



## 2016 Minor Division Rules

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Unless noted here, the Minor Division is governed by Babe Ruth League's "Baseball Rules and Regulations and Official Playing Rules."

### **PLAYERS / SUBSTITUTIONS:**

- During the season, each player must play three (3) complete games defensively.
- All players shall appear in the batting lineup. This means free substitution throughout the game (If a child starts the inning in the field, he must finish the inning in the field. This rule does not apply to injuries or pitchers)
- Teams will have free defensive substitutions. However, NO player can be a defensive bench substitute for more than one (1) consecutive inning in any game.

### **GAME:**

- No new inning shall begin after 1 hour 50 minutes of play.
- A 10 run mercy rule shall take effect when one team is ahead by 10 or more runs after 4 innings [visiting team] or 3-1/2 innings [home team]. Each team may only score 5 runs per half inning.
- The home team is responsible for the "official scorebook". Managers are responsible for ensuring the book is complete and accurate after each game.

### **PITCHING:**

- Cal Ripken Division rules apply during the regular season. Please review the regulations regarding pitching limitations.
- Pitch count for the pitchers will be 70 pitches per game. (This will be strictly enforced)
- A nine year old (or younger) eligible player must pitch one complete inning in ALL regular season games. A pitcher recording 3 consecutive outs satisfies this rule.
- You are allowed one visit to the mound per inning. Upon the second visit to the mound, with the same pitcher, the pitcher must be removed as a pitcher, and may not return to the pitching position.

### **BASE RUNNERS:**

- Base runners must not leave their occupied base until the pitched ball has reached the plate. If the runner leaves the base early, he/she will be sent back and "no pitch" will be declared.
- Only one (1) base runner per half inning may steal home on a wild pitch OR passed ball, when originating from 3rd base. All other runners that attempt to steal home when originating from 3rd base will be sent back.
- A "courtesy runner" may be used for catcher. This runner must be a player who is currently not in the game. If all players in attendance are in the game, the last batted out may be used.

**PLAYOFFS:**

- Same rules apply for post season. If a player or players are found not to have completed their minimum 3 complete games during the regular season, the player or players **MUST** fulfill these obligations during the post-season tournament.
- For seeding purposes, tie breakers will be as follows:
  - Tiebreaker #1: Head to head
  - Tiebreaker #2: Runs Allowed
  - Tiebreaker #3: Runs Scored