

Rule 23: Pitching Rules

23.01 Number of Pitches and Required Rest

Division	Spring Season	Single or Summer Season	
Mosquito	1-25 pitches = no rest 26-40 pitches = 2 nights rest 41-55 pitches = 3 rights rest 56-65 pitches = 4 rights rest 66-75 pitches = 5 rights rest 75 pitch max for a day	Same as spring numbers.	
Pee Wee	1-35 pitches = no rest 36-55 pitches = 2 nights rest 56-75 pitches = 3 nights rest	1-45 pitches = no rest 46-70 pitches = 2 nights rest 71-85 pitches = 3 nights rest	
Bantam	1-35 pitches = no rest 36-65 pitches = 2 nights rest 66-85 pitches = 3 nights rest	1-45 pitches = no rest 46-75 pitches = 2 nights rest 76-95 pitches = 3 nights rest	
Midget	1-45 pitches = no rest 46-65 pitches = 2 nights rest 66-100 pitches = 3 nights rest	1-50 pitches = no rest 51-75 pitches = 2 nights rest 76-115 (105 for Midget AA) pitches = 3 nights rest	

Note #1: Pitches thrown in warm-up, bullpen, or ruled no pitch by the umpire because time was called prior to the pitch, or thrown when ruled no pitch due to a balk do not count towards pitch count.

Note #2: Pitch count is recorded after each game. A pitcher who requires rest after the first game of the day cannot pitch in the second game. Example: A Bantam AAA pitcher who throws 50 pitches in game one is ineligible to pitch in game two.

Note #3: “If a pitcher has two appearances in the same day his total pitch count for the day is combined for the purpose of rest. Example 1: A Bantam AAA pitcher who throws 30 pitches in game one and 40 pitches in game two has thrown 70 pitches for the day and requires 2 nights rest.

Note #4: “The following is a definition of a night’s rest. Example: Pitcher requires three nights rest after throwing a 1PM game on a Sunday. Pitcher rests Sunday night, Monday night, Tuesday night and can pitch when he wakes up on Wednesday morning.

23.02 Exceeding Limits to Finish Batter

A pitcher is permitted to exceed the maximum limit (for a day) to complete pitching to a batter.

Note #1: Example #1: Pitcher starts a hitter at 43 pitches. At the end of the hitter the pitcher has thrown 47 pitches and the pitcher is removed. The pitcher's pitch count is recorded as 47 and he requires two nights rest. Example 2: Pitcher starts a hitter at 93 pitches. At the end of the hitter the pitcher has thrown 97 pitches. The pitcher must be removed and his pitch count is recorded as 95.

23.03 Pitching on consecutive days

Pitchers are not permitted to pitch on four (4) consecutive days. A player can only pitch on a third (3rd) consecutive day if ALL the following conditions are met....

- (i) Games are during Spring Tournaments, Summer, Single Seasons or Provincials
- (ii) His/her total pitch count on the 2 previous days does not exceed the Spring "no rest" limit for his/her division as defined under rule 23.01. Example: A 13U pitcher may only pitch on a 3rd day, if his/her combined total for days 1 and 2 does not exceed 35 pitches.
- (iii) Teams/pitchers are not in the 11U or younger age groups.

23.04 Pitching and Catching on the same day

Pitching and catching on the same day is permitted at all age divisions in league and championship play between BCMBA teams unless a tournament is a Western or National hosted in BC, in which case the current Canadian Baseball Rule applies.

23.05 Suspended Games

If a game is suspended the pitchers rest would be determined based on the number of pitches thrown to that point and recorded for that day. If a pitcher is ineligible to pitch at the beginning of a game, that is suspended after the first pitch, the pitcher remains ineligible to pitch in that game when it is completed at a later date.

Approved Rulings:

A) Pee Wee pitcher throws 70 pitches on Thursday. Friday's game is rained out (prior to the first pitch) and rescheduled for Saturday. Pitcher is now eligible to pitch in Saturday's makeup game.

B) Pee Wee pitcher throws 70 pitches on Thursday. Friday's game is suspended (after the first pitch) and is completed on Saturday. Pitcher is not eligible to pitch in Saturday's continued game because he was not eligible to pitch when the game began.

