

OBA Pitching and Arm Care Rules 2022

SP5.1 Pitching Rules

- a. In 11U games the number of trips to the mound by a manager/coach shall not be limited except where the umpire rules that the purpose of the trip is to delay the game.
- b. In 13U games, a third trip by a manager/coach to the same pitcher in the same inning shall result in the pitcher's automatic removal from the pitching position.
- c. In 11U & 13U games, a pitcher once removed from the pitching, regardless of the number of trips to the mound by the manager/coach, may continue in the game at another position other than catcher and shall not be permitted to return to pitch in that game.
- d. In 15U and up games, a second trip to the mound by a manager/coach to the same pitcher in the same inning shall result in the pitcher's automatic removal from the pitching position. The pitcher, once removed, may continue in the game at another position but shall not be permitted to return to pitch in that game.
- e. At the 11U division, Balks are not to be called. Should a pitcher balk, (e.g. double set or not pause) umpires will indicate such infractions to the coach between innings. At the 13U division, Pitchers will receive one balk warning. Base runners will not be disadvantaged as a result of a balk warning.
- f. No balk warnings will be issued at 15U and up.

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- . Unless otherwise stated, all Arm Care Rules listed in SP5 shall be in force throughout the baseball season and apply to all league play and tournament play as sanctioned by Baseball Ontario or any Affiliated Association.
 - a. Unless otherwise stated, all Arm Care Rules listed in SP5 shall be enforced at all Series 22U and below.
 - b. Pitchers shall be limited to the number of pitches thrown in a single day as outlined below. Pitchers are required to rest in accordance with the chart below as determined by the total number of pitches thrown on any one calendar day:

9U*	11U	13U	15U	18U	22U
1-20	1-25	1-30	1-35	1-40	1-45
20-35	26-40	31-45	36-50	41-55	46-60
36-50	41-55	46-60	51-65	56-70	61-75
N/A	56-65	61-75	66-80	71-85	76-90
N/A	66-75	76-85	81-95	86-105	91-115
50	75	85	95	105	115

- C. **Please see SP5.2(m) for multiple 9U games in any pitching requirements.*
Note: *Please see SP5.2(h) for multiple games in any two consecutive days.*
- d. For the purposes calculating days of rest required, the day after game day is considered Day 1 of the rest period. (ie: If an 11U pitcher throws 27 pitches on Friday, he will be next eligible to pitch again on Sunday).
 - e. If a game extends beyond midnight into the next calendar day, any pitches thrown thereafter shall be counted toward the pitch count of the day the game started. If however, the game is suspended for any reason after midnight, when it resumes, any pitches thrown by any pitcher shall be counted toward the new day.
 - f. Intentional walks and balks shall count toward the pitcher’s pitch count total if a pitch has been thrown.
 - g. Players are permitted to pitch in 2 separate games in the same day as long as they do not exceed the maximum number of pitches that requires no rest for their age category in the first game of the day. (ie: If an 11U pitcher throws fewer than 25 pitches in the first game, the player may pitch in a

second game.) No player is permitted to pitch in more than 2 games in any two-day period regardless of the number of pitches thrown.

- h. No player may exceed the daily maximum for their age category in any two day period. If a player pitches in two games in a day or on two consecutive days, their rest required shall be calculated using the combined total of the number of pitches thrown.
 - 0. Ex1: 22U player throws 45 pitches on Friday in a tournament (no rest required). That pitcher is permitted to pitch again on Saturday to a maximum of 70 pitches.
 - 1. Ex2: In the same scenario as Ex1, the total number of pitches thrown are added together to determine days rest. If the player threw 45 pitches on Friday and 70 pitches on Saturday, the pitcher must rest for 4 days and is next eligible to pitch on Thursday.
- i. Pitchers will be permitted to complete the at-bat of the batter they are facing when their Daily Maximum pitch limit has been reached for that calendar day but must be removed immediately after
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 - the batter is retired, or
 - the batter becomes a runner, or
 - the third out of the inning is made.
- j. The total number of pitches thrown by an ambidextrous pitcher shall be charged toward their pitch count regardless of which arm(s), or combination thereof, the pitcher uses to throw.
- k. No player may pitch on three consecutive days unless their total pitch count for the three days does not exceed the number of pitches where no rest is required for that age category. A pitcher may not pitch on 4 consecutive days regardless of pitch count.
- l. Once a player assumes a pitching position, they are no longer eligible to catch for the remainder of the day. Once a player assumes a catching position, they are no longer eligible to pitch for the remainder of the day.
- m. Any player who is playing in a series higher than their age appropriate series shall be restricted to the pitch count limitations and required rest periods applicable to the age of the player, provided the following:
 - **UPDATED** Players aged 8 and under are not permitted to pitch under any circumstance.
 - a. 9U aged players who are called-up to play on an 11U team are not permitted to pitch.
 - b. 9U aged players who are rostered to an 11U team shall be permitted to pitch with the following limitations:

