



# WESTERN DISTRICTS BASEBALL CLUB INCORPORATED





# HANDBOOK SEASON 2022 - 2023

Home Grounds: Atthows Park, 59 Westcombe Street Darra QLD 4076
Postal Address: PO Box 3188, Mt Ommaney QLD 4074
ABN 89 832 510 708 Organisation Number - IA05333

Web: <a href="mailto:www.WestsBaseball.com.au">www.WestsBaseball.com.au</a> Email: <a href="mailto:President@WestsBaseball.com.au">President@WestsBaseball.com.au</a>





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# A personal welcome from the Club President

Welcome to the Western Districts Baseball Club - THE MIGHTY BULLDOGS!

Our Club has been going since the 1950's (see Club History) and we are now well and truly settled at our home at Atthows Park – Westcombe Street in Darra, Queensland.

Our Club has come from humble beginnings and has progressed over the years due to the diligence and hard work of our loyal members.

West's is a family Club where boys and girls; Mums and Dads can all join in and play: and we hold dear those family values that the baseball community has come to expect from our Club

- Respect We will treat everyone with fairness and respect.
- Honesty We value open and honest communications within our Club and with the wider local community.
- Nurturing We have a commitment to developing our members and our Club at both a sporting and personal level. We encourage a culture of understanding and tolerance within the Club.
- Reliable We will say what we mean and mean what we say.
- Innovation We welcome and encourage new ideas and innovation.
- Team Work We value team work and collaborative effort to deliver the best possible service for our members. There is no "I" in teamwork.

The objects of the Club are:-

- 1) Foster interest in the sport of baseball
- 2) Provide the appropriate level of coaching, training, facilities and games for any member who wants to play baseball with the Club.
- 3) Provide appropriate opportunities for all players to progress from Tee-Ball through to Australian representation.
- 4) Provide a forum for building our baseball community through fellowship and social activities.
- 5) To be an affiliated member of the sport's recognised governing bodies for the Sport within the state of Queensland.
- 6) to do all such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of any or all of the above objects

Like any Club, you get out of the Club what you put in, so join in our activities, support your team and or your children and get involved. We are a volunteer based Club and operate on a user pay principle: the player fee structure can be seen within this handbook.

I welcome you to the Club and I commend the club to you and your family.

Mark Coogan

Mark Coogan PRESIDENT

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# Membership application

To become a Member of the Club, you need to complete an online Registration through Sports Club HQ – whether you wish to become a player, volunteer or Social member.

Click the following link to join in 2022/2023

REGISTRATION LINK Sign up to play baseball today - www.wests.link/signup

## Club information:

## **Queensland Baseball**

Baseball in Queensland is managed by Baseball Queensland

- The sport is then divided geographically into Regions in Brisbane Metro, Brisbane North, Brisbane South and Brisbane West while in regional Queensland the Regions are Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast and North Queensland.
- Our Club belongs to the Brisbane West (WOLVES) Region together with Ipswich, Toowoomba and Southern Stars.
- Brisbane West Region is responsible for selecting and managing Region Senior and Junior teams which compete in the Queensland State Titles
- Brisbane West Region is also responsible for managing the Under 10 Rookie ball competition through the Brisbane West website - <a href="http://www.brisbanewest.baseball.com.au/">http://www.brisbanewest.baseball.com.au/</a> - you can view the Under 10 Rookie ball competition under the Competition page.
- Wests teams compete in the GBL summer baseball competition this competition is managed by a volunteer Sub-Committee of Baseball Queensland called the GBL Competition Committee

### **General Club information**

**CLUB CONTACTS** 

Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/WestsBaseball">https://www.facebook.com/WestsBaseball</a>
Instagram: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/WestsBaseball">https://www.instagram.com/WestsBaseball</a>
Twitter: <a href="https://www.twitter.com/WestsBaseball">https://www.twitter.com/WestsBaseball</a>

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Wests Bulldogs are located in the South West Brisbane suburb of Darra.

**Ground is Atthows Park, Darra** 

Main entrance via 59 Westcombe Street, Darra.

