



# LOSSA

## Lake Ontario Secondary School Athletics

### **LOSSA BASEBALL PLAYING REGULATIONS 2024 - 2025**

#### **General:**

The LOSSA Championship Season will take place from the end of April until the beginning of June.

#### **League Format:**

The league will be divided into a tiered system. This system will be put in place at the February meeting.

##### **TIER I**

Tier I will consist of any team interested in playing at this level at the March/April league meeting. Each team will play a home and home double-header against teams within Tier 1.

##### **TIER II**

Tier II will consist of any team interested in playing at this level at the March/April league meeting.

The Tier II format will be reviewed at the league meeting.

##### **TIER III**

There is a possibility of a third tier. This will be discussed further at the league meeting in March/April. The Tier III format will be reviewed at the league meeting. (Should Tier III be in existence for next season).

#### **Playoff Calculations:**

1. After the last league game, the standings will be tabulated. Scores called in after 8:00pm that evening will not be included in the final standings.
2. All league games must be completed before the playoffs begin.
3. Ties in the final standings will be broken down as follows: NOTE: In the case of more than one team being tied then if a single winner or a single loser is declared, leaving the other teams tied, the remaining teams revert to "a".
  - a) The winner of the head to head game between the two teams takes the higher standing (if only two teams are tied)
  - b) The team with the most wins in all common games played between the tied teams takes the higher standing. (If more than two teams are tied)
  - c) The team with the least runs allowed in the head to head games of the tied team(s).
  - d) The team with the least runs allowed in all league games.
  - e) The team with the higher run differential in all games played takes the higher standing. No game differential can be more than 10 runs.
  - f) If "a" through "c" are tied, then the Convenor will flip a coin and the call will be made by the Coach of the team whose school name has the higher alphabetical listing. The winner of the call will take the higher standing. In case of a three-way tie, a 3-way flip with the odd man in the flip taking the lowest standing.

Once the three-way tie is broken, leaving two teams still tied, the tiebreakers revert to "a".

## **Playoff Format:**

### **Tier I Playoffs:**

Tier I will determine OFSAA participants by a double knockout playoff. Format for OFSAA qualification and/or LOSSA Championship will be determined at the league meeting in March/April.

### **Tier II Playoffs:**

Tier II championship playoff structure and format will be determined at the league meeting in March/April.

### **Tier III Playoffs (if necessary):**

Tier III championship playoff structure and format will be determined at the league meeting in March/April.

### **Eligibility:**

For a player to be eligible, he/she must meet all LOSSA eligibility rules.

### **Length of Games:**

1. All regularly scheduled Tier I, Tier II and Tier III games will be single games, seven (7) innings in length with no inning beginning after two (2) hours.
2. In case of a tie after seven (7) innings, extra innings may be played, time permitting. The home plate umpire will announce the time after the first pitch.
3. All games, including playoffs, will be terminated after five (5) innings if one team leads by ten (10) or more runs.
4. All playoff games will be played until completion, there will not be any time limits.
5. All games not played to completion (4 ½ or 5 innings) due to weather or curfew (park availability) will be deemed in Rain Delay and be continued from where the game was halted.
6. The "hurry up" rule is in effect, which allows only one minute between innings. If a batter does not step up to the plate the umpire will call a strike. If a pitcher is not ready the umpire may call a ball.

### **Rules:**

All Ontario Baseball Association rules will be in effect with the following exceptions:

1. The designated hitter may be used for any player (this including the pitcher serving as the designated hitter for himself).
2. A pitcher may only pitch seven (7) innings per day for league and playoff games.
3. The umpires are instructed to eject any player for unnecessary or flagrant actions during a collision. However, sliding and collisions are allowed.
4. A starting player may re-enter the game one time only but only in his original place in the batting order. A starting pitcher may re-enter but may not pitch.
5. A player who is ejected from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct will automatically be suspended from the next league game. A player ejected for fighting will be automatically suspended for the next league game as a minimum (reviewed by the convenor) and will be put on notification with the League/Convenor or his/her representative.
6. No tobacco products are to be used at anytime by LOSSA baseball teams. Penalty for the offence is automatic ejection from the game by the umpire and a game suspension.
7. No jewellery may be worn during games. Penalty for the offence is automatic ejection from the game by the umpire. Coaches are responsible for checking players before game time.
8. Coaches on field or in dugouts must wear at the least a team hat and a team jersey/team jacket. All coaches must be in uniform or school athletic wear. No jeans or shorts will be permitted on the field!
9. All bats used cannot exceed 2 5/8" in diameter and will not have a weight to length differential greater than 3". Legal bats should all be clearly marked by the manufacturer.
10. As per the OFSAA Sport Advisory Committee, Aluminum/Metal bats will no longer be permitted for use after the 2008 baseball season at the OFSAA Championships.

11. All LOSSA Tier I teams will only be permitted to use wood or composite bats, beginning in the 2009 season. Aluminum/Metal bats will no longer be permitted for use after the 2008 baseball season. This does not necessarily apply to Tier II or Tier III teams. Tier II and Tier III teams will determine their official league bats (wood or metal) at the league meeting in March/April.

**Miscellaneous:**

1. The home team will supply all game balls, bases and act as the official scorekeeper for the game.
2. All teams must use the official LOSSA line-up cards and must list first and last names of all players. Line-up cards will be available at the February meeting and must be used for all league games.
3. A Rawlings baseball will be the official baseball for LOSSA. Balls will be available at the February meeting and must be used for all league games.
4. The league fee, to be paid at the February organizational meetings will cover the cost of all league diamond user fees, league ball and umpires. This will also include any fees owing from the previous season. The fee is to be determined prior to the February meeting. Teams will not be able to participate in league play until their fee is paid. Games not played will be forfeited.
5. Each team is to submit a **\$100.00 refundable cheque** along with the league fees. This cheque will be returned at the conclusion of the season should the team not forfeit any league or playoff games. In the event of a forfeit game a \$50.00 fine will be levied against the team involved. Should a second forfeit occur, the full \$100.00 will be collected by the convenor. The team involved will then be suspended from all further league play until a meeting with the LOSSA executive can be arranged.
6. All scores must be called in to the League Convenor or his/her representative as soon as possible after the game by the winning team's representative. Failure to call in a score will result in that game not being counted in the final standings.
7. An All-Star game will be played once the league playoffs have been completed. The format of this game will be determined at the league meeting in February.
8. Any player or coach ejection must be forwarded via email to the convenor no later than 8:00PM on the date of the occurrence. Full names and a summary must be provided.

**Schedule Notes:**

Any game that must be rescheduled after the master schedule has been distributed must be scheduled by mutual decision between the two representatives of the participating teams and League Convenor. The new game date must be reported to the League Convenor or his/her representative.