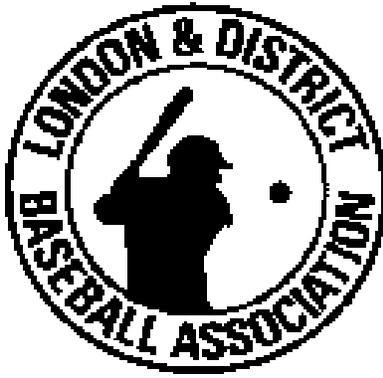


# L.D.B.A. HANDBOOK



# 2025

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Board of Directors.....	2
L.D.B.A. Reps .....	3
Local Association Presidents .....	4
Park Locations / Information .....	5
Insurance Claims .....	6
L.D.B.A. History .....	7
L.D.B.A. Rules 2025 .....	8
L.D.B.A. All-Star Teams, Ontario Summer Games.....	28
Rain Outs .....	28
Lightning Rules .....	28
Coaching Ideas .....	29
Ontario Baseball information.....	30

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Rob Companion	rob@srh.ca	519-857-2554
1 <sup>st</sup> VP	Stu Mutch	mutch@rogers.com	226-448-5765
2nd VP	Ryan Morrison	morr_ryan@yahoo.ca	226-927-7595
Secretary/ Registrar	Diane Wakefield	wakefield5@rogers.com	519-859-2840
Treasurer	David Ramsdale P.O. Box 301, Dorchester N0L 1G0	treasurerldba@gmail.com	519-268-6976
OBA Rep	Derek Brooks	derekbrooks@rogers.com	519-857-5869
Select Rep	Ryan Morrison	morr_ryan@yahoo.ca	226-927-7595
Umpire-in-Chief	Steve Cochrane	runsjc@yahoo.ca	519-859-8865
LDBA Diamond Assignor	Wayne Bilger	waynebilger@gmail.com	226-373-1918
Badgers Chair	Mike Lumley	mikelumley@rogers.com	519-619-6792

### 3

## L.D.B.A. REPS

Dorchester	Jim DosSantos	jim.dossantos@coopersurgical.com	519-615-4152
Delaware/ Komoka	Jerry Blizman	jerblizman@hotmail.com	
Lucan-Ilderton	Mike Thompson	mthompson.lucan@gmail.com	519-280-5631
London West	Dennis Dawe	dcdawe@rogers.com	519-641-1518
London Talons	Garrett Huxley	g.huxley03@gmail.com	647-460-7122
North London	Stu Mutch	mutch@rogers.com	226-448-5765
St. Thomas	Jamie Johnston	jjohns6@uwo.ca	519-282-2453
Strathroy	Jason Turnbull	jturnbul@wm.com	519-381-2248

## ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS

DKMB	Brent Lipskey	lipskey@bell.net	519-878-5459
Dorchester	Chris Robinson	robbie3133@hotmail.com	
Lucan-Ilderton	Rob Cascaden	rob.climba@gmail.com	519-641-9202
North London	Sean Jeffries	seanjeffries@rogers.com	519-619-8761
London West Tincaps	Chris Devlin	cdevlin@rogers.com	519-564-9813
London Talons	Wayne Bilger	president@londontalons.com	226-373-1918
St. Thomas	Diane Wakefield	wakefield5@rogers.com	519-859-2840
Strathroy	Jason Turnbull	jturnbul@wm.com	519-381-2248

## 5

# ALDRIDGE FIELD, DAN PULHAM PARK & CITY WIDE PARK

- It is the home team's responsibility to look after the facility.
- CANCELLATIONS The City of London will contact the Diamond Convenor, Wayne Bilger, if the diamond is unplayable for any reason. If you must cancel a game for reasons other than weather, please give the Diamond Convenor 48 hours' notice to allow another game to be scheduled. Don't forget to contact the Umpire Assigner, Hudson Gagne at 226-582-0983
- DIAMOND CARE The City will line and rake the diamonds during the week. This will be the home team's responsibility on the weekend. Bases are "Hollywood style" and must be removed by lifting straight out of the ground. If there is not another team there to take the diamond, the bases must be locked away. Use the tarps if rain is forecast, securing the perimeter with the sand bags, to ensure the diamond is in good shape for the next scheduled game.  
*Under no circumstances is anyone allowed to dig at the plate or mound to remove surface water from these clay surfaces.*
- CONDUCT -- The Manager of the home team will open the dressing rooms at Dan Pulham Park. When two games are scheduled in the evening, no new inning of the first game will begin after 8:00 p.m. The second game will begin promptly at 8:30 p.m. No ball playing, catch, pepper, etc. outside the enclosed field. At Dan Pulham Park, players may warm up for the next game beyond the light pole, half way down the third base line, when the field is in use. Pepper and batting against the screen are forbidden.
- LIGHTS -- The home team Manager will turn the lights on - at the beginning of a new inning, and off - only at the end of the evening. These are mercury vapour lights that require time to warm up. Your key will allow access to the master switch - in the small box on the west side of the electrical panel at Dan Pulham Park and down the first base line at City Wide Park. Keep the box locked at all times.
- SCOREBOARD -- At Dan Pulham Park, the controller for the scoreboard is located in the closet in the centre room of the trailer. Plug it into the power source and to the 'twist and turn' connector in the score booth. Punch in the access code as printed on the controller to light up the board in right field. Report any problems to Diamond Convenor for the City to repair.

Before you leave the park, make sure bases and equipment are put away.

Turn the lights off and tarp the diamond.

At Dan Pulham Park, put the controller away and make sure all rooms in the trailer and the score booth are locked.

# INSURANCE CLAIMS

□ Athletic Accident Claim Form □

Available on-line at

[www.playoba.ca](http://www.playoba.ca) – under **Safe Sport, Insurance – online forms**

The Insurance Company must receive notice of the accident within 30 days of the accident date and receive claim documentation within 90 days. The O.B.A. insurance does not cover “out-of-country” claims. It is recommended that you obtain additional coverage if your team participates outside of Canada.

## L.D.B.A. HISTORY

From the L.D.B.A. Constitution . . . .

