

Proposal Changes to Constitution, Rule of Play, Policies & Procedures for the 2025 Season

TBDMSA Annual General Meeting October 1, 2024 at Tottenham Legion, Upstairs

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Existing Rule: 0 No current rule. *SECTION 1 5B*

Submitted by: Lisa Williams

Proposal:

Pre-Game Responsibilities 5.b u10-pitching distance change to 31ft

Purpose of Proposal:

-biggest struggle remains to be pitching. Bottom line most of these kids are simply not strong or skilled enough to get the ball over the plate. Move it in by 1 ft.

CARRIED	REJECTED

Existing Rule: 1 a *SECTION 2 RULE 1*

Submitted by: Lisa Williams

Proposal:

Player Eligibility

change U10 to become U11

eliminate U21 division and change U19 to become U20 --see chart

change U14 to become U15

Purpose of Proposal:

Change U10 to U11

-This division has the biggest jump in skill level

-score keeping, limited stealing, and player pitching are introduced in this division

-most players need more time for skill development in all basic skills, overall game understanding.

-biggest struggle in this division continues to be pitching.

-Bottom line most of these kids are simply not skilled or strong or skilled enough to get the ball over the plate.

-Another year added to the top of this level would allow more time for overall player and in particular pitcher development as usually the older players are generally on the mound.

-Better pitching forces more hitting

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****This change would make a more exciting game where players are understanding rules more hitting more and not waiting for a walk.**

Eliminate U21 division and change U19 to U20:

-U21 division folded due to low registration numbers (9) is simply too small of an age span to get reasonable registration numbers in higher age groups as these kids are either in school, working or both.

-4 kids age out this year but many more the following year.

U19 is always last to fill up every year and registration numbers are usually a struggle.

-by eliminating U21 the reality of reduced scheduled diamond time and would keep the game night and practice diamond time open for us to possibly use and junior umpire scheduling the same and open up one year on the top end of the division and hopefully keep and draw more players.

Change U14 becomes U15

-to keep the max 5 year age gap in U20 will need to move the bottom age up a year.

-most of the U14's that moved up this season struggled and some of the younger girls were quite intimidated. Female registration drops off quite a bit after U14. Perhaps another year in the lower division would be beneficial for most players and hopefully not scare these kids away.

****EXCEPTIONS CAN BE MADE for 2010 A+ rated players to play up a division if they prefer for 2025 season only with both board and parent approval.**

CARRIED	REJECTED

Proposal Changes to Constitution, Rule of Play, Policies & Procedures for the 2025 Season

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Existing Rule: 2 a

Submitted by: Lisa Williams

Proposal:

U5, U7

a) A U5 and U7 team needs a minimum of seven (7) players total at the start of a game otherwise the game is forfeit and will not be rescheduled. There is no score recorded in U5, and U7.

Purpose of Proposal:

housekeeping to make U5 and U7 the same as they have no score

CARRIED	REJECTED

Existing Rule: 2 b

Submitted by: Lisa Williams

Proposal:

U10, U14

b) A U10 and U14 team must be able to field a minimum of seven (7) of their own players at the start of a game otherwise the game is forfeit with a score of 5 - 0. If both teams have less than seven (7) players, then the game shall be declared a tie with a score of 5 -5.

Purpose of Proposal:

housekeeping as U7 no longer has a score

CARRIED	REJECTED

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Existing Rule: 2 b

Submitted by: Lisa Williams

Proposal:

c) A U19, U21 team must be able to field a minimum of six (6) of their own players at the start of a game otherwise the game is forfeit with a score of 5 - 0. If both teams have less than six (6) Players, then the game shall be declared a tie with a score of 5 -5.

Purpose of Proposal:

To clarify the current rule. U10 and 14 field 10 players and can pick up 3 subs. U19,21 (u20) field 9 players so should also be allowed to pick up 3 subs and reformat to align with the other divisions.