Postal Address: PO Box 3188, Mount Ommaney Queensland 4074

ABN: 89 832 510 708

Incorporation Number: IA05333

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

POSITION	MEMBER	CONTACT	EMAIL	
President	Mark Coogan	0418 748 157	President@WestsBaseball.com.au	
Secretary	Kevin	0408 571 079	Secretary@WestsBaseball.com.au	
	Alexander			
Treasurer	Wendy Gaunt	0409 002 709	Treasurer@WestsBaseball.com.au	
Governance	Clinton Miles	0419 682 826	Advocate@WestsBaseball.com.au	
Communications	Ian Thatcher	0417 228 640	GetSocial@WestsBaseball.com.au	
Women	Bec Robertson	0408 384 847		
Women	Sagree	0450 322 572		
	Govender			
Special Projects	<b>Rodney Gaunt</b>	0413 228 555	SpecialProjects@WestsBaseball.com.au	
Committee	<b>Bradley Brown</b>	0410 793 571		
Committee	Shawn Hunter	0434 539 045		
Committee	Bradley	0431 627 020		
	Matheson			
Committee	Tay O'Keefe	0401 178 686		
Committee	Euan Miles	04519 686 793		

### **VOLUNTEER MEMBERS**

• Scoring Coordinator - Wendy Gaunt - 0409 002 709 - Scorers@WestsBaseball.com.au

### WET WEATHER

• Wet Weather Contact - Rodney Gaunt - 0413 228 555

In case of wet weather on game days, please call your team Coach, Team Manager or look at the Club Website and Facebook pages.

All players must attend the game unless you are advised that the game is cancelled.

### **BANK DETAILS**

Bendigo Bank BSB number 633-000 Account number 123526501

Account title WESTERN DISTRICTS BASEBALL CLUB INCORPORATED

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### **HISTORY**

#### THE HISTORY OF WESTERN DISTRICTS BASEBALL CLUB INC.

If you have heard that Western Districts Baseball Club Inc. was first created over beers at a pub you have heard right.

In the early 1950's Rex Whiting started the Original Club "Victory Baseball Club". It appears all the first players played cricket during the summer months and wanted something to do during the winter months. Rex, who happened to live at the Victory Hotel, started up the Club with those cricketers who had nothing to do during winter (Brisbane baseball was played in winter back then).

The team played in the B Grade and their first playing uniforms were "hand-me-downs" i.e. the old Queensland state uniforms. Victory Baseball Club colors, in those early days, were based on those old Queensland uniform – maroon and white.

In 1961 the growing Brisbane baseball competition required participating Clubs to field a minimum of two playing teams. To continue in the competition South's Baseball Club who had an A grade team and Victory Baseball Club who has a B grade teams joined and became Victory South's Baseball Club. A third club Western Suburbs Baseball Club folded and their players joined the newly formed Victory South's Baseball Club. The new entity fielded teams in A, B and C Grade that first year. For those wondering there were no junior teams at Victory South's in those early years.

In those first years funds were scarce so the newly formed Club teams played in those "hand-me-down" uniforms; A grade wore the old South's uniforms (which were blue and white) and the other two teams wore the Victory ones (maroon and white).

In the early 1950's baseball games were played at Windsor Park No. 1 and No. 2 fields, Graceville Memorial Park, New Farm Park, Kalinga Park and at Spring Street Ipswich. In 1958 Bannister Park came into the competition and in 1962 O'Grady Park was played on too. Hero's Park at Taringa (now an athletic club) was the home ground for Victory South's Baseball Club in 1964. Holloway Field at Newmarket (the now home ground for Windsor Royals) was first used in 1965.

In 1969 the following players played in the A Grade Brisbane competition for Victory South's:-

Tim Bassingthwaite Eric Bassingthwaite Brian (Bertie) Gannon

Les Clifford Charlie Bretherton Keith Reed
Keith Upton Greg Toohey Ted Winnert

Barry Wheatland

Youngsters Peter Dutton and Mike Prater also played a few games in A Grade that year (line-up taken from actual fixture score book).

From that first team our Club's first Life Members came in to being over the following years of the "new" Club – Tim and Eric Bassingthwaite, Keith Upton, Ted Winnert and Barry Wheatland.

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In 1970 the Club changed its name to Western Districts Baseball Club. From 1975 to 1979 Wests home ground was at the then Western Districts Australian Football Club in Chelmer. In 1978 Wests moved next door to the main field of Sherwood Australian Football Club's grounds to 1980. From 1980 until May 1990 Wests played at Dunlop Park, Corinda, and the home of the Oxley United Soccer Club. The Club incorporation was on 22nd February 1988.