The life members of L.D.B.A. shall consist of all non-immediate Past Presidents of the L.D.B.A. Inc. and all members of the Hall of Fame. An individual is eligible for membership in the Hall of Fame upon being nominated by any member at an executive council meeting, and receiving a majority vote by the executive council. All such members of the Hall of Fame are ex-officio life members of L.D.B.A. Inc. For a person to be eligible for nomination to the Hall of Fame, they must have given exceptional and/or long-lasting service to the game of amateur baseball in the territory governed by the London and District Baseball Association Inc.

### Past Presidents of L.D.B.A. and L.D.B.A. Inc.

1957 + 1963	Max Willsie	1982 + 1983	Bob Bennett
1964 to 1971	Ward Spicknell	1984 + 1985	Bob Thibert
1972 + 1973	Bob Davis	1986	Marty Collier
1974 + 1975	Murray Foubert	1987 + 1988	Clark Brock
1976 + 1977	Harve Bailie	1989 to 1997	Mary Hohmann
1978 + 1979	Doug Stinson	1998 to 2006	Dan Pulham
1980 + 1981	Clark Brock	2007 to 2015	Joe O'Neill
		2016 to 2021	Derek Brooks
		2022 to	Rob Companion

### Hall of Fame Members of L.D.B.A. and L.D.B.A. Inc.

Jim Wimperis	Fred Russell	Murray Foubert
Clark Brock	Harve Bailie	Bob Stark
Bob Davis	Doug Stinson	Bob Bennett
Jim Bushby	Frank Colman	George Gibson
Reg Huntington	Jim Cressman	Nick Nicholls
Don Swindall	Mac Gates	Bob Humphries
Mary Hohmann	Graham Nichol	Jo Ann Fredin
	Dan Pulham	

## L.D.B.A. DIVISIONS

The L.D.B.A. divisions were named in honour of Hall of Fame members.

BAILIE	teams formed with major-aged players
BROCK	teams formed with minor-aged players
BUSHBY	teams formed with players of mixed ages

Originally the teams played strictly within their own divisions. Changes in registration numbers have meant the combining of divisions, or an interlocking schedule between two divisions.



# L.D.B.A. RULES 2025

The following are the rules of the London & District Baseball Association Inc. (L.D.B.A.) and may be amended by the executive council at any time at the regular or special executive meetings by a 2/3 majority vote.

They relate specifically to those areas falling solely within this association's jurisdiction.

Other matters relating to the regulations and laws of the game of baseball are covered under the Baseball Ontario (O.B.A.) constitution and bylaws. Members are advised to read it in conjunction with our own rules and bylaws.

## 1. **LDBA BOUNDARIES**

All boundaries will be posted on the LDBA website. At such time in the future as the boundaries of any Local Association are adjusted, any players already on the roster of an LDBA team will be allowed to continue with that team should they wish, without the need of a release.

**NOTE FOR THE STREETS THAT ARE BOUNDARIES** – The inside of the street which lies within the boundary belongs to that association; the other side of the street belongs to the association which it lies within.

**LDBA Boundary** – Starting at and including Port Stanley on Lake Erie, north on Highway #4 to and including St. Thomas, then east on Highway #3 and excluding Aylmer, then north on Highway #73 to Highway #401, then east on Highway #401 to Highway #2, then west along Highway #2, then west along Highway #2 excluding Ingersoll to Highway #19, then north on Highway #19 to Highway #7, then west on Highway #7 excluding St. Mary's to Highway #81 including Strathroy to and along County Road to Christina on Highway #2, to and including Melbourne, then south along County road leading to and including Port Talbot on Lake Erie.

## 9

**Belmont** – Start at County Road #5 and CPR tracks, west on #5 to Highway #74, north on Highway #74 to Highway #401, west on Highway #401 to London city limits, south on the City limits to County Road #35, east on #35 to CPR tracks. Northeast on CPR tracks to County Road #5.

**Delaware/Komoka/Mt Brydges (DKMB)** – Starting at Hwy 401 and Hwy 8, go east on Hwy 401 to London city limits. Follow the city limits north to Hwy 22. Go west on Hwy 22 to Lamont Dr/Olde Dr. Go southwest on Lamont/Olde Dr to Springfield Road. Go south on Springfield Road to Hwy 401.

**Dorchester** – Start at Pigram Road and County Road #35, west on 35 to CPR tracks, northeast to Harrietsville Road, west on Harrietsville Road/County Road 74 to Catherine St, west on Catherine to Township Line. North along Township Line to Dundas St, east on Dundas to Hunt Road, south on Hunt Road to Thames River. East along Thames River to Township Line. South along Township Line to Pigram Road.

**Dorchester/Thorndale (competitive)** - The most westerly boundary will be at Prospect Hill Road starting from the current North London Baseball boundary extending north to Hwy #7. The most North boundary will be anything south of Hwy #7 extending east to Cobble Hills Road. The most easterly boundary will extend south on Cobble Hills Road all the way south to Hwy #2 and then move slightly west to Hwy #73 where it meets the current Dorchester recognized boundaries. All boundaries to the south for DMBA remain the same as outlined for Dorchester.

**Lucan-Ilderton** – Start at Hwy #4 and Whalen Line. South on Highway #4 to County Road 20 (Denfield Road). Continue South on County Road 20 to Hwy #7. West on Hwy #7 to Hwy #81. South on Hwy #81 to Hwy #22, east on Hwy #22 to the London city limits. North and east along the city limits to County Rd #23 (Highbury). North on #23 to Hwy #7, east on Hwy #7 to Whalen Line. Northwest on Whalen Line to Hwy #4..

**London West** – Start at the western London city limits at Longwoods Road (Hwy 2). Go east to Pack Road. Follow Pack Road to Col. Talbot Road. Go north on Col. Talbot Road (North St) to the Thames River. Follow the Thames River to Beaverbrook Road. Go north on Beaverbrook Road to Oxford Street. Go east on Oxford Street to Platts Lane. Go north on Platts Lane to Western Road. Go north on Western Road to the Medway River. Follow the Thames River west and north to the London city limits. Follow the London city limits west to the western London City limits boundary. Follow the western London city limits boundary south to Hwy #2.