CARRIED	REJECTED

Existing Rule: 2 b

Submitted by: Erin Forrester

Proposal:

A U7, U10, U14, U19, team must be able to field seven (7) of their original drafted players on their roster at the start of a game, otherwise the game is forfeit with a score of 5 - 0. If both teams have less than seven (7) players, then the games will be declared a tie with a score of 5-5.

Purpose of Proposal:

Old rule was not clear enough

CARRIED	REJECTED

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Existing Rule: 2 b

Submitted by: Jenn Leclerc

Proposal:

A U7-21 team must be able to field a minimum of 7 players (including substitutions) at the start of the game, otherwise the game will be a forfeit with a score of 0-5

Purpose of Proposal:

Families are busy and have many commitments and priorities over the summer, and so teams may not always be able to pull together 7 of their own players for each game. The children who have shown up deserve, and have paid for, the chance to play meaningful baseball every game. Allowing a team to use fair substitutes (of equal ranking to those missing) to reach the minimum of 7 players, and a maximum of 10 (U7-14) or 9 (U19&21), creates a situation where every game can be played out as scheduled, with how ever many fair substitutes are needed.

CARRIED	REJECTED

Existing Rule: 2 c

Submitted by: Lisa Williams

Proposal:

U5, U7, U10, U14, U19, U21

d) If a game is scheduled around/during a statutory holiday and/or either team is unable to field a minimum number of players, the coach unable to field a team must contact the opposing coach, a minimum of two days prior to the scheduled game. Both coaches must agree to reschedule or the team will forfeit. It is the responsibility of the initiating coach to contact the division Convenor and League Scheduler immediately.

Purpose of Proposal:

housekeeping and addressed the issues we have each year with games around graduations etc.

CARRIED	REJECTED

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Existing Rule: 3 a

Submitted by: Lisa Williams

Proposal:

U5, U7

a) A U5 team may use substitutes from any other T-Ball and U5 teams not playing to bring the roster up to a maximum of 7 Players.

Purpose of Proposal:

housekeeping to include rules about subs from lower divisions

CARRIED	REJECTED

Existing Rule: 3 b

Submitted by: Lisa Williams

Proposal:

b) A U7 team may use substitutes from any other U5 or U7 teams not playing to bring the roster up to a maximum of 9 players

Purpose of Proposal:

housekeeping

CARRIED	REJECTED

Existing Rule: 3 No current rule.

Submitted by: Lisa Williams

Proposal:

c) U5, U7 Coaches of both teams can consult and decide together whether to move children from one team to the other to balance out the teams for this game only.

Purpose of Proposal:

encourage games not to be forfeited

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CARRIED	REJECTED

Existing Rule: 3 b

Submitted by: Lisa Williams

Proposal:

d) Equally rated U10 substitute players can be used from any U10 team not playing if available. Any player from a U7 team can also be used to bring the roster up to a maximum of 10 Players.

Purpose of Proposal:

house keeping

CARRIED	REJECTED

Existing Rule: 3 c

Submitted by: Lisa Williams

Proposal:

A U19 team may use equally rated substitutes from non-playing U19 team if available or ***rated U14 player to bring their roster up to maximum 9 players.

***U14 rated players will automatically be deducted 1 full letter rating when substituting in a U19 game.

Purpose of Proposal:

housekeeping

CARRIED	REJECTED

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Existing Rule: 3 c

Submitted by: Jenn Leclerc

Proposal:

Substitutes may be used from any non playing U19 or U21 non playing teams, or available U14 teams, to bring the roster up to a maximum of 9.

Purpose of Proposal:

Specifically during the tournament, when all U19 teams are playing simultaneously, it appears it needs to be specified that bringing up players from the younger division is an acceptable way to bring the roster to a size that would allow games to proceed. And then also in any game situation where players from non playing U19 teams have been sought out but have turned down the invite to substitute, U14 players can be asked to sub to provide enough players on the roster for the game to proceed.

CARRIED	REJECTED

Existing Rule: 3 No current rule.

Submitted by: Lisa Williams

Proposal:

k) All substitutions must be approved by opposing coach before game time and once approved will not be accepted as grounds for protest.