During the 1980's Western Districts won the A Grade pennant a record five years in a row (I had the honor of being their scorer from 1980 to 1991) and watched many a home run fly over the fences for another great win. Wests have had many great players over the years that have made both State and National teams and we continue to offer the avenue for today's roster of players to be the best they can be. As a Club we have also provided Umpires, Coaches and Scorers support in their quest to be the best in their field of expertise as well.

The Darra Dump closed in the mid-late 1970's. It was time for Wests to try and get their own baseball specific playing field(s). The 1981 / 1982 President Peter Blocksidge and Honorary Vice President Ed Matthews went through the application process with the Brisbane City Council to obtain the lease of land where the Darra dump stood. After many meetings with the Brisbane City Council Westerns Districts Baseball Club Inc. was granted a lease on the area now known as Atthow's Park Westcombe Street Darra — the "Dump-o-Dome". They had to wait for the ground to settle (remember it was a dump) but in 1991 Wests played their first home game on what is now Diamond 2.

Diamond 1 was first played on in 1997 and continues to be the Major A Grade competition field. The Club named Diamond 1 after one of its most hard working members Arthur Mehlhose in 2005. Artie was always there for the Club mowing or marking the fields, doing any job he could to help us, any day any time. He was the A Grade Manager (now called Executive Officer EO) for 15+ years, a Life Member with his wife Dawn and very supportive of his two sons Peter and Philip during their playing career. He passed on in 1994.

The Club spent the next 14 years surviving the rise and fall of baseball in Queensland. We invited Centenary Stormers Soccer Club as co-lessees in the early 2000s when they lost the use of their playing fields and Brisbane City Council leasing agreements required leased grounds to have all round use. Through trials and tribulations, lots of wins and our share of losses the Club continues to be a Club to be proud of; the "Bulldog" Spirit exists in us all. We won the A Grade pennant again in 2009/2010 and with the Brisbane City Council's help we start the 2011/12 season on our refurbished grounds.

### **INTERESTING ITEMS**

- The Bulldog logo used sparely up to 1979 (looked like the Mack Truck Bulldog):
- 1980/1981 saw the replacement of the stylized bulldog with picture in the "watermark"
- Now we use the logo on the page header above.
- Did you know we have a Club Song (very popular in those 1980's pennant wins:-

"We're a pack of Bulldogs; Bulldogs are we.
We're Western Districts, the best team in the whole of the competition;
We're a pack of Bulldogs, Bulldogs are we;

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# We'd rather win than fight for Victory!"

And boy do I like "Who let the Dogs Out" Woof Woof Woof!!

Paula Kenning Hon Treasurer and Life Member

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## Aims and objectives

The Vision of the Western District Baseball Club Inc. is to

- Be the largest baseball club in the Brisbane West Region with the largest number of junior and senior teams and a women's team playing in a viable Metropolitan competition.
- Be financially successful and viable with tried and proven revenue streams.
- Have strong working relationships with key partners Brisbane West region, Baseball Queensland, Brisbane City Council, Queensland Government and other Western Suburb community organisations
- Have the highest quality facilities enabling our members to enjoy playing and training baseball without a high level of preparation.
- Be an organisation that vigorously promotes the sport of baseball, and playing in particular, in a competitive and fair-minded manner.
- Maximise recreation and leisure opportunities for our members within the Brisbane West
  community and to promote, encourage and foster the game of Baseball within our communities –
  to become a baseball Centre of Excellence within our Region so that the Club's future senior teams
  are 'generated from within'.
- To be a leader in baseball management so that the long term success and stability of baseball within the Brisbane Western region community is assured.
- Liaise, communicate and cooperate fully with other key broad community stakeholders to ensure the continued development and growth of the Club and its aims.
- Be an organisation that strongly supports and encourages youth baseball activities.
- Be a successful club both on and off the field by implementing good governance and continued improvement of the environment for all participants in the sport.
- Be an organisation that provides the amenities and facilities that allows all of its members to socialise and to reach their own personal goals
- Provide opportunities for all players to progress from Tee Ball through to Australian representation.

