

## **Babe Ruth - Junior Division Rules 2017 District Interleague**

The Official Rules of Baseball and the Babe Ruth Official Playing Rules will apply with the following exceptions:

- Time limit / innings:** Babe Ruth - Junior Division will play a maximum of 7-innings and no new inning starts after two hour and fifteen minutes (if a new inning starts, home team gets their at bats if necessary).
- Field Preparation:** The Home team is responsible for the preparation of the field.
- Game Balls:** Two game balls should be provided to the umpire by the home team.
- Pre-Game Paperwork:** Prior to the game, managers will provide opposing team and official scorekeeper with lineup listing players first and last name, jersey number, and starting position.
- Managers will also provide the official scorekeeper with their pitching log. The scorekeeper will return the updated log at the end of the game.
- Pool Players:** A minimum of nine (9) players are required to start the game. A team may finish the game with (8) players due to injury. If a team does not expect to field a team of nine (9) players, Pool Players may be used. Pool Players can only play outfield and must bat last in the batting order.
- In the event a team is unable to field nine players (a minimum of seven players from the team and two pool players) a forfeit is declared.
- Late Arrivals:** Players arriving late to a game may be added to the lineup. The player, upon arrival, will be added to the bottom of the lineup.
- Scores / Standings:** If a minimum of 5 innings has been played, the 10-run "mercy rule" will be followed. Tied games are allowed at the end of 7 innings.
- Scores and standings will be kept for ALL games. These standings will determine seeding for the post-season tournament.
- Tie breakers in the standings will be decided by: 1) head to head, 2) runs allowed, 3) run differential, 4) runs scored, 5) coin toss. If an uneven number of games have been played by all teams, then "winning percentage" will be used to determine standings.
- Batting:** For all games, teams will bat the lineup (all players in attendance).
- Pinch Runner Rule:** Pinch runners can be utilized to help keep games moving smoothly. A pinch runner may be inserted in place of an upcoming pitcher/catcher for the next inning when there are two outs. Pinch runners will be the last recorded out. The Manager asking for a Pinch Runner must declare the position the player being run for will play next inning (pitcher or catcher).

**Intentional Walk:** An intentional base on balls may be given by the defensive team by having its catcher or coach request the umpire to award the batter first base. This may be done before pitching to the batter or on any ball and strike count. The ball shall be declared dead before making the award.

**Pitching:** A pitch count program that has been authorized by Babe Ruth League, Inc. will be used. The rules for this program are listed below:

**Maximum Pitch Count per Player**

- 13 – 15 years old: 95 pitches max per game

**Required Days of Rest**

- 1 – 45 pitches: 0 days of rest
- 46 – 75 pitches: 1 days of rest
- 76+ pitches: 2 days of rest

Once a pitcher has reached his/her limit, the scorekeeper will notify the umpire. The umpire will then notify the manager that the pitcher must be removed. *Note: if the pitcher reaches the maximum pitch count limit while facing a batter, he may continue to pitch until the batter reaches base safely or is put out.*

Failure of the scorekeeper to notify the umpire or failure of the umpire to notify the manager, does not relieve the manager of his/her responsibility to remove the pitcher when that pitcher is no longer eligible to pitch.

Violation of this rule may result in a protest of the game by the opposing manager.

Each team must maintain a pitching log and have it signed by the scorekeeper at the end of each game.

**Substitutions:** Free defensive substitution will apply for the entire regular season. No player can sit out defensively more than 2 consecutive innings.

**Injured Player Rule:** If any player becomes injured and is unable to continue, the manager must notify the umpire and scorekeeper and remove the player from the roster. Any remaining plate appearances will simply be skipped without recording an out.

**Contact Rule:** If in the umpire's judgement, a runner attempting to reach home plate or another base intentionally and maliciously runs into a defensive player, he will be called out and ejected from the game.

**Ejections:** If a manager, coach, player, or fan is ejected from a game, they are required to leave the playing field area and cannot return during the game. The President of the ejected person's league will be notified and

take appropriate action before the manager, coach, or player may return to play.

If a player is ejected from a game, the next time his/her position in the lineup is reached, it will count as an out. Thereafter, the ejected player's position will be skipped without penalty.

Protests:

When protesting a rule interpretation, it is the responsibility of the protesting manager to show the umpire and opposing manager the written rule in question. Judgement calls are not subject to protest.

If the resolution will take longer than three minutes, then the protesting manager informs the scorekeeper to mark the time on the scorebook with the notation "protest by (manager's name) at this point".

Within 48 hours of the end of the game, a written protest must be submitted by the protesting manager to a designated Board Member from their league who will then forward it to the League President of the hosting league. The protest must include a narrative of the incident, a copy of the rule in question, the manager's interpretation, and the umpire's decision.

The hosting League President will review the protest in their league's approved process and respond in writing within 7 days.

Umpires and Scorekeepers: The hosting league will provide umpires for games. The official scorekeeper is to be supplied by the home team for all games.

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Post Season:

At the conclusion of regular season play, the top six teams in the standings will participate in District playoffs. Post season tournament rules and schedules will be published in a separate document.