**London Talons** – Start at the western London city limits at Longwoods Road (Hwy 2). Go east to Pack Road. Follow Pack Road to Col. Talbot Road. Go north on Col. Talbot Road (North St) to the Thames River to Beaverbrook Road. Go north on Beaverbrook Road to Oxford Street. Go east on Oxford Street to Platts Lane. Go north on Platts Lane to Western Road. Go north on Western Road to Windermere Road. Go east on Windermere Road to Richmond St. Go south on Richmond St to the North Thames River. Follow the North Thames River south to the Huron Street Woods. Follow the boundary of the woods to Huron St. Go east on Huron St to Barker St. Go south on Barker Street to Victoria St and go east on Victoria St to Barker St and go south on Barker to Cheapside St. East on Cheapside St to Highbury Ave. South on Highbury Ave to Oxford St. East on Oxford St to the east London city limits. Follow the east London city limits south to Webber Bourne (London's south city limits). Go west on Wiltsie Bourne/Webber Bourne/Southminster Bourne to Hwy 401. Follow the 401 east to the west London city limits. Follow the west London city limits to Hwy 2. Follow Hwy 2 west to the west London city limits.

**North London** – Start at the north city limit, and come down west north branch of the Medway River to Western Road to Windermere Road. Go east on Windermere Road to Richmond St. South on Richmond St to the North Thames River. Follow the North Thames River south to Huron Street woods. Follow the boundary of the woods to Huron St. Go East on Huron Street to Barker Street. South

# 11

on Barker Street to Victoria St. East on Victoria St to Barker St. Go south on Barker to Cheapside St. East on Cheapside St to Highbury Avenue. South on Highbury Ave to Oxford St. East on Oxford St and extended in a straight line to the eastern London city limits. North and west along the city limits to the north branch of the Medway River.

**Port Stanley** – Start at Iona Road on Hwy #401, extend a line running east to County Road #45. Go east on CR #45 to Hwy #73. Go south on Hwy #73 to Port Bruce. Follow the shoreline west to Port Stanley and through to Iona Road, northwest on Iona Road to Hwy #401.

**St. Thomas** – Start at Iona Road at Hwy #401, extend a line running east to County Road #45. Go east on CR #45 to CR #36. Go north on CR#36 to Hwy #3. Go east on Hwy #3 to New Sarum and Hwy #74. Go north on Hwy #74 to County Road #48. Go west on County Road #48 to Southminster Bourne. Go west on Southminster Bourne to Hwy #401. Go west on Hwy #401 to Iona Road.

**Strathroy** -- Start at Hwy 22 and Lamont Drive, go east on Hwy 22 to Hwy 81, go north on Hwy 81 to Hwy 12, go east on Hwy 12 to Hwy 6, go south on Hwy 6 to Hwy 10 and east on Hwy 10 to Springfield Road, go northeast on Olde Dr/Lamont Road to Hwy 22.

**Thamesford** – Starting at Zorra Township Line west of Thamesford and travelling south from Hwy #2, follow the Township line to Hwy #401. East on Hwy #401 to Hwy #19, excluding Ingersoll, to Oxford County Road #7. North on #7 to Hwy #2, east on Hwy #2 to Oxford County Road #6. North on #6 to Hwy #7, west on Hwy #7 to Zorra Township Line (CR #7). South on #7 to Middlesex County Road #28. West on #28 to Concession Road #6. South on 6<sup>th</sup> concession to lot 8. From lot 8, parallel to Hwy #2, to the London city limit. South on the city limits to Hwy #2 and east to starting position.

**Thorndale**—Starting at county road #23 and Hwy #7, east on Hwy #7 to Hwy #19. South on Hwy #19 to lot 10 East Zorra. West along lot 10 to concession #7 West Nissouri township. South along #7 to Hwy

#2, west on Hwy #2 to the London city limits. North and then west on city limits, to county road #23 (Highbury Ave). North on county road #23 to Hwy #7

**Thorndale-Thamesford Grey Area** – Both associations can sign players residing in the following area: Starting at concession #7 West Nissouri township and Hwy #7. East on Hwy #7 to Hwy #19, south on Hwy #19 to lot 10 East Zorra township, west along lot 10 to concession #7 West Nissouri township, south along Hwy #7 to Hwy #2, west along Hwy #2 to London city limits. North along city limits to lot 8 West Nissouri township. East along lot 8 to concession #6 West Nissouri township, north along concession #6 to Middlesex County Road #28. East on #28 to concession #7 West Nissouri, north on concession #7 to Hwy #7.

## 2. **MEMBERSHIP FEES**

Each club and, or association will pay a one-time-only membership and performance bond of \$100.00 each. London & District Baseball Association Inc. (LDBA) may draw upon this bond for any fees, levies or fines. The bond must then be reinstated for a member to be held in good standing.

A team fee will be announced yearly. All team fees must be paid prior to the start of league play.

The board of directors will set forth, annually, a format of competition and awards and assess the annual team fee.

Teams that are not playing a full league schedule are not eligible to participate in LDBA playoffs. Deposit is due from teams at the coach meeting in April/May. Deposit fees are reviewed annually at the January Board meeting and sent to all associations. Any refund will be returned promptly at the end of the season. LDBA teams will pay this fee when they register their teams.

No team will be allowed to start the season if they owe money.

Both the team and the local association will be advised.

As required by OBA in order to obtain insurance, small centre associations will be allowed to be affiliated with LDBA for a one-

# 13

time fee of \$100. A copy of the LDBA bylaws and the OBA Playing Rules and Regulations will be provided to the centre.

