

BASEBALL (open)

2016

AUS Baseball competitions are conducted in accordance with the rules of the [Baseball Australia](#) (BA) except where these differ from AUS sports rules; in which case the latter shall take precedence.

1. Team/squad size

- Minimum registered players – 10
- Maximum registered players – 18
- Maximum cross registrations – 3
- Minimum number of players that can take the field without incurring a forfeit – 8

2. Competition format

- 2.1. A designated hitter (DH) rule will apply.
- 2.2. Each team will be able to nominate up to and including 12 batters under the “Extended Line-Up” rule.
- 2.3. Mercy rule - If one team is 10 runs or more in front at the completion of the 5th inning or any completed inning there after, the game shall be ‘called’.
- 2.4. Seven run rules in any 1 inning
 - a) At the scoring of the 7th run in any one inning, the umpire shall call ‘side away’ and the fielding teams shall bat. Only seven runs may be counted in any one innings
 - b) The seven run rule will not apply in semi finals and medal matches
- 2.5. Where there is a play or possibility of play at home plate, the runner must slide. For failing to slide, the runner will be ‘called’ out.

3. Game time/duration

- 3.1. All games will be 7 innings or a 90 minute time limit.
- 3.2. Medal matches will be a full 7 innings.
- 3.3. A game is deemed a regulation game after 65 of play minutes or 3 completed innings.
- 3.4. The 5 minute rule will apply for all timed games.
- 3.5. A summary of game time/duration is also available via the [AUS supplement – games time summary](#).

4. Point score

- 4.1. Points for each game shall be awarded as follows;
 - Winning team: 3 points
 - Drawn match: 2 points per team
 - Losing team: 1 point
 - Forfeiting: 0 points
- 4.2. In the event that two or more teams have the same number of points at the completion of the preliminary rounds, the higher placed team(s) will be decided when the first of the following criteria in order, favours one team:
 - a) The result of the game(s) in which they played one another in the preliminary rounds
 - b) (Total runs scored by a team) divided by (total runs scored by a team plus total runs scored against a team) x 1000. The highest % is ranked higher.
 - c) The team with the lowest runs scored against in all pool games
 - d) The team that had the better result against the top placed team in their pool
 - e) If the teams are still tied, a coin toss will determine the higher placed team

5. Drawn games

- 5.1. If preliminary games are drawn at full time, both teams will be awarded 2 points as per section 4.1
- 5.2. If semi finals or medal matches are drawn at the completion of 7 innings, the games are to be played out until such time as a result is determined at the conclusion of even innings.

6. Forfeits

- 6.1. Baseball is run under the [AUS Guideline – forfeit of competition requirements](#).
- 6.2. A forfeit will be declared when the umpire calls 'play ball' at the scheduled start of play where either team is unable to commence play.
- 6.3. The forfeit score is 9 runs to nil (0).
- 6.4. Should the commencement of a game be delayed due to no fault of either team (as determined by the sport officials), the game shall be played in its full duration if possible. If full game duration is not possible, the recommended revised game duration will need to be agreed upon by both teams.
- 6.5. In the event of a game being abandoned, the [AUS abandonment guideline](#) will be implemented.

7. Uniform requirements

- 7.1. Each athlete shall wear the uniform of their university. The university shall submit a description of its uniform if requested.
- 7.2. The specific uniform requirements for Baseball are as per the national sporting organisation standard with the following AUS uniform requirements:
 - Cap, playing shirts and baseball pants. All defensive players must wear a cap
 - Aluminium or composite bats must be a max -3 length to weight (ie 33in length - 30oz weight) or heavier and must be a baseball bat
- 7.3. Minimum uniform requirements for AUS events must be met:
 - A competitor must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to him/herself or another competitor (including any kind of jewellery)
 - Long or sharp fingernails are to be trimmed short
 - All participating competitors are to be correctly attired in appropriate, matching team uniforms
 - Exceptions may be made for some sports in cold weather, providing permission is granted by the appropriate officials. Additionally the exceptions will only be granted providing they are the same colour, and the extra clothing does not cover up any identification numbers or colours
 - All numbers on shirts need to be clearly visible, and in a contrasting colour to the dominant colour of the shirt
 - Mouth guards are strongly recommended for all sports where there is a potential for collision. It is compulsory to wear a mouth guard in those sports where it is stated
 - All participants must retain the one number throughout the tournament (if numbered jerseys are used)
 - Numbers on shirts are restricted to one or two digit numbers
 - Players should not take the field of play in any costume or part of a costume. If they do, players will be asked to remove costume items or incur a code of behaviour report

8. Team duties

- 8.1. Team duty requirements for Baseball are:
 - One person from each team will be required for the duties of base umpiring or scoring. Note that scorers will be required as part of team duty if no paid officials are appointed to this role
- 8.2. The person fulfilling the team duty requirements can be any competent person associated with that team or university and does not necessarily have to be a player e.g. team manager.
- 8.3. Teams that do not fulfil team duties will be fined as per the [AUS Guideline - forfeit of competition requirements](#).

9. Award ceremonies

- 9.1. Medal ceremonies will be held at the completion of the competition.
- 9.2. Gold, silver and bronze medals will be presented to those teams finishing 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the competition.
- 9.3. Pennants will be presented at the closing presentation to the following teams:
 - For regional university games
 - Overall champion
 - For the Australian University Games
 - Overall champion
 - Champion division 2
- 9.4. The following trophies will be presented to the overall champion team at the Australian University Games (note that trophies are presented at the closing presentation):
 - Open Overall Champions - Australian Universities Championship Series trophy

Previous rule amendments

July 2004 | April 2005 | August 2005 | April 2008 | March 2010 | April 2011 | May 2012 | May 2014 | February 2015