

Shoalhaven Mariners Baseball Association

1. Junior Pitch Ball Competition Rules & Procedures
2. Zooka Ball Competition Rules & Procedures
3. T Ball Competition Rules & Procedures

1. Junior Pitch Ball Competition Rules & Procedures

Time or Innings:

Games	1hr 30 minutes
Finals	4 innings (If held)
Mercy	3 innings (10 runs)

Pitching Assignments:

Minor	1 - 20 pitches (can finish the batter with no penalty)
Substantial	21 - 40 pitches (can finish the batter with no penalty)

Pitching Maximums:

1. per game 40 pitches (can finish the batter)
2. per series 60 pitches (cannot exceed)
3. If playing in both Mariners and Illawarra competition on a weekend, 60 pitches.

Field:

Base paths	60 feet
Pitching distance	46 feet
Shoes:	Only shoes with flexible soft stops or dimple soles, or shoes as approved by Country Baseball NSW can be used.

- Dropped 3rd strike:** Automatic out & ball remains alive.
- Infield fly:** Does not apply.
- Designated batter:** Not permitted.
- Balk Rule:** Does not apply.
- Bats:** max length 33 inches max diameter 2-1/4 inches

Bats to be of wood, aluminium or graphite construction, and must not be altered. Before each game the Umpire will inspect all bats to ensure they are legal. Any illegal bat will be removed, and if used for the play immediately beforehand, the play will be nullified. If used after identification by the Umpire, the coach will be removed from the game.

- Ball:** Regulation 9" leather baseball.

1.00 GENERAL INFORMATION

- ~~1.01~~ Duration of the Gala Day is set at ONE (1) day, being Sunday 5th February 2017
- ~~1.02~~ Players competing in the Gala Day shall be either aged NINE (9), TEN (10), ELEVEN (11) or TWELVE (12) years as at ~~30th April 2017~~.
- ~~1.02A~~ Any player outside of the age group above must be approved in writing by the IJBL Registrar prior to participating and be recorded on the Baseball NSW Registration system.
- NOTE:** 9 year olds have some additional pitching restrictions (see rule 3.12)
- ~~1.03~~ A disputes committee consisting of three (3) people will be appointed by Illawarra Junior Baseball League to adjudicate on any matter arising during the knockout.
- 1.04** Result will be determined by the last full innings played.
- 1.05** Age to be determined year by year depending on numbers

2.00 PLAYING RULES.

- 2.01** Specific Rules not covered in this supplement shall be as per A.B.F. and Official Baseball Rules.
- 2.02** Base runners cannot leave the base until the ball reaches home plate. Penalty: Runner is out. Ball is dead, all other runners return to the last base they were entitled.
- 2.03** Each team MUST provide an adequate number of protective helmets as approved by the A.B.F. Double eared helmets are mandatory during the Knockout for the hitter, the hitter on deck, the base runners, the bat person, and the base coach (if younger than 13 years old).
- ~~2.04~~ Coaches are to be attired in team uniform.
- 2.05** The first team nominated on the Draw shall be declared the "home team", occupy 3rd base dug-out and field first.
- 2.06** Defensive team is to be on the diamond, ready to commence play, at the scheduled starting time.

- 2.07** In the event of either team not being ready to commence play within ten (10) minutes of the scheduled starting time of a game, the match shall be forfeited to the opposing team. The forfeit result will be 7 - 0.
- 2.08** One (1) minute changeover between innings.
- 2.09** No top of an innings will commence within ten (10) minutes of the scheduled completion time. If the top of an innings has commenced then the bottom shall be played for a result if necessary.
- 2.10A** Games must not go beyond 15 minutes of the scheduled completion time. If a game has not been completed by this time, then the game will stop and the score revert to the last even innings.
- 2.10B** Re-entry - in the event of an injury requiring a player to be taken out of the game, re-entry of a previously benched player will be allowed (to prevent a forfeit), provided there are no fresh reserves on the bench. (The umpire will adjudicate on this matter).
- 2.11** Forty-Five (45) minutes play shall constitute a legal game.
- 2.12** Points shall be allocated as follows: (a) Win or receiving a forfeit 2 points (b) Draw or wash out 1 point (c) Loss 0 point (d) Giving a forfeit -2 points
- 2.13** Mercy Rule In all preliminary games, a ten (10) run mercy rule shall apply after the completion of a minimum three (3) innings.
- 2.14** A completed innings is when (3) three outs are achieved OR when the (4th) fourth run crosses the plate, no further runs shall be scored.
- 2.15** After ball 4 the batter shall be awarded a walk to 1st base as per normal baseball rules.
- 2.16** All team Players (up to a maximum of 12) will be placed on the batting line up and bat
- 2.17** There are no limits to the amount of interchanges in the field (other than the normal Pitching – catching restrictions)
- 2.18** Any players given an exemption to play in the tournament (ie. 8 years or under at the cut-off date in 1.02) will not be allowed to pitch or catch.

3.0 PITCHERS

- 3.01** Each game in which a player pitches is considered one assignment. Each pitcher is only allowed a maximum of three (3) assignments for the series.
- 3.02** A pitchers game contribution will be classified as Substantial or Minor as follows: Minor Substantial 1 - 20 pitches 21 - 40 pitches
- 3.03** A pitcher may pitch 40 pitches per game and may not exceed the maximum of 60 pitches for the series.
- 3.04** A pitcher reaching their maximum number of pitches per game may finish pitching to the batter in the box.
- 3.05** All pitches thrown after the maximum per game, (to complete the batter in the box), are to be added to that pitcher's series total. The official scorer shall notify the Plate Umpire when

a pitcher is ten (10) pitches from the maximum allowable game number. Example: a pitcher reaching 42 pitches to finish a batter in the box has 18 pitches left for the day.