## 3.. L.D.B.A. BADGERS

- a) It is the policy of the LDBA to restrict the Badgers' rosters to appropriately aged players. However, should an elite player from the lower ages be able to prove that he has the needed skills for a Badger team, he will be allowed to try out and be named on the roster, if successful. Exception to the policy must be approved by the Badger Committee. There will only be one team allowed by the LDBA for each playing division (e.g. one 11U team, one 12U team, etc)
- b) The Badger Committee will ascertain each player's intentions and report such to the local association by the September LDBA meeting. The Badger Chair will send out a complete player list of all players attending the Badger workouts/tryouts, thereby eliminating the need for the players to register with their home associations. If home associations have workouts/tryouts it is recommended that the player check with the home association so as not to miss tryouts in case their attempt to secure a spot on a Badger team is unsuccessful.
- c) The Badger teams may use appropriate call ups from within the Badger system.
- d) Applications for all managers for the LDBA Badger teams will be advertised by the association.
- e) The Badger program will be totally self-sufficient, allowing no cost to the other member associations. The Badger teams will pay the same league and OBA carding fees to the LDBA as all other member teams.
- f) Players from outside of LDBA who live in a centre that does not offer the higher caliber baseball program, may obtain a release and tryout for the LDBA Badger program. This would exclude WOBA players as there is an agreement in place between LDBA, WOBA and OBA regarding the fact that WOBA players do not need a release to tryout for the Badger teams.

- g) The Badger teams will be included in the playoffs, if they so wish. Badger teams must play a full schedule in LDBA to be eligible for playoffs.
- h) The London Badgers will choose their team by the last Sunday in September of each new playing season. Team lists, along with unsuccessful players, will be provided to the LDBA Secretary for distribution.

## **5. CERTIFICATION OF COACHES**

All coaches and field managers may not be added to a roster until the required courses for that division have been completed. The local association, when submitting a roster, is by way of submission, stating that all information is correct. The LDBA registrar will remove any unqualified persons. If the unqualified person is on the bench/field, at practice, etc, the head coach will receive a one-game suspension.

For OBA Elimination tournaments, coaches must meet the Baseball Canada certification requirements applicable to the national tournament they would attend if their team won the Elimination tournament. (OBA rule P2-4)

## **6. L.D.B.A. SCORING AND LEAGUE STANDINGS**

- a) Standings within L.D.B.A. leagues are determined using the following scoring system:
  - 2 points for a win
  - 1 point for a tie
  - 0 points for a loss
- b) Teams tied in the standings, will used the following tie breakers to determine the league champion and home team in the playoffs.
  - i. record between the two teams (wins and losses)
  - ii. the team with more league wins
  - iii. runs against (head to head)
  - iv. coin toss

# 15

- c) A defaulted or forfeited game will be scored as 7 – 0 and result in a \$50 fine. This fine is at the discretion of the convenor.
- d) Games tied after the regular number of innings (5, 7, or 9) for that age level will remain as a tie. No extra innings will be played to break the tie, so weekend games have no advantage over night games.
- e) Percentage as indicated on the web site will assist with team classification only, and not apply to league standings.
- f) Points earned from inter-division games will count towards league standings.
- g) To count for league standings, to establish the pennant winner, and to determine playoff positioning, league games must be played by the date as determined by the LDBA Board yearly.

## 7. RULES FOR PLAYERS, MANAGERS, COACHES & UMPIRES

- a. Either may request a measurement of the bases or pitching distances, but only before the game starts.
- b. Uniforms: All team personnel must be in complete baseball uniform to be on the baseball diamond. No shorts or sandals are allowed in any division.
- c. Players, coaches, and umpires in uniform must refrain from using any tobacco products during all games and must not be under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Penalty for this will be immediate ejection for players or coaches and may result in the loss of accreditation for umpires.
- d. The Manager/Coach will be solely responsible for his/her team throughout the game and up to and including departure from the park.
- e. Only one Manager or Coach shall be allowed to consult with an umpire with regards to rule interpretations.
- f. All players not actively participating in the game shall remain on the bench. Only players about to be substituted into the game will be permitted to warm-up behind the bench. A player serving as a base coach during the game **must** wear a helmet. In 14U and above, any team member in uniform may act as a



base coach per Official Rules of Baseball. In 13U and below, players may not act as base coaches.

- g. The Manager/Coach shall be held responsible for his team's actions even in his absence. He/she must designate his/her replacement and notify the umpire of his/her designated party.
- h. No uncarded (uninsured) individual shall be allowed on a diamond, for any reason, with a team during a game, practice, or tryout.
- i. When a player is released from the Badger program who had been with the Badger program the year previously, that player must be given the opportunity of trying out with the local association team.
- j. In 2006, LDBA instituted a "no release policy". In 2022, this policy changed to a "Registration Policy". The policy is posted on [ldbabaseball.ca](http://ldbabaseball.ca).
- k. A and B centres must have a major age team and a minor age team before having a select team
- l. Centres below B level cannot have multiple select teams in the same age category.

## 8. HOME TEAM

- a) Home team managers that use the Sportsheadz website will enter their home score into the system. Teams that do not have this website, will send their score to their association rep. Teams must submit pitch counts per OBA rules via the Pitch Count App. If a dispute occurs during the game, the home team's record will be deemed accurate. Score cards must be kept in case of a dispute.
- b) All ejections (including tournaments, etc) must be reported to the LDBA via an online form immediately following the game. (This is ensure that all ejection reports are completed by the umpires and LDBA can follow up). Failure to report the ejection, may result in a suspension to the Manager. The form will automatically be sent to the Discipline Chair, the LDBA UIC, and the President.
- c) Home team will have 2 new approved baseballs to submit to the umpire to start the game. The club will also have a supply

of acceptable baseballs which are up to the umpire's standards, available to go into the game. Only approved baseballs listed as part of the OBA Rules shall be used for all LDBA games, tournaments, and qualified games.

- d) Both clubs fill out lineup cards with full names, numbers and positions of their players. Cards are presented to the umpire at ground rules and the umpire keeps it for the game and must be told of any changes. Players may be added to the lineup card throughout the game.
- e) Home team presents the ground rules including park curfew.
- f) The home team manager or his designate cannot use an uncarded (uninsured) individual as a substitute for the assigned umpire. Penalty: one game suspension and the game is forfeited.

## **9. SPECIAL L.D.B.A. LEAGUE PLAYING RULES**

These rules are applicable to LDBA league and playoff games only. Specific tournament rules that may be contrary to these LDBA league rules. Rules for OBA/SOBA Championships may also differ.

