

END of season Rookie Tournament Rules.

These rules supersede the park local rules where these rules conflict. For any rule NOT spelled out here will use the official rules of Cal Ripken baseball.

Offense – Teams will have a choice of batting 10 players using the Cal Ripken substitution rules OR batting all players and using free substitution in the field\*. All teams must start a game with a minimum of 9 players. The missing starter (if less than 10) in the batting line up will be called out at his turn at bat. Failure to be able to field 9 players will result in a forfeit as covered in the Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken rules. Each batter shall receive a maximum of five (5) pitches or three (3) swinging strikes. If the batter fouls the 5th pitch, batter will receive pitches as long as batter continues to foul the pitch. There will be no walks. Any player hit by a pitch will be awarded first base by umpire's judgment. All players are required to wear approved batting helmets while batting.

\*A late arriving player should be listed last in the batting order and skipped when his turn at bat comes up, until the player arrives. No penalty unless team drops below 10 players.

Playtime - All players must have entered the game defensively by the 3<sup>rd</sup> inning. Any player substituted into a game must play defense until their team records 6 defensive outs and they have batted at least 1 time. If a game is shortened, by run rule for example, the play minimums are waived.

Stealing – There will be no stealing. Runners must stay in contact with the base until the ball has reached home plate. Penalty for leaving early is covered in CR rules Page 12.

Pitching machine – Pitching machines and Cal Ripken baseballs will be provided for all games. The pitching machine will be maintained and monitored by the umpire only. The speed of the machines will be universal for each game of the tournament (Speed setting 8 / Height 3). The machine will be located as close to the pitchers plate (46') as possible. Coach will place the ball on the machine, point to the batter, make eye contact, call "ready" or signal the batter and release the ball. Adjustments to the machine can be made by the coach or umpire at any time at his discretion. A pitch can be deemed "no pitch" if in the judgment of the umpire there was machine malfunction. The pitching machine, when hit by a live ball, is considered an umpire and governed by the rule book (Rule 5.09f). UPM45 Louisville Slugger Pitching Machine will be used for all levels of tournament play.

Extra Player – Can be adopted as an option for those batting 10 players using the Cal Ripken substitution rule option. With the use of the Extra Player, teams would have 11 starters, with the remainder of players serving as substitutes

Defense – There shall be ten (10) players on the field defensively (1b, 2b, 3b, ss, 4 of, p, c). A fourth outfielder will be allowed defensively. Outfielders may be placed anywhere in the outfield a coach deems necessary, in fair territory. Pitcher will be on either side of the pitching machine assuming the defensive position of a pitcher (helmet optional). Pitcher will have one foot on clay area. The catcher takes his normal position in full gear. Pitcher cannot charge on bunts until ball has been released by the machine.

Game length – Six innings (5 and one half if the home team is ahead) and no new inning will begin after play has lasted ninety (90) minutes. A game shall be considered regulation if a team is ahead by ten (10)

runs after four (4) innings, if the home team is ahead by ten (10) runs after three and a half innings. The game is over, if at any point either team is unable to surpass their opponents total runs.

Scoring – When any team’s sixth run of any inning is scored, the inning shall be considered over, even if the team batting has no outs assessed against them.

Infield fly – There will be no infield fly rule.

Bunting – Bunting will be permitted, but fake bunting is not permitted. Penalty for fake bunting will be as follows (whether contact is made or not): 1) Batter will be called out. 2) Ball will be declared dead and all runners will return to bases. On the 2nd occurrence the manager will be ejected from the game. If second time for the same player, player will also be ejected. Bunting on the last pitch, if foul, batter is out. Pitcher cannot charge on bunts, until the ball has been released by the machine.

Time out request – In accordance with the rules of baseball, time-out is requested by a coach/player, and then granted only by the umpires, at the umpires discretion. Before a timeout shall be granted to the defensive team in a live ball situation, the defense must cause the offense to cease play (i.e. force the base runner(s) into a non-advancing situation). In addition, ball must be in the infield.

Injury – If in the judgment of the umpire a serious injury has occurred during play, umpire shall stop play and award bases accordingly.

Defensive coaches – Two defensive coaches will be allowed on the field while their team is on defense (third coach will be in the dugout). They must be positioned in foul territory, past the infield clay, and down each respective foul line. They must always remain in foul territory, and are there for positioning and assisting their players only. If any coach attempts to intimidate, coerce or otherwise negatively affect the opposing team, they will be removed from the field/game at the umpire’s discretion.

Protests – Protests will be ruled on immediately by the protest committee. Protest committee will be appointed by the State Tournament Director. State Tournament director shall serve as mediator and shall direct the committee as to the proper ruling from the rule book.

Ejections – Ejections shall be for the remainder of the game. Additional punitive action may be imposed at the discretion of the Tournament Director, depending on the nature of the infraction.

Sliding – There is no “must slide rule” in this tournament or any other Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken Tournament. Head first sliding is permitted.

Suspended Games – Suspended games will be rescheduled by the Tournament Director. All suspended games will begin from the exact point at which play was stopped. There are no rainouts.

Dugouts – Manager, two coaches, bat person and rostered players are permitted in the dugout. Coaches must be on the official team roster. There are no substitute coaches allowed. Bat person must be between 4 – 18 years old. Bat person does not have to be in uniform. At the completion of your game, please leave dugout clean, have your team meeting in another location so that incoming teams can enter and prepare for the next game.

Tobacco – The use of tobacco of any kind will not be allowed by field personnel during their active participation in the game.

Umpires – There will be two umpires assigned to each game. Manager communicates with umpires.

Appeals – May be made during dead ball period at manager's request.