BLSA Tournament Rules (updated 2019)

All rules from the regular season will apply, unless amended here.

Playoff format will be a round robin tournament.

1) There will be an A and B Division based on the standings of the league season. The outcome of the season will determine how many teams will be in each division.

2) Teams may use up to five spares if necessary for a game. Spares can come from either the A or B division. Note: There will be NO allowance for delay of game should a spare be playing for another team and the game time crosses over their home team timeslot.

3) 2 points will be awarded for a win, 1 point to each team for a tie, and 0 for a loss.

4) The number of teams in each division will determine the number of games played.

5) Home team will be decided by a coin toss for each separate game.

6) In the finals and/or semi-final (if applicable) of both the A and B divisions, home team will be decided based on the round robin results. The team with the higher points total will be home team.

7) The mercy rule is not in effect.

8) A game will be considered complete in any inning after the 5th. In the event of poor weather conditions, every effort will be made to reschedule games that are not complete. If the schedule does not allow for rescheduling of all games, there will be no minimum number of innings required. Any full inning after the 1st, will be considered complete. As per the discretion of the executive.

9) Rain delay: only for lightening and severe weather conditions making the fields unsafe. This time is not added to the time limit thereafter.

10) Games will be won if the Home team is ahead by 1 or more runs at the end of the top of the last inning (determined by the umpire), otherwise the home team will take their bat until they are 1 run ahead (then the game is won) or there are 3 outs.

11) Each team will supply two volunteers to score other scheduled games/beer tent shifts. More may be needed based on the number of games played. Members of the executive will score the and semi-final (if applicable) and final games.

12) Playoff games are officiated by 1 umpire. If the umpires association is able to, there will be 2 umpires for both final games.

13) No games shall be protested.

14) A member of the executive should be available for each game for consultation about the rules.

Umpire's Judgment: There shall be no appeal of any decision of either umpire on the grounds that he was not correct in his conclusion as to whether a batted ball was fair or foul, a runner was safe or out, a pitched ball was a strike or ball, or on any play involving accuracy of judgement, and no decision rendered by either umpire shall be reversed except that he be convinced it is in violation of these rules. If the captain of either team seeks a reversal of a decision based solely on a point of rules, the umpire whose decision is in question shall, if in doubt, confer with his associate before taking any action. Under no circumstances shall any player or person other than the captain of either team have any legal right to appeal any decision and seek its reversal on a claim that it is in conflict with these rules. As well, any appeals must be made before the next pitch, legal or illegal. Once the pitch is thrown, all appeals are over.

Semi-final (if applicable) and/or final games: In the event of a tie after the 7th inning of play, International Rules will apply as follows: Starting with the top of the eighth inning, and each half inning thereafter, the offensive team shall begin its turn at bat with the player who is scheduled to bat last in the batting order that respective half inning being placed on second base. The player who is running can be substituted in accordance with the BLSA courtesy runner rules. If an incorrect runner in the line-up is placed on second base, this error may be corrected as soon as it is noticed. There is no penalty. (2011)

Semi-final (if applicable) and/or Final

• The 2 teams in each division with the highest points total will play in the finals to determine the winners of the A and B divisions. Note: In the event of a semi-final game, the 1st place team will get a by to the final and the 2nd and 3rd place teams will play in the semi-final, to decided who will be the 2nd team playing in the division final.

• There is no time limit in the semi-final (if applicable) and/or Final; a full seven (7) innings will be played, unless the home team is ahead after 6 1/2 innings.

The following criteria will be used to determine which teams will play in the semi-final and/or final for each division:

1. Wins/Losses – highest point value (2 points for Win, 1 for tie, 0 for loss).

If teams are still tied, then:
2. Winners of games between tied teams (Note: In order to use this criterion, all subject tied teams must have played each other in the qualifying round).

If teams did not play each other, or teams remain tied, then:
3. Total plus or minus of runs scored, with a limit of plus 7 or minus 7 per game allowed.

Note: When using this criterion, the final score of the game will be used. (2012)

If teams are still tied, then;
4. Total number of runs (no limits of plus or minus 7) for all qualifying round robin games based on equal full innings played will be used. (I.e. Team A's shortest game is 5 innings – and Team B's shortest games is 7 innings. All games of the tied teams will be reviewed based on the final scores in the 5th inning.)

If teams are still tied;
5. Finalists will be determined by a coin toss.