- a) All team players must be OBA/SOBA carded to compete in league games, league play-off games, or OBA/SOBA classification games. (See Rule 11 – Call Up System).  
Players wanting to play competitive baseball must register prior to their home association tryouts as per the LDBA residence policy.
- b) All games are 7 innings. All double headers and consecutive games will be 7 innings.
- c) In a 7-inning game, the OBA/SOBA mercy rules will apply.
- d) Home team provides two OBA carded umpires or they forfeit. A team has ½ hour to secure carded umpires. Should only one carded umpire be available at game time, or if an umpire becomes injured or ill during the game, if both teams are agreeable, the game may be played. The umpire may work behind the pitcher or behind the plate. Once the game begins, the visiting team loses its right to a forfeit-win for the umpire shortage.
- e) Home team supplies the official scorer.

- f) The home team will have the first base dugout in Dan Pulham Park, Labatt, Aldridge, City Wide Parks, Emslie Field, Cardinal Field and New York Central.
- g) Where 2 evening games are scheduled on the same diamond -- In the first game, no new inning may start after 8:00 p.m. The second game MUST start at 8:30 p.m. unless the first game has gone over the 8:30 p.m. start time and then the 2-hour time limit starts when the umpire starts the game.
- h) Warm-ups: The home team has the diamond up to 15 minutes before game time. Visiting team has the diamond at that time. Late getting on the field reduces your time accordingly. Team must vacate when told to do so by the umpire or convenor.
- i) A team has ½ hour grace for late arriving players, or to secure sufficient players to field a team. If they cannot they will forfeit the game with a score of 7 to 0 (7 inning game). Any game cancelled with less than 48 hours' notice, shall be a forfeit (weather excluded). The game time length will not be changed and the 2-hour time limit begins at the original start time of the said game.
- j) Any team defaulting a game may be fined up to \$150.00 to cover the cost of the field, umpires, and travelling expenses. This amount will be levied by the directors. The team which incurred the expenses will be reimbursed from L.D.B.A. Inc. Any team that feels they are entitled to expenses from a defaulted game must e-mail their claim to their convenor within 48 hours of the defaulted game. Failure of the fined team to pay their fine within a reasonable length of time, may result in suspension from future play until the fine is paid.
- k) All bats for competitive and select teams will be as per OBA and SOBA rules. Illegal bat use will be an ejection for player and coach.
- l) No free pitches are allowed after a machine adjustment in 8U, 9U and 9U Select.
- m) No new inning after a 2-hour time limit in all divisions (8U to 22U rep and all select divisions but excluding 10U and 11U

## 19

who will use the OBA rule for the division). The 2-hour time limit begins at the scheduled start of the game.

n) The Extra Player rule for 12U through 18U division will be used as per the OBA rule

o) All OBA/SOBA pitching rules will be followed for LDBA league play and pitches must be recorded in the Pitch Count App.

p) 9U players being called up to play on a 10U or 11U team may not pitch. 9U players rostered on a 10U or 11U team may pitch per OBA/SOBA rules.

q) It is the responsibility of the home team to report to post the game score on the website. The OBA pitch count APP shall be used for pitch counts. All OBA Pitch Count rules will be followed.

*The pitch count rule has been developed to protect players from coaches who do not recognize the dangers of improper pitching and high pitch counts and as such the LDBA Board supports and demands all coaches to comply with the rules as set forth by Ontario Baseball Assoc.*

r) A team must play a minimum of half schedule in LDBA before being given permission to play games in another Affiliate's league. This does not apply to the 13U or 18U Badger team or to a 22U or Senior team. This will be reviewed prior to the 2026 season.

### 10. CANCELLING AND RESCHEDULING GAMES

a) If your diamond is unplayable because of weather, the home team must notify the visiting team and the umpires 2 hours in advance of game time to cancel. Out of town teams should call if there has been bad weather, before they leave, or call half way. Each team must supply a person that can be contacted at 4:00 p.m.

b) If rescheduling a game, contact your Convenor immediately. In addition, if the game was to be played at Labatt Park, Aldridge, City Wide or Dan Pulham Park you must also phone the L.D.B.A. park convenor, Wayne Bilger, or you may be charged with the park fees.

c) League games scheduled up to and including June 30 may be rescheduled by agreement between the two teams and their convenor. After June 30, games will be rescheduled only as a result of inclement weather. Four (4) point games are not allowed.

d) *No team may cancel a game with less than 24 hours' notice (48 hours for Friday/Saturday/Sunday games) for any reason, except weather. The Series Convenor will notify the Treasurer as soon as a game has been cancelled in violation of this rule. The first violation shall be a \$25*

*fine to the association's team. The second violation shall be a \$50 fine to the association's team. The third and subsequent violations shall be a \$100 fine to the association's team.*

*The home team will supply the visiting team 2 alternate dates/times for a cancelled game within 5 days of the game cancelled. The division convenor must be copied on all emails. The home team must check the calendar to ensure that the visiting team does not already have a previous commitment on a supplied date. The visiting team has 2 days to accept a date, or reply to the home team and convenor as to why neither date is acceptable. (Playing multiple games in one week, Monday's following tournaments, etc. are not reasons to refuse dates)"*

- e) Games conflicting with tournaments must be rescheduled in advance of the tournament. League games scheduled the day before or right after the tournament must be played according to the schedule.
- f) If you cannot field 9 players for a game including 8U and 9U, even after trying your call-up system, then you must forfeit the game. This game cannot be rescheduled even if the other coach agrees to it.
- g) Failure to play when ordered by the Convenor could result in suspension of the team. Game will be forfeited and so recorded as a loss of 7 to 0 (in a 7-inning game).