0 Days Rest	1-20 Pitches
1 Day Rest	21-35 Pitches
2 Days Rest	36-50 Pitches
Daily Maximum	50 Pitches

- n. **UPDATED Penalty:** For violation of any Arm Care rules as prescribed in SP5.2(c) to (m):
 - the Manager is ejected and the game is immediately forfeited. The Manager shall receive a one game automatic suspension. If however, the Official Pitch Counter does not make the Manager aware of the violation, the game shall not be forfeited, but the manager will still be ejected and suspended.
 - i. If a pitcher throws during their mandatory days rest period in violation of SP5.2(c), the pitcher's maximum days rest period will reset to the maximum rest period of 4 days from the date of the appearance constituting the violation.
 - ii. In the event that a player pitches on a required rest day and the violation is not caught until after the game, the player shall be required to rest 4 complete days from the day they last

pitched and the Manager will receive an automatic two-game suspension to be served at the next scheduled game of consequence (ie: not an exhibition game).

- iii. In any case, if the arm care violation is not caught until after the game, the game will not be retroactively forfeited.
- o. Any player who is playing in a series higher than their age must be identified on the lineup card. Any underage player not identified on the lineup card is ineligible to pitch. Should any such unidentified underage player pitch, the pitcher shall be removed from the pitching position and the Manager ejected.
- p. When a player reaches their Daily Maximum pitch count, the manager or coach may remove the pitcher from the pitching position immediately without penalty, regardless of the number of trips already charged to the pitcher during the inning or at-bat.
- q. **UPDATED** For all games except tournament play, the home team shall designate an official pitch counter for their team who shall be responsible for tracking the pitches of both teams.
- r. During OBA sanctioned tournament play, the host shall designate an official pitch counter for each game. The host may designate participating teams as the official pitch counter at their discretion.
- s. The official pitch counter must provide the current pitch count upon request by either manager or the umpire.
- t. The official pitch counter shall inform the plate umpire when a pitcher has delivered their Daily Maximum pitch count. The plate umpire shall inform the manager that the pitcher must be removed, (i) immediately if the Daily Maximum threshold has been reached at the end of an at-bat, or (ii) following the completion of the at-bat or inning.
 - **Note:** Failure by the Official Pitch Counter to inform the plate umpire of a pitcher reaching their Daily Maximum pitch count does not relieve the Manager of their responsibility to know the pitch count and remove the pitcher. The manager is ejected and the pitcher is removed. Game will not default.
 - **Penalty:** Failure to remove the pitcher with no notification by the Official Pitch Counter will result in the manager's immediate ejection and the pitcher shall be removed from the pitching position immediately and will not be permitted to complete the at-bat. This will be treated as an emergency situation and the incoming pitcher shall receive as many warm-up pitches as the plate umpire deems necessary.
- u. **UPDATED** For all games except tournament play, the Manager (or designate) shall record the number of pitches thrown for each of their team's players **within 24 hours** of the game's start time (or 1 hour before the start of the next game, whichever is earlier) using the OBA Pitch Count Tracker.
- v. During tournament play, pitch counts must be entered within 1 hour following the end of the game (or before the start of the next game, whichever is earlier) by the home team Manager (or designate).
- w. The Manager of the opposing team will receive notification of the pitch count entry into the system and will have 24 hours from that time to verify or challenge the pitch count from that game.
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 - . Any challenge of an official pitch count will be forwarded to the Select Division On-Site Convenor for resolution.
 - i. The decision of the Select Division On-Site Convenor with regard to Pitch Counts shall be final.
- x. **Penalty:**
 - 0. Failure to enter pitch count results within the specified timelines, as set forth in SP5.5(u), will result in the following penalties:

- . On a team's first offense of the season, immediate suspension of the Manager until the pitch count is entered.
 - i. On a team's second (or any subsequent offense), the Manager will receive an automatic 5 game suspension.
- 1. Failure by team to adopt these pitch count rules will result in the team forfeiting their right to participate in an OBA Championship and participate in OBA sanctioned tournaments.