Purpose of Proposal:

avoid conflicts and protests

CARRIED	REJECTED

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Existing Rule: 3 e

Submitted by: Jenn Leclerc

Proposal:

A substitute coordinator will arrange all subs when advance knowledge of missing players is available. In this case, the highest rated missing player may be substituted for (ie team is missing an A, a B and a C, the substitute coordinator can find an A sub if available). The opposition coach does not have to ok this sub. The rankings of all players will be made available for all coaches.

Purpose of Proposal:

With transparency of all players rankings, and a Substitute coordinator setting up all subs when there is prior knowledge of missing players, it takes the onus and responsibility out of the coaches hands. Coaches have had the chance to have their say in the rankings of players at the coaches meetings, and we take any personal relationships out of the process by not needing approval from the opposing coach.

CARRIED	REJECTED

Existing Rule: 3 f

Submitted by: Jenn Leclerc

Proposal:

In the case of a last minute, game time substitute that is needed, (ie players who the coach thought was coming have not shown up at game time) the coach needing a sub will attempt to get a player equal or lessor in ranking to the top ranked missing player. An attempt must be made to get an ok from the substitution coordinator, but if that can not happen in this last case scenario, the opposing coach must ok the last minute sub.

Purpose of Proposal:

The are times when a player who is expected to be there does not show up, and a subs needs to be arranged within minutes to allow the team to field a full team. In this case, it is a player who happens to be a the diamond who is available to fill in. Sometimes the ranking will line up in this situation, and sometimes they will not. If it is not possible to ok the sub with the substitute coordinator, the opposing deserves to have a say in the substitution, especially if the rankings do not line up. If the rankings do line up, the opposing coach must have a good reason for denying the sub the ability to play.

CARRIED	REJECTED

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Existing Rule: 3 f

Submitted by: Kevin Boston

Proposal:

The team requesting the substitute player must inform the opposing team's Head Coach that they are missing specific players along with their rating and require a substitute. The opposing Head Coach must agree to substitute players prior to the start of the game.

Purpose of Proposal:

Defining the process of substitution to avoid protests during a game over disputed players.

CARRIED	REJECTED

Existing Rule: 3 g

Submitted by: Kevin Boston

Proposal:

Substitute players may play up one division. A substitute player's current rating in their respective division will drop by a half a category based on age. Example One: a 14 year old A ranked player will drop to a B+ if called up to play in the U19 Division. Example Two: a 12 year old A+ player will drop to a B+ if called up to play in the U19 Division.

Purpose of Proposal:

To clarify player rankings relevant to age division.

CARRIED	REJECTED

Existing Rule: 3 i

Submitted by: Kevin Boston

Proposal:

The method of determining the proper Substitute(s) will be as follows:

- i. If a team knows that they will only be able to field seven of their own players, for example, and would like to receive two Substitutes, the

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Head Coach missing the players will average out the missing players and draw from a pool of available players on a Substitute List provided by the Registrar to all Head Coaches .

ii. The Substitute List is divided into three (3) categories:

a. Category A - players rated 1 through 4

b. Category B - players rated 5 through 8; and,

c. Category C - players rated 9 through 12.

From his Substitutes List, he will average the missing player(s) rating(s)

and identify Substitutes from the appropriate categories.

iii. He will then call the Substitutes and ask if they would be available to play for "such-and-such" team at the designated park and at the designated time.

iv. In any event there shall be no more than four (4) A category players/substitutes on any team for a game. Further, no team shall have more than two players rated number one (1), for any game, including both the team roster as well as substitutes.

Purpose of Proposal:

To standardize how substitute players are called up.

CARRIED	REJECTED

Existing Rule: 5 b

Submitted by: Kevin Boston

Proposal:

No substitute player shall be benched during a game.

Purpose of Proposal:

If a player has made the effort to come out to play, they should earn the right to play. They will have a choice to stay or leave.

CARRIED	REJECTED

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Existing Rule: 11 a

Submitted by: Jenn Leclerc

Proposal:

All games will commence at the designated start time as scheduled on the website. If the home team has not set up the diamond by the scheduled game time, the umpire will declare that if this task is not completed by 5 mins past the scheduled start time, the home team will forfeit the game.