## 11. CALL-UP SYSTEM

- a) **Advancement of Players** A player in any series 13U and lower may advance as follows: 9U to 10U and 11U, 11U to 13U, 13U to 15U.
- b) **9U** must draw call-ups from their 8U rep team and **8U** must draw call-ups from within their own association house league at equal or lower age levels. Call-ups can only participate in L.D.B.A. league games.
- c) **10U to 18U** must draw call-ups from their own association team(s) in lower O.B.A. series. A team cannot call-up from a team of the same series in the event the association has 2 teams in a single series. For clarification, a team with even one major-aged player is classified by OBA as 'Major' regardless of the division in which they participate for LDBA league play.
- d) 'Major' teams may call up from the Minor team in the same age category or the Major team in the age category beneath them. Minor teams may call up from the Major or Minor teams in the age category beneath them. (For example, 12U can call up from 11U and 10U. 13U can call up from 12U or 11U.)
- e) A player is not eligible to be used as a call-up player in the same division that he participates in for league play.
- f) 22U carded players may play up for any Senior team in league play, pending approval by the Manager of their home team. Callups are to

## 21

be callups and not steady players. Callups are to be indicated on game card with a "C". If no 22U player is available, the Senior league convenor must call the LDBA President for contact info of a player/team. The senior teams are not to call 18U players directly.

- f) You must request permission from the manager of the team where the player is carded in order to use a call up player.

## 12. LEAGUE PLAYOFFS

- a) The playoffs for all age levels may be split into A and B divisions at the discretion of the Executive. The hosting association will convene the playoffs as a double knockout tournament. Seedings for all playoff tournaments will be as follows—

3 team – 1<sup>st</sup> place receives bye, 2 vs 3 (game 1)

4 team – 1 vs 3, 2 vs 4

5 team – 1<sup>st</sup> place receives bye, 2 vs 4 (game 2), 3 vs 5 (game 1)

6 team – 1 vs 4 (game 1), 2 vs 5 (game 3), 3 vs 6 (game 2)

7 team – 1<sup>st</sup> place receives bye, 2 vs 5 (game 2), 3 vs 6 (game 3), 4 vs 7 (game 1)

8 team – 1 vs 5 (game 1), 2 vs 6 (game 3), 3 vs 7 (game 2) and 4 vs 8 (game 4)

9 team – 1<sup>st</sup> place receives bye, 2 vs 6 (game 4), 4 vs 8 (game 1), 3 vs 7 (game 2), 5 vs 9 (game 3)

10 team – 1 vs 6 (game 1), 4 vs 9 (game 2), 3 vs 8 (game 3) 5 vs 10 (game 4), 2 vs 6 (game 5)

- b) Local associations will be asked to host and assign the umpires.
- c) Umpires for 18U and older will be assigned by L.D.B.A. age group, unless the local association assigns their own umpires.
- d) Teams will pay a tournament fee as decided at the LDBA January meeting. This fee will cover the team's entry into the playoff tournament and will be collected with the fees at the beginning of the season.
- e) Host teams must supply the baseballs for the playoff tournament.
- e) Seeding will be based on final league results and playoffs arranged according to the OBA printed format. With an odd number of teams, the 1st place team receives the bye and the seeding is consistent with the previous pattern above. Percentages are NOT used to determine seeding for playoffs.
- h) Ties must be broken in all games. OBA tiebreaker rules will be used.
- i) Normal mercy rule and curfews apply. There is no curfew for the final game of a league playoff tournament. There are curfews in every other game of the league playoff tournament.
- j) Pitches must be recorded in the Pitch Count App per OBA rules.

- k) If a team pulls out of the playoffs less than 72 hours before the first scheduled playoff game, a fine of \$200 will be levied against the association.
- l) The home team in each game will be the team that finished higher in league standings. No coin toss is necessary.

### 13. O.B.A. CLASSIFICATIONS

- a) At the May LDBA meeting, the OBA representative shall name a Classification Committee which shall include him/herself and at least three other members of the LDBA Executive. The secretary shall function as chair of this committee, or shall name someone else to chair the committee on their behalf. At all times, the Classification Committee shall work within the rules for classification established by the OBA and revised from year to year.

**Suspended for the 2025** season due to the OBA pilot program on classifications.

- b) On the evening of the last Sunday in June or as decided upon by the Committee, this Classification Committee shall meet with LDBA representatives, or their designates, for the purpose of assigning OBA classifications. Divisional convenors will be invited to attend, or to provide up-to-date division standings to the Classification Committee.
- c) Prior to this meeting of the Classification Committee, LDBA representatives should consult with the managers of their association's competitive teams, in order to determine how each team would prefer to be classified. A manager or coach of each team may attend the classification meeting, or should be available by telephone during the time of the meeting, in case their association representative should need to have further consultation with them. Within 24 hours of the meeting, decisions made by the Classification Committee will be reported back to each team's manager by their association representative in attendance at the meeting.
- d) Ultimately, decisions regarding classification rest with the Classification Committee, and must be reported to the OBA office as stipulated in the OBA Constitution. Failure to submit such information by such time shall result in the applicable team(s) not being classified by the OBA.
- e) The classification designation for LDBA teams is listed on the OBA website. Householder postal information is used for classification purposes.
- f) For a team to be assigned an OBA classification, they must have played no less than 80% of their scheduled-to-date league games by the time of the meeting of the Classification Committee. They MUST also provide their L.D.B.A. representative and divisional convenor with a record of

their tournament results before the meeting of the Classification Committee, in order that this can be submitted to the O.B.A.