### Club policies and procedures

see the Club website for the following policies:

- Privacy
- Baseball Australia Member Protection Policy
- Code of Behaviour for Officials, Players and Spectators
- Social Media Policy
- Alcohol Policy
- Communication Policy
- Picking up and dropping off of children Policy
- Spectator Behaviour Policy
- Team Selection Juniors & Open Grades Policy
- Creating an Inclusive Club
- Infectious Diseases Policy
- Anti Harassment and Sexual Harassment Policy
- Grievance and Complaints Resolution Policy

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## Player uniforms

For all Club uniforms needs please contact contact on Club website

Uniforms are not generally available ex-stock so please allow a delivery time of around 4 weeks from date of order placement.

For sizing uniforms prior to placing your order – Click this link - <a href="http://wests.link/UniformSizes">http://wests.link/UniformSizes</a>

Items of uniform available from the Club

- Playing Jersey
- Training shirt
- Tee Ball & Rookie ball Shirt
- Club hat
- Club polo shirt
- Club Hoodie

White baseball pants and other apparel and accessories need to be purchased from a baseball store

- Ausport SuperStore Address: 11 Rushdale St, Knoxfield VIC 3180
   Website https://www.ausport.com.au/
- Leading Edge Sports Address: 114 Hornibrook Esplanade, Clontarf QLD 4019
   Website <a href="https://leadingedgesports.com.au/">https://leadingedgesports.com.au/</a>
- Base2Base Head Office PO Box 1662 Oxenford QLD 4210 Email: <u>admin@base2base.com.au</u>
   Website <a href="https://www.base2base.com.au/">https://www.base2base.com.au/</a>

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# Club handbook (annual/season)

Contact information

Team information

The Club enters the following teams

### SENIOR TEAMS (Adults – 18 years and over)

- Division 1 7
- Masters
- Senior Women

## JUNIOR TEAMS (age determined as of 31st August each year)

• Under 20's (this age group only – age determined 1st January each year)

Senior League (14 & 15)
 Junior League (12 & 13)
 Little League Major (10 & 11)

• Little League Minor (9 & 10) – also called Rookieball

• Tee Ball (5, 6, 7 & 8)

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## Training session details

Refer to Club website

## Fixtures lists - GBL Baseball

### **GBL SUMMER COMPETITION**

Team fixtures and ground locations can be viewed on the Baseball Queensland website under the GBL competition

Click the following link: <a href="https://www.baseballqueensland.com.au/">https://www.baseballqueensland.com.au/</a>

Then click on COMPETITIONS; then click on GBL; then GBL Fixture and then click on the relevant Division or Age Group

### **GBL** Competition Rules

Competition Rules (By-Laws) can also be viewed on the Baseball Queensland website

Click the following link: <a href="https://www.baseballqueensland.com.au/">https://www.baseballqueensland.com.au/</a>

Then click on COMPETITIONS; then click on GBL; then scroll down to bottom of the page and Click on By-Laws 19/20

Fixtures lists – under 10 – ROOKIE BALL

### **BRISBANE WEST ROOKIE BALL (UNDER 10) SUMMER COMPETITION**

Team fixtures can be viewed on the Brisbane west website under the COMPETITION page

Click the following link: <a href="http://www.brisbanewest.baseball.com.au/">http://www.brisbanewest.baseball.com.au/</a>

Then Click on WOLVES COMPETITION

# Membership categories and fees

See Club website

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## Codes of conduct (players, parents/guardians, coaches, volunteers)





## CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

This Template Code of Behaviour is intended to be the minimum standard for anyone involved in sport.

- Operate within the rules and spirit of your sport, promoting fair play over winning at any cost.
- Encourage and support opportunities for people to learn appropriate behaviours and skills.
- Support opportunities for participation in all aspects of the sport.
- Treat each person as an individual.
- Display control and courtesy to all involved with the sport.
- Respect the rights and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Respect the decisions of officials, coaches and administrators in the conduct of the sport.
- Wherever practical, avoid unaccompanied and unobserved one-on-one activity (when in a supervisory capacity or where a power imbalance will exist) with people under the age of 18 years.
- Adopt appropriate and responsible behaviour in all interactions.
- Adopt responsible behaviour in relation to alcohol and other drugs.
- Act with integrity and objectivity, and accept responsibility for your decisions and actions.
- Ensure your decisions and actions contribute to a safe environment.
- Ensure your decisions and actions contribute to a harassment-free environment.
- Do not tolerate harmful or abusive behaviours.