Purpose of Proposal:

There were multiple cases this past season where the home team neglected this duty right up until, or even after, start time, causing the umpires to feel responsible for this task that is supposed to be done by the coaches. With no consequence for not complying, coaches felt no urgency to heed the umpires request to fulfill this task.

CARRIED	REJECTED

Existing Rule: 13 No current rule.

Submitted by: Lisa Williams

Proposal:

- i) Total points
- ii) Runs for/against ratio
- iii) Record against each other
- iv) Play off inning(s) or game (time permitting).

Purpose of Proposal:

our system automatically calculates standings this way makes the most sense and eliminates issues that arise with 3 way ties etc,

CARRIED	REJECTED

Existing Rule: 13 iv

Submitted by: Peter Browne

Proposal:

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Removal of this subsection.

iv) Play off inning(s) or game (time permitting).

Purpose of Proposal:

Never been used and no idea where it came from.

CARRIED	REJECTED

Existing Rule: [15 g](#)

Submitted by: Lisa Williams

Proposal:

U10

g) There is a maximum of ten (10) Players on the defense field with the additional player being outfield rover.

Purpose of Proposal:

Housekeeping. We saw the extra player in the infield in games

CARRIED	REJECTED

Existing Rule: [21 a](#)

Submitted by: Kevin Boston

Proposal:

Remove reference to all U7 players shall bat in an inning.

Purpose of Proposal:

To teach players the concept of 3 outs per inning.

CARRIED	REJECTED

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Existing Rule: 21 a

Submitted by: Jenn Leclerc

Proposal:

U7 specific- outs made on the field will be counted at outs, 3 outs recorded in this manner will result in the offensive teams at bat being over. Batters who do not get a hit on their 5 pitches WILL NOT be counted as outs.

Purpose of Proposal:

I personally think that all batters getting to bat each inning, as it was this year, is the better option. By mid year we were getting 3 full innings in pretty much all of the time. But, if there is a push for the end of an inning after 3 outs, I don't think the pressure should be on the batters, rather, good baseball plays that result in out are celebrated. If there are no walks there should be no strike outs.

CARRIED	REJECTED

Existing Rule: 21 No current rule.

Submitted by: Lisa Williams

Proposal:

Rule 21-Batting/Batting Lineup

U5

- a) All U5 Players shall bat in each inning.
- b) A U5 batter will bat the ball from the tee as many times as required to make a legal hit.
- c) A U5 Legal hit must be batted to or past the 30' arched line. NOTE: This rule may be relaxed at the coach's discretion during the early half of the season. By mid-season, coaches should be encouraging Players to bat until the ball reaches or surpasses the 30' arched line.
- d) By mid season U5 Adult Coaches or Parent helpers are encouraged to pitch a max of 3 pitches to each batter. If unsuccessful the batter will continue to bat the ball from the tee as many times as required to make a legal hit.

Purpose of Proposal:

Housekeeping-we have a discrepancy in wording between section 21 and 25 for U5 coach pitching and we are talking about batting in a batting line up section.

CARRIED	REJECTED

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Existing Rule: 21 No current rule.

Submitted by: Lisa Williams

Proposal:

U7

a)All players shall bat in each inning

b)batting line up to be reversed/shuffled each inning

Purpose of Proposal:

to allow different kids to be "last batter"

CARRIED	REJECTED

Existing Rule: 25 No current rule.

Submitted by: Sam Cicirello

Proposal:

U10 Pitching - I propose that we implement a pitching machine at the U10 level rather than pitchers pitching to opposing teams.

Purpose of Proposal:

Each batter would receive 5 pitches at a speed and distance TBD. The U10's games are currently too slow and as a result, we are seeing players losing interest during games b/c there are too many walks. Promoting hitting would make the games more exciting and also allow our players to develop their fielding skills. Pitching development could and should still be prioritized in practices and only be introduced in games later in season perhaps.