- g) When LDBA is allowed to send more than one team per classification to a Mega Tournament or an O.B.A. championship tournament, then all teams desiring to go and eligible by population, shall be classified accordingly.
- h) At the rep level, if LDBA is allowed to send only one team of a particular classification to an OBA championship tournament, and when only one team eligible by population seeks this classification, then it shall be classified accordingly. When more than one team seeks this classification, then a playoff shall be held to determine which team attends the championship tournament. When a playoff is necessary, the divisional convenor will take responsibility for seeing that it is scheduled as soon as possible and to be completed 2 weekends before the OBA/SOBA weekend. All playoffs will be a best of three game series if 2 teams classify for the same spot and if 3 or more teams are challenging for the same spot, the games will be a double-knockout tournament. All classified teams will be drawn from a hat at the classification meeting to determine seeding for the series. All best of three game playoff series will be treated as a three-day tournament with regards to pitching rules.
- i) The London Badger's teams will automatically be classified at the highest category available for their age group, and may not be challenged by other LDBA teams for these classifications.
- j) 18U teams eligible by population must play in the LDBA 18U division in order to be eligible for classification by LDBA.
- k) A mixed or major aged team participating in the Brock (Minor) or Bushby (Mixed) division cannot challenge a Bailie (Major) team for classification.
- l) The LDBA directors will have the power to rule on special situations not specifically covered or clarified under these guidelines.
- m) Any team wishing to challenge for an OBA classification may do so no matter what the team's tournament and/or league record is per OBA rules.
- n) Pitching rules for challenge games -- challenge games will be treated as a tournament. 1<sup>st</sup> game will be considered a Friday game, 2<sup>nd</sup> game will be treated as a Saturday morning game, 3<sup>rd</sup> game will be treated as a Saturday afternoon game, 4<sup>th</sup> game will be treated as a Sunday morning game, and the 5<sup>th</sup> game will be treated as a Sunday afternoon game. All OBA Pitching rules will be followed.
- o) All challenge games must be completed 2 weekends prior to the respective division's OBA/SOBA championship. If games are not completed by this date, the LDBA President or his/her designate will arrange for a coin toss to determine the team who will move forward to the OBA/SOBA Playoff Tournament.



p) Select teams must declare if they would like to attend the SOBA championship at the classification meeting. Playdowns will be conducted similar to the playdowns for the teams wishing to attend OBA championships.

### **LDBA SELECT PLAYDOWN (approved in 2024)**

Each season we will ask teams to declare their intentions of whether or not they intend to have the opportunity to play at the SOBA championships.

LDBA will request up to 3 spots in each tournament, if the number of teams wishing to attend requires that many, knowing that it varies from year to year on what LDBA is awarded for each tournament. We are guaranteed 1 spot, but in some cases, we may get a 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> spot.

Unlike in rep there is not Classifications to trim down how many teams may wish to compete for 1 or maybe 2 spots. Going forward for this 2024 season and beyond, this is the proposal I would like to present to get the number of teams to a manageable number

#### **PROPOSAL**

- As of the end of day July 31<sup>st</sup>, the top 4 teams that have declared intentions to play at the Classification meeting, will be the 4 teams allowed to playdown for the right to represent the LDBA.
- In the event LDBA is awarded 2 spots, the first-place team as of July 31<sup>st</sup> will get an auto bid, and the next 3 teams will playdown.
- In the event LDBA is awarded 3 spots the top 2 teams as of July 31<sup>st</sup> will get an auto bid and the next 2 teams will play down.
- In a division with only 1 team wishing to declare, they will get the spot automatically
- In a division with only 2 teams wishing to declare and only one spot is awarded, they will play down and no automatic bid will be given, if 2 spots are awarded no playdown is needed, both teams will go
- In a division with only 3 teams wishing to declare and only one spot is awarded, they will play down and no automatic bid will be given
- In a division with only 3 teams wishing to declare and two spots are awarded, we will give an automatic bid to the first-place team as of July 31, and the next 2 teams will playdown

In the event there are ties in the league standings based on points, we will go to head-to-head matchups to determine the higher seed

If still tied the team with the least number of runs allowed in those same games will break the tie

If still tied the team with the highest number of runs scored in those same games will break the tie

**LDBA SELECT PROPOSAL FOR 13U SELECT FOR 2025 SEASON**

The top 2 LDBA teams declaring intentions from each division (Northwest and Southeast) in the 13U loop will proceed to the playdowns, creating a 4 team playdown.

In the event LDBA is awarded 2 spots, the 2 teams from the Northwest division will simply play down in a best 2 out 3 against each other within their own division and the top 2 teams from the Southeast division will playdown against each other in a best 2 out 3, thus we will have 1 representative from each division. This is only to be the case if LDBA is awarded 2 spots at the SOBA championship

**14. DISCIPLINE**

- a) All carded players and coaches who are members of L.D.B.A. Inc. are subject to the discipline of L.D.B.A. Inc. regardless of who they are, or where they play.
- b) Any player, coach, manager or team personnel ejected from a game will be suspended for the next one or more L.D.B.A. games, to be served in a regularly scheduled, play-off, or O.B.A. game within the L.D.B.A. Inc. league. This suspension is to be above and beyond any suspension served at a tournament or non-L.D.B.A. game.
- c) Any ejection of a coach or player must be reported by the offending team within 24 hours of the occurrence to the LDBA via the Discipline Report Form on the LDBA website. Any coach failing to report an ejection may be subject to disciplinary review. The suspension will be set as follows:

**L.D.B.A. EJECTION SUSPENSIONS  
COMPETITIVE, SELECT AND HOUSE LEAGUE**

**Approved March 2019**

Any other ejections, not listed below, will be subject to the recommendations listed in the LDBA handbook, but may be dealt with by the LDBA Executive if so needed.

***Disputing the Call of an Official or Harassment of an Official or Unsportsmanlike Conduct of a Player/Coach/Manager***

- a. 1<sup>st</sup> incident, current game plus a minimum of 2 games
- b. 2<sup>nd</sup> incident, current game plus a minimum of 3 games

- c. 3<sup>rd</sup> incident, suspended until reviewed by a committee from the LDBA Executive

***Verbal Abuse of an Official***

- a. 1<sup>st</sup> incident, current game plus a minimum of 2 games
- b. 2<sup>nd</sup> incident, suspended until reviewed by a committee from the LDBA Executive

***Player/Coach/Manager Fighting or Player/Coach/Manager Leaving the Dugout to Enter into a Fight (Coach/Manager that is not trying to break up the fight) or Intent to Injure a Player/Coach/Manager of the Opposing Team or Discriminatory Slur or Physical Abuse of an Official or Spitting at or in the Direction of a Player/Coach/Manager or Inciting or Threatening a Player/Coach/Manager/Official***

- a. 1<sup>st</sup> incident, current game plus suspended until reviewed by a committee from the LDBA Executive

