



North Side Babe Ruth Softball
League Rules 2019
10U & 12U

1. TIME LIMITS

- a. No new inning may start after 1 hour 30 minutes. An inning “starts” the moment the last out is made in the previous inning.
- b. An inning started before the end of the time limit will be completed. However, the home team will not bat in their half of the inning once time has expired if leading the game.
- c. The time limit will apply regardless of score or number of innings completed.
- d. For purposes of the time limit, an inning “begins” the moment the last out is made in the previous inning.
- e. All ties will be recorded as such for league standing purposes. In the event a tie affects the league standings at the end of the season, a coin flip will be used to determine final league standings.

2. RUN LIMIT PER INNING

- a. No team shall be allowed to score more than six (6) runs in any one inning.

3. RE-ENTRY RULE/SUBSTITUTIONS (Re-entry Rule and Explanation, pages 12 & 13; Rule 3.03, page 46; Rule 3.05, page 47)

- a. Any of the **nine starting** players (including the extra hitter) may withdraw and re-enter once, provided such player occupies the same batting position as occupied when starting the game.
- b. Substitutes withdrawn can never re-enter the game.

4. PITCHING

- a. No one pitcher shall pitch more than four (4) innings per game.
- b. One pitch in one inning constitutes an inning pitched toward the maximum number of innings pitched for that game.
- c. 9 or 11 year olds must start and complete at least 1 (one) full inning of pitching per game regardless of the ultimate length of the game. More than one 9 or 11 year old may be used to complete the inning. Failure to fulfill this rule each game will result in immediate forfeiture.
- d. The starting pitcher may **start** out as a pitcher, play another position, and then return to the mound. This applies **ONLY** to the pitcher who starts the game!
- e. In the 10U division, pitchers will pitch from the 35’ rubber. In the 12U division pitchers will pitch from the 40’ rubber.
- f. In the 10U division, pitchers will be allowed to have one foot in contact with the rubber and will be allowed to start in the stretch position. If pitcher does not start in the stretch position League Rule 4g will apply.
- g. In the 12U division per Babe Ruth pitching rules (page 44, 8.04) pitchers are not allowed to take a step backward in a “rocking” motion before stepping forward to deliver a pitch. A pitcher may only take one step forward when delivering the pitch and both feet must stay in constant contact with the pitcher’s plate prior to this single step forward.
- h. There is no balk in softball. When a player stops her pitching motion in mid-pitch but does not release the ball it is simply a no-pitch in 10U and will be an illegal pitch in 12U.
- i. Anyone warming up a pitcher at any location shall wear a mask. A throat protector is considered part of the catcher’s mask.

5. SCORE KEEPING

- a. Each team must designate a scorekeeper for their team **BEFORE** each game.
- b. The **HOME** team will keep the “official” book for the game.
 - i. **A hard copy official score book must be kept by the home team even if Game Changer is being used.**
 - ii. **Game Changer can be kept by a parent volunteer or the visiting team.**
- c. **Scorekeepers need to include player’s first initial and full last name into official scorebook.**
- d. The official score keeper will be responsible for noting the game start time, innings pitched per pitcher, all substitutions, and running the scoreboard. Time will begin when the ball is initially put into play by the home plate umpire.
- e. The official scorekeeper must sit in the scorekeeper’s box.
- f. Home team will sit on the side of the scorekeepers’ box.
- g. When making substitutions, all coaches are required to report substitutions to the official scorekeeper before play resumes.



- h. Scorekeepers **MUST** record in the scorebook all substitutions. They must record where in the lineup the sub entered, what inning the sub entered and if it was at the top or bottom of the inning. **Failure to do so is in direct violation of league policy.**
 - i. Any discrepancies in score keeping should be immediately reported to a League Official.
6. **BASE RUNNING**
 - a. Runners can steal and the ball is live until the pitcher has the ball and has at least one foot inside the pitching circle.
 - b. If a runner is between bases she may advance to the base she was attempting to steal at her own risk. The pitcher may choose to throw to the base, at which time the ball will be live.
 - c. Base runners shall not leave their bases until the pitched ball has left the pitchers hand. For violation, the base runner will be called out.
 - d. There will be NO head first sliding and a player who slides head first will be called out by the umpire. A player may dive back in the case of a pickle or if they have over run a base and need to dive back.
 - e. A defensive player tagging the “safety bag” is not an out unless the ball is being played on the side of the “safety bag.” In all other cases, the white bag must be tagged by the defensive player. Runners may touch either bag to be safe.
 - f. The Contact Rule will be in effect (7.13). **Contact Rule** – If a runner attempting to reach home plate or another base intentionally and maliciously runs into a defensive player in the area of home plate or a base, she will be called out and ejected from the game. It should be noted that a fielder **NOT** in possession of the ball may be guilty of obstruction if that fielder impedes the progress of a runner. It is entirely up to the judgment of the umpire as to whether a fielder is in the act of obstructing a runner.
7. **BATTING**
 - a. **12U division Only**- Dropped Third Strike - The batter becomes a runner when the third strike called by an umpire is not caught, providing (1) first base is unoccupied or (2) first base is occupied with two outs
 - b. **Bats** - If any bat in Cal Ripken Baseball, Babe Ruth Baseball or Babe Ruth Softball cannot be clearly identified for its make and model to determine the barrel composition, then the bat should be removed from the game.
 - c. A team has the **OPTION** to bat their entire lineup if they choose to. However this DOES NOT count towards the players guaranteed (3) innings.
 - d. An EH (extra hitter) may be used in the game. A team must start and end with an EH. An EH can be moved to the field and a player in the field will then become the EH. The EH position DOES NOT count towards the players guaranteed (3) innings.
 - e. Playing time is subject to the league attendance policy.
8. **GAME / ROSTER**
 - a. A team must field at least 8 players to begin a game, but may finish a game with less.
 - b. If a team starts with 8 players, when the 9th spot (missing player) comes up in the line-up it will be considered an out. If a ninth player shows up some time during the game she may enter the game in the 9th position only and it will no longer be considered an out.
 - c. The 10U division will use an 11” ball; 12U division will use a 12” ball.
9. **ANY UMPIRE’S DECISION WHICH INVOLVES JUDGMENT IS FINAL.**
 - a. Arguing a judgment call will not be permitted. If anyone tries to do so they should immediately be warned, and if they continue, ejected from the game. If there is reasonable doubt that an umpire’s decision is in **conflict with the rules**, the coach may appeal the decision and ask that a correct ruling be made. Such appeal should be made to home plate umpire. In making the final decision, the umpire should confer with another umpire, the chief of umpires, or the “Board Member in Charge” to gather all the necessary information.
10. **UMPIRE’S EJECTION RULE**
 - a. Any coach, player, team personnel, or fan ejected by an umpire or tournament official during the tournament shall be prohibited from further participation, of any capacity, in the league until reinstated by the North Side Baseball Board of Directors.

UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT BY ANYONE, IN ANY FORM, WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.



NORTH SIDE
BABE RUTH LEAGUE



Thank you North Side Board of Directors