CARRIED	REJECTED

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Existing Rule: 25 d

Submitted by: Jenn Leclerc

Proposal:

U10 specific- U10 pitchers have the opportunity to throw a strike when the ball passes through the traditional strike zone, and will also be given a strike call if the ball falls onto a mat, similar to a slow pitch mat.

Purpose of Proposal:

This will encourage batters to swing, as there is more chances to have a strike called. This will also give the pitchers at this level more confidence as the chances of throwing a strike is increased.

CARRIED	REJECTED

Existing Rule: 25 d

Submitted by: Jenn Leclerc

Proposal:

This rule can be removed as there are no walks of any kind in U7. Even if the player does not swing at all 5 pitches their at bat is over.

Purpose of Proposal:

Just cleans up a rule that is not necessary

CARRIED	REJECTED

Existing Rule: 26 b

Submitted by: Kevin Boston

Proposal:

A Coach will pitch to their own team for the entire season. NOTE: It is preferable to have transitioned this pitching method for all Players by mid-season however this will be at the discretion of the Coach.

Purpose of Proposal:

To give players the opportunity to learn how to pitch if their skill level is acceptable by the Coach.

CARRIED	REJECTED

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Existing Rule: 32 b

Submitted by: Jenn Leclerc

Proposal:

U10 specific- sliding is not permitted into home plate. Runners must cross a scoring line before the catcher holds the ball while standing on home plate.

Purpose of Proposal:

If we incorporate the pitching mat to increase the strike zone, sliding should no longer be allowed at home plate. A runner must cross a scoring line, and the catcher must have contact with the plate when catching the ball in order to record an out. All plays at home plate would be considered a force play.

CARRIED	REJECTED

Existing Rule: No current rule. No current rule.

Submitted by: Kevin Boston

Proposal:

Game Sheets section C. Remove the duty of BOTH HEAD COACHES and replace it with the HOME TEAM.

Purpose of Proposal:

Avoid confusion with responsibilities.

CARRIED	REJECTED

Existing Rule: No current rule. No current rule.

Submitted by: Kevin Boston

Proposal:

The Home Team shall be responsible for field preparation including setting up the bases and providing a new game-ball issued by the Association.

Purpose of Proposal:

Clarify responsibilities.

CARRIED	REJECTED

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Existing Rule: Playoff rules

Submitted by: Kevin Boston

Proposal:

Include Playoff Rules in Manual of Operations

Purpose of Proposal:

To have it laid out at the beginning of the season for clarity.

CARRIED	REJECTED

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Policy and Procedures Proposals

Policies and Procedures are determined by the Board and do not need to be voted on by the Membership.

Submitted by: Lisa Williams

Proposal:

Policies and Procedures / Form Player Evaluation Form

- a) Two weeks before the year end tournament coaches are required to complete an assessment of the Player's Development using the Player Evaluation Form found on the TBDMSA website and submitted to your division convenor.
- b) Failure to provide team ratings will result in disqualification from participating in the year end tournament.

Purpose of Proposal:

will update ratings on all players and eliminate substitution issues

CARRIED	REJECTED

Submitted by: Lisa Williams

Proposal:

Vulnerable Sector Check and Criminal Records & Judicial Matters Check

- g) Following an "Inappropriate Behaviour Incident Report" investigation the TBDMSA may require anyone including TBDMSA Board members, coaching staff, volunteers, or parents who are found to have violated our "Code of Conduct" policy to complete (or re-take) a "Respect in Sport" course at their own expense before they can attend any TBDMSA activities. (see website for details)

Purpose of Proposal:

we need to have a policy in place

CARRIED	REJECTED

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Submitted by: Peter Browne

Proposal:

Refund Policy

- Refunds may be issued due to injury at the Board’s discretion.
- Refunds less administration fees will be issued until June 1 of current season. After June 1, a refund will be considered at the discretion of the Executive.

Purpose of Proposal:

Our current registration system will not allow full refund, it subtracts the admin fee. The admin fee has to be e-transferred so parent gets FULL refund and we incur another transaction fee.

CARRIED	REJECTED