C) Pee Wee pitcher throws 70 pitches on Thursday and the game is suspended and completed on Friday. The pitcher's 70 pitches are recorded on their Thursday pitch count. Pitcher is not eligible to pitch when the game is continued on Friday because he now requires two night's rest. If the game was completed on Saturday the pitcher would be eligible to continue to pitch to their maximum pitch count for a day (15 more pitches). The pitches thrown in the completion of Saturday's game would be recorded on the pitcher's Saturday pitch count.

D) Pee Wee pitcher throws 20 pitches in the first game on Saturday. Their second game on Saturday is suspended. When the game is completed the pitcher could only throw a maximum of 65 pitches because based on their morning out 65 pitches is all he could have thrown when the game began. Also, the pitcher must be eligible to pitch when the game is completed based on their previous day's pitch count.

Note: These examples all use Pee Wee summer numbers but can be applied to any division using the appropriate numbers.

23.06 Pitcher Removed

A pitcher may not pitch twice in the same game. A pitcher who is removed for a pinch hitter or pinch runner during an offensive inning is considered to have been removed from the game as a pitcher for the purpose of this rule.

23.07 Rules Always in Effect

BCMBA pitching rules are always in effect for all BCMBA teams at all times regardless of whether or not the event is sanctioned by the BCMBA. BCMBA pitching rules will not be in effect for any team participating in a Western or National Championship where the team will be required to follow only the regulations of that governing body.

23.08 Penalty for Violations

(A) Maximum Pitch Count Violation

If a pitcher is about to exceed his/her maximum pitch count for the day the opposing manager and/or official scorekeeper and/or tournament director must inform the pitcher's manager before the violation occurs. If a violation is discovered after it occurs the pitcher is simply removed from the mound and no further penalty will be invoked.

(B) Rest Rule Violation

If a pitcher pitches without proper rest as defined in Rule 23.01 the game will be forfeited to the opposing team. Such a violation may be protested by the opposing team up to 48 hours after the game upon the discovery of the violation. At a Provincial Championship, the violation must be protested at the time it occurs.

Approved Ruling:

If the violation is discovered while the ineligible pitcher is pitching, the pitcher will be removed from the mound and his manager ejected and suspended. If the violation is discovered after the ineligible pitcher has finished pitching the manager will be ejected and suspended. Games will never be forfeited at provincial championships due to any pitch count violation because the violation should have been discovered before it occurred.

23.09 Enforcement and Tracking

- (A) Managers will be responsible for tracking the pitch count of their pitchers and may assign this duty to their scorekeeper, assistant coach, etc., however it is ultimately the manager's responsibility to ensure pitch count is followed.
- (B) Each team is responsible for maintaining a log of pitches thrown by their pitchers on the form provided by BC Minor. A team may request to view their opposition's pitch count log prior to a game. A manager failing to maintain an accurate log may be reported to BC Minor and may face supplemental discipline including the forfeiture of games.
- (C) Under no circumstances will umpires be expected to track or enforce pitch count.
- (D) Deleted and replaced with 23.10 – AGM 2010

23.10 Tracking at Provincial Championships

- (A) In Provincial Championships the Host Committee shall appoint an adult who is responsible for tracking pitch count.
- (B) The Official Pitch Count Tracker must inform a manager if he is about to use an ineligible pitcher under Rule 22.05.

- (C) The Official Pitch Count Tracker shall either display a running total of each pitcher's pitch count (flip chart) and/or make a public announcement of the pitch count at the end of each inning. A coach may request the current pitch count during an inning if it does not unreasonably delay the game.
- (D) Prior to each game both Managers shall meet with the Official Pitch Count Tracker to determine which pitchers are ineligible to pitch in the game and which pitchers have pitching restrictions (ie. They may be pitched earlier in the day and can throw less than the daily maximum).
- (E) The Host Committee should maintain one "Official Copy" of the pitch count logs that should be signed by each Manager after the game. The Host Committee is encouraged to display and maintain a second copy of the pitch count logs for public view where the tournament results are posted.

Note: Associations are encouraged to adopt this procedure for local tournaments.