- 3.06** The head coach shall not allow a pitcher to pitch more than their allowable number per game or per day.
- 3.07** A pitcher reaching a SUBSTANTIAL of an assignment is eligible to play in another fielding position in that game, but must complete one (1) game rest from the battery before any further battery assignment.
- 3.08** No rest is required for a pitcher after a MINOR. However, if the MINOR is immediately proceeded by another pitching assignment, the player must complete one (1) game rest from the battery before any further battery assignment.
- 3.09** A pitcher, once removed from the mound, may not pitch or catch again in that game.
- 3.10** No pitcher shall throw curve balls. The umpire shall call "BALL" to any curve thrown and the batting team shall have the option of accepting any subsequent play.
- 3.11** Definition of a "games rest" shall be one time slot.
- 3.12** Players that are 9 years old (at cut-off date in 1.02) shall be limited to 20 pitches (they are not allowed to finish off a batter) in any appearance on the mound. They may finish the game in any position (other than catcher). They are permitted a total of forty (40) pitches (2 appearances).

For any breaches of the rules 3.01 to 3.12 the penalty will be loss of game & score of 7-0 awarded to opposition

4.0 CATCHERS

- 4.01** All Catchers to wear facemasks with a formed or attached throat guard. Any person warming up a pitcher shall wear a face mask at all times, whether in the bull pen or on the playing field.
- 4.02** No catcher can catch in two consecutive games.
- 4.03** Any catcher who completes a pitching assignment shall be required to complete rest/s in accordance with 3.07 & 3.08, any previous catching assignment will be deemed a 'minor'.
- 4.04** A catcher, once removed from that position, cannot pitch in that game (although can return to catch if needed).
- 4.05** A designated runner must be used for the catcher at all times. The runner will be a team player who is not currently in that game line-up. Penalty: Failure to replace the catcher, once brought to the attention of the offensive team shall result in the catcher being called out.

For any breaches of the rules 4.01 to 4.04 the penalty will be loss game & score of 7-0 awarded to opposition

5.0 FINAL

- 5.01** The final, if scheduled, will be played between the leading teams (on accumulated points) from each pool at the conclusion of the preliminary rounds.

- 5.02** In the event of teams finishing on equal points, ranking will be decided upon For/Against averages of tied teams.
- 5.03** In the event of two (2), three (3) or more teams tie and the F/A averages do not resolve the order of ranking, the fewest runs allowed in the games played between the tied teams will decide the order of ranking.
- 5.04** The Final (if scheduled) shall be played over four (4) innings. In the event of a tied score one (1) extra innings will be played. If after one (1) extra innings scores remain equal, joint winners will be declared.
- 5.05** In finals, three (3) innings shall constitute a legal game, if this number of innings are not completed joint winners will be declared.

6.00 SCORERS.

- ~~**6.01** Each Team participating in the knockout must provide one (1) Team Scorer, per team nominated in the knockout.~~
- 6.02** Line-up sheets are to be in the hands of the scorers and Umpires not less than ten (10) minutes prior to official starting time of game.
- ~~**6.03** Scorers are responsible for tendering the result sheet to the Scorers Coordinator at the completion of the game.~~
- ~~**6.04** Before an Association is declared the winner, score books may be vetted for any rule anomalies.~~

7.00 UMPIRES.

- ~~**7.01** Each Team participating in the knockout must provide one (1) Umpire, per team nominated in the knockout.~~
- 7.02** Umpire judgment rulings are final.
- 7.03** The Umpire will advise the scorers to note any warning given to any player, coach or team official.

2. Zooka Ball Competition Rules & Procedures

1. Pitcher to have at least one foot on the pitching plate when feeding Zooka machine until the ball crosses home plate.
2. All Zooka age players are to wear blue helmets whilst batting.
3. All Zooka age players after third strike to have unlimited swings off the tee.
4. When hitting off the tee, the ball must clear the dolomite to be in play otherwise it is called a foul ball.
5. Runners are only allowed to steal one base per pitch unless fielding side attempt to throw runners out.
6. The maximum number of runs that can be scored in one innings is 5. When 5 runs are scored it is "side away".
7. Balls used are to be the softer Zooka balls.

3. T Ball Competition Rules & Procedures

Field, ball and safety

1. The distance between bases shall be 50 feet.
2. Both the pitcher and catcher shall wear a helmet.
3. The batter and base runners shall wear a helmet.
4. The ball shall be an 8.5 inch Reduced Injury Ball (RIB).

Batting

1. A batter may have as many swings as they require in hitting the ball into fair territory.
2. A batter/ runner is out when:
 - a. A batted ball is caught on the full.
 - b. A fielder in possession of the ball stands on the base before the runner arrives.
 - c. A runner between the bases is tagged by a fielder with the hand that is holding the ball.
3. A runner cannot advance to the next base on a ball that is caught on the full.
4. A runner can only advance one base on an overthrow.
5. An inning is completed when 3 outs have been made or 5 runs scored.

Fielding

1. The pitcher must stand on the pitchers plate.
2. The catcher must stand next to the umpire.
3. No infielders may be inside the diamond when the batter is hitting.
4. All fielders must rotate positions each inning.