#### **Atheletes**

- Give your best at all times.
- Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit.

#### Coaches

- Place the safety and welfare of the athletes above all else.
- Help each person (athlete, official, etc.)
  reach their potential. Respect the talent,
  developmental stage and goals of each person
  and compliment and encourage with positive
  and supportive feedback.
- Any physical contact with a person should be appropriate to the situation and necessary for the person's skill development.
- Be honest and do not allow your qualifications to be misrepresented.

#### Officials

- Place the safety and welfare of the athletes above all else.
- Be consistent and impartial when making decisions.
- Address unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all people.

#### **Administrators**

- Act honestly, in good faith and in the best interests of the sport as a whole.
- Ensure that any information acquired or advantage gained from the position is not used improperly.
- Conduct your responsibilities with due care, competence and diligence.
- Do not allow prejudice, conflict of interest or bias to affect your objectivity.

This information provided by Play by the Rules is not intended as a substitute for legal or other proffessional advice.

www.playbytherules.net.au

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# **CODE OF BEHAVIOUR**

#### **Parents**

- Encourage children to participate and have fun.
- Focus on the child's effort and performance rather than winning or losing.
- Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a competition.

#### **Spectators**

- Respect the performances and efforts of all people.
- Reject the use of violence in any form, whether it is by spectators, coaches, officials or athletes.

I.	have read and understood the policy
and will abide by it as a member of	
	If under 18 years of age, parent/guardian
Signature:	Signature:
Date:	Date:
This information provided by Play by the Rules	s is not intended as a substitute for legal or other proffessional advice.
www.p	blaybytherules.net.au

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# **Other Information**

Information on you can help out at the club (e.g. key volunteer roles needed)

JOB	JOB DESCRIPTION WRITTEN	JOB DESCRIPTION AND COMMENTS
COMMITTEE		Management committees exist to make decisions and are charged with the overall responsibility for
		organisational governance.
President	Yes	The President is the principle leader of the club and has overall responsibility for the club's administration
Secretary	Yes	The Secretary is the chief administration officer of the club. This person provides the coordinating link between
,		members, the management committee and outside agencies.
reasurer	Yes	The Treasurer is the chief financial management officer for the club/group
/ice President - Seniors	Yes	The Vice President Seniors oversees the senior playing side of the club ensuring all volunteers perform their dutires
/ice President - Juniors	Yes	The Vice President Seniors oversees the junior playing side of the club ensuring all volunteers perform their dutires
Registrar	Yes	Must register all players, including ABL players, on the MyClub data base and they are to be "current" before taking the field.
logiotidi	100	most register an playere, mendang rise playere, on the my class data sales and they are to be current solete taking the note.
General Committee		
undraising oordinator	Yes	Fund raising, Grants, Sponsorship
ocial Coordinator		
Grants Coordinator	Yes	
ponsorship Coordinator	Yes	
layers representative		Liaise between all senior players and lub Committee as and when required
Iniform and Gear Coordinator	Yes	
Canteen Coordinator	Yes	
Media Officer	103	
OTHER JOBS	.,	
<u>equipment coordinator</u>	Yes	purchase equipment and distribute/make available to teams
Equipment maintenance	Yes	maintian club equipment
Vet weather contact		point of contact for cancellation of games/training
Veb Officer	Yes	maintains Club website and other Social media profiles
Senior playing		
Senior Coordinator	Yes	
Ground Marshall	Yes	per team - set up and pack up grounds at beginning of day and end of day/game
Grounds Manager	Yes	Mowing and marking of grounds
Jmpires Coordinator - Seniors	Yes	Establishing roster for umpires for Junior games and ensuring allocated members confirm their attendance
•	1 65	
Seniors - Chairman of Selectors		Ensures the selection process is properly followed and players and advised accordingly
eam Coach	Yes	
eam manager		
eam Scorer		
Team Umpire		
lunior playing		
luniors Cordinator		
Impires Coordinator - Juniors	Yes	Establishing roster for umpires for lunior games and ensuring allocated mombers confirm their attendance
		Establishing roster for umpires for Junior games and ensuring allocated members confirm their attendance
Registrar - Juniors	Yes	Collects Under age team players registrations and fees and passes these onto Club Registrar & Treasurer
luniors Coaching Director	Yes	Ensures each junior team is selected according to proper procedure & each team is appropriately resourced
eam Coach		
eam manager		
eam Scorer		
Team Umpire		
Non Playing		
Volunteer Co-ordinator	Yes	The Volunteer Co-ordinator is responsible for the human resource planning, recruiting, selection, training and
		and recognition of club/group volunteers.
Catering/Canteen		
Canteen Coordinator - Seniors	Yes	
Canteen Coordinator - Juniors	Yes	
Canteen volunteers coordinator		
Canteen volunteers		1 hour shift during game time to serve at canteen
Schools player recruitment		The oline during game time to serve at earlieon
First aid officer	Vac	
	Yes	Life members contact point
Club Historian		Life members contact point
Member protection information office	cer	