***Trash Talking or Obscene Gesture***

- a. 1<sup>st</sup> incident, current game plus a minimum of 2 games
- b. 2<sup>nd</sup> incident, suspended until reviewed by a committee from the LDBA Executive

***Travesty of the Game (such as but not limited to – throwing items onto the field, pulling out bases, coach not leaving the game when directed to, calling ‘time’ to make the pitcher balk)***

- a. 1<sup>st</sup> incident, current game plus a minimum of 2 games
- b. 2<sup>nd</sup> incident, suspended until reviewed by a committee from the LDBA Executive

***Damaging the Baseball***

- a. Minimum 10 game suspension (Baseball Canada Rule)

***Coaching from the Sidelines when Ejected from the Game***

- a. 1<sup>st</sup> incident, current game plus a minimum of 2 games
- b. 2<sup>nd</sup> incident, current game plus a minimum of 4 games
- c. 3<sup>rd</sup> incident, suspended until reviewed by a committee from the LDBA Executive

**Pitching Rule Infraction – OBA rules to be followed**

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- c) Anytime should a player, coach, or umpire's actions be so unacceptable or dangerous, immediate and perhaps permanent suspension may be assigned by the directors after a discipline hearing has been held.
- d) If one feels he/she has been treated unfairly, an appeal can be made in writing to the L.D.B.A. Secretary. A new committee will then be formed to hear the appeal.

**15. METHOD OF FILING AN APPEAL**

An appeal is heard strictly on the basis of an error in the interpretation of the rules. Umpire's judgement is not basis for an appeal. The umpire and opposing coach must be advised of your decision to appeal before the 'next pitch' and it should be recorded on the back of the game card. The L.D.B.A. Secretary must receive the completed form and a \$50 cheque payable to L.D.B.A. within 24 hours of the game in question. The decision to hear the appeal will be based strictly on compliance with providing all of the required information listed below. All additional information will be welcome at the time of the hearing, if the committee determines it is warranted. Should there be no basis for appeal, or inadequate facts and details provided as required, you will be advised in writing, thanking you for your \$50 donation to the association. Please remember that ejection from a game is the umpire's decision, based on conduct of the ejected person, and in itself, not basis for appeal.

**REQUIRED INFORMATION**

- Date and time of game
- Park
- Division
- Home team information - Manager and phone #, coach and phone #
- Visiting team information - Manager and phone #, coach and phone #
- Plate umpire - Name and phone #
- Base umpire - Name and phone #
- Game particulars - inning, score, # of outs, count on batter, runners on base
- Rule being protested and Reference #
- The reason you think the rule was incorrectly applied

## L.D.B.A. 13U and 11U ALL-STAR TEAMS

Coaches interested in applying to coach may complete the form on the website.

Players interested in trying for one of the teams, may complete the form for players on the website.

## ONTARIO SUMMER GAMES

The team that represents LDBA at the Ontario Summer games will have a coach chosen by the LDBA and they will have open tryouts for participants that wish to play on the team.

## RAINOUTS

When a game is "called" before official completion, because of rain or darkness or curfew or light failure, OBA rule RP 2.2 (b) will be followed. "A 7-inning game will be considered an official game after 4 innings of play or 3-1/2 innings if the home team is ahead."

## THUNDER AND LIGHTNING SAFETY AND PREPAREDNESS

When thunder roars, GO INDOORS! Every year in Canada, lightning can cause as many as 10 deaths and 164 injuries. You can avoid a tragedy like this by taking a few simple precautions. **If you can hear thunder, you can get hit by lightning.** Take shelter immediately. If you cannot find a sturdy, fully enclosed building with

## 29

wiring and plumbing, get into a metal-roofed vehicle. Stay inside for 30 minutes after the last rumble of thunder. *IT IS BETTER TO CANCEL THE GAME THAN RISK THE LIFE OF A PLAYER, COACH, UMPIRE OR SPECTATOR.*

## COACHING IDEAS

Some suggestions gathered from experienced coaches that may assist you with your coaching duties this year:

1. Don't try to do the job alone. Allow other volunteers to get involved.
2. Plan your practices before you get to the diamond. Make the practice interesting and fun by knowing which skills you want to cover and what drills you will be using.
3. Know the people in your home association and on the LDBA Board. There is a lot of knowledge in the baseball community - ask questions if you need answers and seek assistance if you have problems or concerns.
4. Remember to "AP" players that are returning to house league teams after the final formation of your team.
5. Participate in the Classification process in June. Talk to your LDBA Rep, the Convenor and other coaches in your division prior to the meeting.
6. Your score must be reported immediately after every game to be posted on the web site. It is not the Convenor's job to "chase" for this information. If you can't or won't do it, immediately appoint someone who will reliably report the score to the Convenor.
7. Use the web site for information - schedules, scores, and standings are only a small part of the postings. Use the links to visit other baseball sites. The LDBA web site changes regularly to present items of interest and we strive to keep you up to date, enlightened and entertained. If you don't have access to a computer, have a parent or player provide printouts for you.
8. Open the lines of communication. Distribute a contact list that includes parent names, create a regular newsletter, and discuss plans for tournaments and exhibition games.
9. Learn from others, what to do as well as what not to do. Watch a baseball game and check out the coaching methods or the umpiring positioning. Attend a game where you can observe experienced coaches. Talk to other coaches.
10. Remember that there are 3 teams on the field. The umpires deserve the same respect and understanding that you extend to your own team or the opposition.
11. Find positive ways to motivate and encourage your players with your actions and words. In addition to the game of baseball, your players are learning

life skills as part of a team. Remember that you are a role model for the young people on your team and conduct yourself accordingly.

12. Have fun. The score of the game is not the only way to measure success.

## **ONTARIO BASEBALL ASSOCIATION**

1-519-740-3900

**[www.playoba.ca](http://www.playoba.ca)**

Events  
Coach and Player Development  
Tournament Lists  
Best Ever Clinic  
Constitution  
Contacts  
Classification Details  
Umpire Information  
Special Programs  
Applications

***NOTE: Protocol is to contact your local association or OBA Rep  
and not the OBA directly unless appropriate.***