



# Cloverdale Minor Baseball

## Tadpole Rules (Summer Season)

*[These rules are taken from section 31.03 of the BC Minor Rule Book. Any changes or clarifications that we have made will be noted in italic text within square brackets following the rule.]*

### Regular Season

1. All players turning 8 or 9 years old in the current year (or younger) are eligible to play.
2. Before a game, each head coach must give a copy of his batting line-up to the opposing team and the home plate umpire.
3. Home teams are to supply the umpires for their game.
4. During a game, coaches or parents cannot position themselves on the outside of the backstop behind the umpire in order to coach the team or umpire. There will be warning and if this continues, the coach will be ejected.
5. The BC Minor Code of Conduct applies.  
*[Bad mouthing umpires will not be tolerated by parents or coaches. If there is a problem, both coaches can talk to the umpire in a non-threatening way. The umpire's decision will be final. If an umpire misses a rule call, both coaches are to wait till the end of an inning to go and discuss call with the umpire (they're learning too).]*
6. No new inning shall be started later than 2 hours and 15 minutes from the start of the game.
7. The length of a legal game is 4 complete innings but no more than 6 innings of pitched baseball.
8. 9 players allowed on the field per inning.
9. You must have a minimum of 9 players starting the game.
10. You can only dress 13 players per game, although you may carry as many spares as you like.
11. 3 outs or a maximum of 4 runs per inning, with the last inning of play having a (10 run) maximum limit.
12. All players must play the infield for a minimum of 2 innings and the outfield for a minimum of 1 inning per game.
13. No player may play more than 2 innings in one position with the exception of the catcher who may play a maximum of 3 innings per game.
14. All players must sit once before another player sits twice.
15. The home team will only take their last bats if the run differential is less than 10, if the run differential is 10 or more then the mercy rule will apply. If in their last at bat the home team goes ahead by 10 or more runs, the game will end.  
*[The BC Minor Tadpole Summer states that no mercy rule is in effect, but we have decided to override that.]*
16. When at bat, any team may pull their catcher off the bases to dress for the next inning when there are 2 outs. The last player out will replace them.
17. Everyone bats.



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18. A regulation hard ball is used.
19. Base paths are set at 60 feet.
20. Pitching shall be from 42 feet (players may pitch from 46 feet but it is not mandatory. If a player elects to pitch from 46 feet, they must start and finish that inning from 46 feet).
21. All players may only pitch 1 inning per game.
22. Pitchers can only pitch a maximum of 6 innings per pitching week.
23. The pitching week is from Monday 12:01 a.m. to Monday 12:00 a.m. (midnight).
24. Any pitcher who delivers 1 pitch to a batter shall be considered to have pitched one inning.
25. The pitcher may pitch from the "set position" without coming to a full stop before delivery. No "balk balls" will be called against the pitcher.
26. 1 trip to the mound by coaches per inning – per player. Pitcher is to be removed on a 2nd trip to the mound by coaches. The pitcher removed due to this rule cannot return as a pitcher in this game in a later inning.
27. If a batter is hit by a pitched ball, the batter is awarded first base.
28. Any pitcher that hits 3 batters must be removed from the pitching mound.  
*[The BC Minor Tadpole Summer states pitcher to be removed after hitting 2 batters, but we have decided to be more lenient.]*
29. Base stealing is allowed. Runners may advance if there is an attempt to throw out a runner, the play is live until the pitcher has possession of the ball on the mound. However, if there are runners at 1st and 3rd base, the catcher may attempt to throw out the runner at second base but the runner at 3rd base cannot steal home. A runner at third must be hit home to score.  
*[This rule in the BC Minor Tadpole Summer rules appears to be a bit vague and poorly worded. We are going to interpret it to mean that a runner can never go home based on a throw during an attempted stolen base attempt. Base runners may only score when the ball is initially hit into play, or when forced home (by a walk, hit batter, catcher interference, etc).]*
30. No stealing home on a pass ball or on a missed throw back to the pitcher.
31. Base runners must stop running once the pitcher has possession of the ball on the mound.
32. Any runner that stops advancing to a base, when the pitcher has possession of the ball on the mound, the runner must return to the base he/she came from.
33. Any base runner that overruns another base runner is declared out.
34. Leadoffs are not allowed. The ball must cross home plate before any runner(s) can leave the base(s).
35. No head first sliding allowed. The runner will be called out.
36. The infield fly rule does apply.

*[This rule is not contained within the BC Minor Tadpole Summer rules.]*



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37. Bunting is allowed. A bunt is considered a strike if missed or fouled. A batter that fouls a bunt on strike 3 is out.
38. Batter cannot run on a third strike dropped by the catcher.
39. Catcher interference rule is in effect. No pitch is to be called. One warning is to be issued to the catcher and if interference occurs again the batter will be awarded 1<sup>st</sup> base (per batter).
40. The slide or avoid rule is in effect.
41. The umpire will call obstruction on a defensive player if the bag or plate is not partly exposed. The runner will be awarded the base.
42. Players will be called out for throwing their bat.  
*[If the batter is called out, no base runner will advance.]*
43. If a player leaves a game because of an injury or an emergency, that player will be scratched from the line-up and the team will not be penalized.
44. Players who arrive late will be added to the line-up.



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### Tournament Rules (Same as regular season with these exceptions)

1. Home team is decided by a coin toss, unless specified in the tournament schedule.
2. The home team will not take their last bats if they are leading going into the bottom half of the final inning. If in their last at bat the home team goes ahead (therefore winning the game), the game will end.

*[The BC Minor Tadpole Summer states that the home team will take their at bat no matter what, but we have decided to override that.]*

3. Tie breakers as per BC Minor Rules.

*[Statistics are calculated based on the teams that are tied with each other, and not all of the teams in the competition.]*

*If the first part of the rule places one team above others in the case of three or more teams involved in the tie, but the remaining teams are still tied, then the remaining parts of the rule are applied using statistics from the matches involving all of the original teams in the tie.*

- (a) *The team with the best win/loss record in the game(s) played between the tied teams will place higher in the standings.*
- (b) *If the tie persists, the placement of teams will be dictated by the ratio of number of runs allowed per defensive inning. A defensive inning is defined as having taken the field and a pitch thrown.*
- (c) *If the tie persists, the placement of teams will be dictated by the ratio of runs scored per offensive inning. An offensive inning is defined as having been at bat for at least one pitch.*
- (d) *If the tie persists, then the team with the best won/loss record against the highest placed team not in the tie, followed by a comparison to the next placed team, etc., will place higher in the standings.*

*If after the application of the four rules, there still remains a tie, then the four rules will be reapplied to the remaining tied teams, except that the statistics will be based on the games between only the remaining tied teams, and not all of the teams in the original tie.]*

4. Winning team must report game score to concession stand.
5. Birth certificates must be provided prior to the start of the tournament.
6. Home team is required to have the umpires sign their scorebook.
7. In the event of a protest, the tournament committee will review and make the ruling.
8. Home team in semi-finals will be decided as to how they place in the round robin. Home team in the final will be decided by a coin toss.
9. Trophies awarded to 1st and 2nd place teams.
10. One MVP will be selected from each team for each game.
11. All teams must provide a pitching log for the current week at the beginning of the tournament.
12. Each team must sign the pitching log after each tournament game.