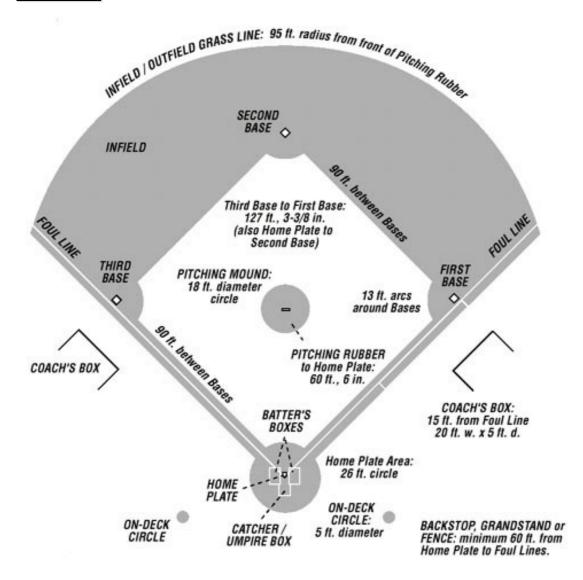
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### Baseball Field information

#### **GROUND SIZE**



## Dimensions for Baseball

Baseball is a bat and ball game between two teams of nine players each and is played on an enclosed field under jurisdiction of one or more umpires. The team that scores the greater number of runs is the winner.

The infield (also named diamond), where the bases are located, and the outfield constitute the baseball field. The playing field is delimited on both sides by the foul lines which separate the fair territory and the foul territory.

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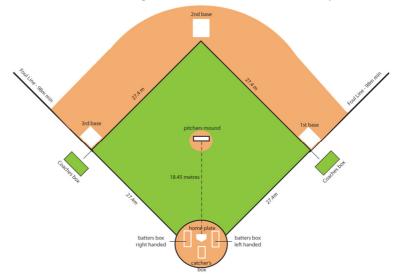
The bases are located on the infield diamond. All bases, including home base, are in fair territory and are

27.4m apart in the counterclockwise order in which they are to be run.

#### Field dimensions

The regulation field is used for the open, Under 18 and Under 16 age groups. A modified field is used for Little League and Under 14.

The pitcher's mound is 18.44m from home plate and located in the centre of the infield. It is a 5.5m mound of dirt no higher than 25.4cm. Near the centre of the mound is the pitching rubber, a rectangular slab measuring 61cm x 15cm.



The batter's box is 1.2m x 2.9m. The catcher's box is 1.3m x 2.4m.

The distance from home plate to the outfield fence must be at least 98m along the left and right field foul lines and 122m at the centre outfield.

A home run fence is compulsory in all age groups so a totally enclosed playing field is obtained.

First, second and third base are marked by white canvas bags, 38.1cm², not less than 7.6cm or more than 12.7cm inches thick, filled with soft material and securely attached to the ground. They differ from home base, which is a five-sided slab of whitened rubber. It is 3.2cm square with two of the corners removed so that one edge is 43cm long, two are 21.5cm and two are 30.48cm. It is set in the ground so that the 43cm edge faces the pitcher's plate.

	Δσρ			Foul line length from home base
Regulation field	Under 16, Under 18, 18 and over	27.4m	18.44m	97.5m
Junior field	Under 14	24.38m	16.45m	76.2m
Little league	Under 12	18.288	14.02m	60.96m

Home Grounds: Atthows Park, 59 Westcombe Street Darra QLD 4076
Postal Address: PO Box 3188, Mt Ommaney QLD 4074
ABN 89 832 510 708 Organisation Number - IA05333