



BY-LAWS

2026

ARTICLE 1: (League Name)

This Baseball League shall be known as the North Dufferin Baseball League (N.D.B.L.) which was established in the year nineteen hundred and thirty. The League is an affiliate of York Simcoe Baseball Association.

ARTICLE 2: (Composition of League)

The League shall consist of teams in North Dufferin County, and other teams accepted by vote of the Executive and Team Representatives.

ARTICLE 3: (OBA Rules)

The League shall operate under Ontario Baseball Association playing rules unless otherwise included within these By-Laws, or by a resolution of the League Membership or Executive.

ARTICLE 4: (Umpires)

The League shall use umpires preferably with an Ontario Baseball Association Umpires Card, but not necessary at this time. The home team shall supply both a plate umpire and base umpire during the regular schedule. During playoffs the League Executive shall designate umpires as necessary. All umpiring problems shall be reported to the Executive.

ARTICLE 5: (Awards/Trophies)

The League owns the following trophies, which are presented each year:

Senior Division

First Place North Division, Regular Season
First Place South Division, Regular Season
Most Valuable Player
Most Sportsmanlike Player
Best Pitcher
Best Batter
Best Catcher
Best On Base Percentage
Most Runs
Most Home Runs
Coach of the Year
Playoff Most Valuable Player
N.D.B.L. Champions

Junior Division

First Place, Regular Season
Most Valuable Player
Most Sportsmanlike Player
Best Batter
N.D.B.L. Champions

ARTICLE 6: (Composition of Executive)

The Executive shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Past-President. No more than one member of any team may hold an Executive position, with the exception of Past-President. In the absence of one or more of the above, the Statistician may be called in for a vote.

ARTICLE 7: (Past President – Parliamentarian)

The Past-President is appointed parliamentarian. His main function is to assure along with the President, that the meetings are run in an orderly fashion, and to ensure that the parliamentary procedures book be at all meetings.

ARTICLE 8: (Conflict of Interest)

In the event a matter comes before the League that specifically pertains to a team involving an Executive Member, the member shall remove himself from the meeting and refrain from any participation or influence of the matter at hand. A team representative in a conflict of interest shall be allowed to participate in the matter at hand but shall recuse himself from the vote. When so declared, it shall not be deemed to result in the loss of a quorum of the meeting. This does not apply to matters of general interest or community of interest for all teams.

ARTICLE 9: (Voting Procedures)

Voting Procedures:

- (a) Each team and Executive Member shall only have one vote.
- (b) Segregated voting may occur if the topic pertains to a single division or is a matter solely decided by the Executive.
- (c) When a vote is called, each member present at a meeting shall vote on the question. If a member does not vote or abstains from voting, he shall be deemed as voting in the negative, except where he is prohibited from voting due to a conflict of interest.
- (d) Unrecorded votes may be by voice, show of hands, standing or otherwise and shall be at the discretion of the President.
- (e) Recorded votes, when requested by a member, shall be called by the Secretary in alphabetical order and the team name and results shall be recorded in the minutes.

ARTICLE 10: (League Entry Fees)

The League entry fee shall be determined by vote of the Executive at the Annual General Meeting, to be paid each year. All monies owed by a team to the League shall be paid before said team may commence play in the season.

ARTICLE 11: (New Team Security Bond)

All new teams entering the League shall post a \$500.00 security bond, which shall be returned to the team when said team leaves the League. The Executive may also impose an additional security bond as deemed necessary.

ARTICLE 12: (Leave of Absence)

A team in good standing may request in writing to League Membership a leave of absence for a term of one year.

ARTICLE 13: (Honourarium)

An honourarium of \$50.00 per team shall be payable to the Statistician for work preformed for the League.

ARTICLE 14: (Inclement Weather – 2 hrs Notification)

All scheduled games must be played. Any rained out games must be rescheduled within seven days of the original scheduled date and agreeable to both teams. If an agreement cannot be reached, the Executive shall set a date for such games. The home team shall notify the opposing team and the Statistician at least two hours before game time of the cancellation due to inclement weather.

ARTICLE 15: (Game Length)

All League games, including playoffs, shall be seven innings in length. A game will be considered an official game after four innings of play or three and one half innings if the home team is ahead.

ARTICLE 16: (Forfeit)

A fifteen minute grace shall be allowed after the scheduled starting time for lateness. If a team is unable to field a team after the fifteen minutes, the home plate umpire shall award the game to the opposing team. If during the game a team is unable to field nine players due to injury, the game shall be forfeited with no penalty other than the loss of two points. If a ninth player is ejected at any point during the game, the team shall forfeit the game with penalties applied. As penalty, the team forfeiting shall present \$200.00 to the opposing team and \$100.00 to the League, and shall not play another scheduled game until notified by a member of the Executive. The home team shall notify the Statistician immediately of the forfeit.

ARTICLE 17: (Cancel/Reschedule Games)

Teams wishing to cancel scheduled games for reasons other than inclement weather must do so at least fourteen days in advance of the scheduled game date and must be agreeable to the opposing team. A new game date shall be decided before cancellation of original game date. The League Statistician shall be notified of the cancellation and the new date for the game. In the event of notification of less than fourteen days, League Executive approval shall be required.

ARTICLE 18: (Players List)

Teams must submit a players list consisting of no more than twenty-eight players for Senior teams and twenty-five players for Junior teams to the League at least seven days prior to the Roster Meeting. The list shall include the player name, team played with previous year, and if said player is playing in any other hardball League in the current year. The League shall make players lists public for teams to view prior to the

Roster Meeting. The Lists shall then be passed or rejected by Team Representatives at said meeting. Any special cases shall be submitted to the League for approval and shall be voted on by the Team Representatives at the Roster Meeting. Players passed and later found ineligible by the Executive shall be automatically suspended, and games they were involved in awarded to the opposing team. Any games played by a player found ineligible at the Roster Meeting shall also be forfeited by his team. The final date for having new names added to a players list shall be at the Roster Meeting.

ARTICLE 19: (Player Release and Intercountry Play)

A player signed on a players list with any team in the League shall not sign with another League team in the same year without the proper release. Senior aged players cannot play intercounty or higher level while playing in the North Dufferin League; except players who have played in the North Dufferin League previously shall be exempt from this rule.

ARTICLE 20: (Player Release Approval)

A player release shall not be approved until financial and or uniform obligations are met. The Executive shall approve all releases.

ARTICLE 21: (Playoff Eligibility 1/3 Games)

Players found eligible to play in the League at the Roster Meeting must play in one-third of the regular scheduled games in order to participate in League playoffs. The names of players wishing to participate in playoffs, who have not played in one-third of regular scheduled games due to illness, injury, etc., can be submitted to the Executive, with a medical note or official documentation, for a ruling.

ARTICLE 22: (Team Rep Meeting Attendance)

A maximum of two representatives for each team must be present at all meetings, but only one spokesman and one vote per team. In the event of no representation by the respective teams, said team shall be fined \$40.00. A \$20.00 fine shall also be imposed for lateness after a 15 minute grace period.

ARTICLE 23: (Forfeits/Missed Meetings)

Any team that forfeits two games or misses two League meetings (with the exception of the playoff meeting for teams not in the playoffs), without due notice to a member of the Executive, shall be suspended from further play.

ARTICLE 24: (Team Discontinue during Season)

If a team withdraws or is suspended from the League during the regular season and the team has not played each team at least once, all game results involving the team shall be invalid. If the team has played each team at least once all game results involving the team shall be valid for the first or only game.

ARTICLE 25: (All-Star Game)

In mid season an All-Star Game shall be held. This game shall be alternated between the North and South divisions. The Executive shall call for volunteers for host parks and decide location. Date of game shall also be set by the Executive prior to the drawing up of the schedule.

ARTICLE 26: (All-Star Game Player Selection)

- (a) Players for the All-Star Game shall be voted on by coaches of their own divisions.
- (b) The first place teams at the end of the prior season shall supply the manager for each All-Star team, and the second and third place finishers shall each supply one coach.
- (c) Voting for teams shall be as set down by the Executive.

ARTICLE 27: (Ejection/Suspension)

Any player, coach, or manager who is ejected from a League sanctioned game shall be automatically suspended for his team's next League sanctioned game. A second ejection during the same season shall result in a two game suspension. These suspensions shall be considered automatic, and are to be enforced by the Team Representatives without the involvement of the Executive. If a player is ejected a third time in the same season, the Executive shall decide a course of action. Exceptional events and behaviour shall be reported to the League Executive, who may impose additional sanctions at their discretion. If a player was not ejected during the game but is considered for a suspension by the Executive, the Executive will consult with the umpires from the game, prior to imposing any sanctions. All ejections shall be reported to the Statistician following the game and listed on the game summary report submitted to the Statistician by the home team.

ARTICLE 28: (Umpire Report)

When an altercation occurs involving an umpire and a player, coach, or manager, and in the umpire's decision, the behaviour of that person or persons warrants a review by the Executive, an officiating umpire must submit a report to a member of the Executive within twenty-four hours of the altercation. The League Executive shall then make a decision not later than seventy-two hours from the receipt of the umpires report. The offending team may appeal the decision of the Executive.

ARTICLE 29: (Protests/Hearings)

All protests must be accompanied by \$50.00 and postmarked NOT LATER than forty-eight hours from game time. A copy of said protest must at the same time be forwarded to the manager of the opposing team. No hearing shall be held for twenty-four hours after receipt of protest from the League Secretary to allow for teams to prepare arguments. If the protest is upheld the Executive shall fine the offending team.

ARTICLE 30: (Score Card Summary)

It is necessary that the scorekeepers of both teams compare score cards after the game in the event of inaccuracies. The home team is required to forward a scoring summary

card, as provided by the League, to the Statistician within forty-eight hours of completion of each game. A fine of \$10.00 for each occurrence shall be levied for late cards or cards not received.

ARTICLE 31: (Game Times)

All League games are to start no later than six-thirty in the afternoon, with the exception of parks equipped with lights.

ARTICLE 32: (Diamond Setup)

Home teams shall supply bases and a properly laid out and lined diamond for each home game. The batter's boxes shall be lined out to the approval of the home plate umpire.

ARTICLE 33: (Baseballs)

The home team must supply three new game baseballs for each game. These balls must meet the approval of the home plate umpire and the Ontario Baseball Association.

ARTICLE 34: (Uniforms)

All teams must be in complete uniforms, which include corresponding baseball pants, tops, socks, and hats. Players out of uniform may not participate in any League game.

ARTICLE 35: (Tie in Standings)

Final date for playing of schedule shall be set by the Executive. In case of a tie in the final standings the most wins shall decide position, followed by head to head records, and run differential between all teams. Where teams are still tied a sudden death deciding game shall be played as scheduled by the Executive.

ARTICLE 36: (Play All Games)

All regular season games must be played by the playoff meeting.

ARTICLE 37: (Playoff Series Dates)

The Executive shall set completion dates and appoint Convenors for each playoff series. Teams shall be re-seeded after each playoff round so that the team with the highest remaining finish in the regular season shall play the team with the lowest remaining standing.

The Senior division will schedule playoff series within the timeframes outlined herein: Round one to start the first Tuesday following the Civic Holiday and be completed no later than the second Friday following the Civic Holiday. Round two to start the second Saturday or Sunday following the Civic Holiday and be completed no later than the fourth Wednesday following the Civic Holiday. Round three to be decided on by remaining teams and Executive or appointed Convenor.

ARTICLE 38: (Attend Final Series)

The Past-President, President, Vice-President and appointed Convenors shall attend all games in the final playoff series.

ARTICLE 39: (Final Series)

All games in the championship final series must start no later than four o'clock in the afternoon, with the exception of parks equipped with lights, but shall start no later than seven-thirty in the afternoon, with both teams in agreement. The Executive shall designate a three-man umpire system for each game. If a game is tied after seven complete innings, extra innings shall be played until a winner is declared.

ARTICLE 40: (Wood Bats)

Only wood bats shall be used in League competition. No bats made of materials other than wood shall be permitted, unless approved by the Ontario Baseball Association.

ARTICLE 41: (Helmets)

All players must use helmets with either single or double ear flaps while batting and while running the bases.

ARTICLE 42: (Catcher Gear)

Catchers must wear a helmet and mask at all times, including while warming up the pitcher.

ARTICLE 43: (DH)

A designated hitter shall be permitted in all Senior and Junior regular season and playoff games. The designated hitter shall only bat in the place of the pitcher. Only nine players are permitted on the batting lineup.

ARTICLE 44: (Runner for the Catcher)

If the catcher is on base with two outs in the inning, the previous out shall be permitted to run for him should his team desire to do so without removing the catcher from the game.

ARTICLE 45: (Injured Ninth Player)

If a team has used all of its eligible players present at a game and suffers an injury to one of its nine players in the game they shall be allowed to replace him with a player who had previously been removed from the game. The opposing team shall have the opportunity to select the player to be substituted. This shall apply to injuries only. Should the umpire eject one of a team's last nine eligible players that team shall forfeit the game.

ARTICLE 46: (Mercy Rule)

If any team leads another team by ten or more runs after the completion of five innings the game shall be considered over. If the home team is the leader by more than ten runs after four and one half innings they shall not take their last at bat.

ARTICLE 47: (No Umpires at Game)

If no umpires are present to umpire a game, the game shall be rescheduled at the visiting teams park, with the original home team covering the cost of umpires, baseballs, and the diamond. The original home team shall remain the home team at the visitors park.

ARTICLE 48: (By-Law Amendments)

Any proposed changes to the By-Laws shall come before the Executive at the Annual General Meeting.

ARTICLE 49: (Catch-All Provision)

The Constitution and By-laws of the League are intended as a general guideline and cannot specifically cover each situation that arises. Therefore, the President in regular or special meetings with a quorum of the Executive shall have the authority to interpret and decide to the best of their judgement, with regard to all these circumstances or any specific case, any matters pertaining to any and all clauses contained herein and that their decisions shall be final.