

Tournament Rules and Regulations Cal Ripken & Babe Ruth

Revised February 2024

This tournament will be played by the official Babe Ruth Baseball Rules and Regulations. The following is a reminder of some of these rules and any procedural issues pertaining to tournament play.

1. **Contact Rule** – If a runner attempting to reach home plate or a base, runs into a defensive player intentionally and maliciously, he will be called out on the play and ejected from the game. This is an umpire's judgement call. See Page 20.
2. **Protest** - A judgment call cannot be protested. All protests must be filed with the chief umpire immediately. Play will be stopped until a ruling is given by the protest committee. Only the manager may make a protest. Members of the protest committee will be discussed at the pre-tournament meeting. The decision of the protest committee is final. (See Page 29 Protesting Games)
3. **Re-Entry Rule** – Any of the starting players may withdraw and re-enter once, provided such player occupies the same batting position whenever he/she is in the line-up. A substitute who is withdrawn may not re-enter. All pitchers are governed by the provisions of rule 3.05 if withdrawn while on the mound pitching. The pitcher withdrawn while a batter or base runner may re-enter the game immediately. If the pitcher is removed from the game because of a second trip in the same inning, he may re-enter the game in any position with the exception of pitcher. **Re-Entry of a Used Player** – Re-entry of a used player is allowed if all substitutes have been used and injury occurs, or a player is ejected. Selection of this substitute must be made by the opposing manager. The injured or ejected player cannot re-enter. See Page 13.
4. **Run Rules - 10 Run Rule** – Any tournament game must be terminated immediately once becoming regulation (3 ½ or 4 innings for Cal Ripken) if one team is ahead by 10 or more runs and has had equal turns at bat, or the home team is ahead. (4 ½ or 5 innings for Babe Ruth). **15 Run Rule** - Any tournament game for Cal Ripken Baseball must be terminated immediately if one team is ahead by fifteen (15) or more runs after two and one half (2 ½) or three (3) innings and each team has had equal times at bat. Three and one half (3 ½) or four (4) innings and each team has had equal times at bat in the 13-16 Division.
5. **Pitch Count** – Chart is on Page 26 in the Rule Book.
6. **Appeal** - The appeal of a missed base, tag-up on a pop fly, missed tag or batting out of order is not automatic. The umpire will not rule on a play unless the appeal is properly made. Balls, strikes, fair and foul, safe and outs are not appealable.
7. **Suspended Games** - Rescheduled by the State Representative and Tournament Director. All suspended games will begin from the exact point at which play was stopped. There are no rainouts!
8. **Trips to the mound** - Trips to the mound shall be limited to one per inning per pitcher. The second trip in the same inning will result in removal of that player as a pitcher. Any effort to circumvent this rule will result in a trip to the mound being charged by the umpire.
9. **Bats** - Umpires will check bats prior to each game. Please have bats lined up along the fence outside your dugout prior to the game. See Bat Requirements on page 19.

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10. **Warming up a pitcher** - Anyone warming up a pitcher must wear protective headgear. NO Exceptions. This includes anywhere in the park while you're standing, sitting on a bucket, or squatting down in a catcher's position.
11. No DH, No must play. No speed up rules.
12. **Coaches** - Managers and coaches uniform does not have to match player's uniform. Managers and coaches must be in full uniform with patch (left sleeve or hat), number on the back of the uniform and should match each other. Full uniform includes baseball pants. Coaches can have the same number as a player.
13. **Waiver Requests** - Players at your first game become your eligible players for the tournament. If a player is not going to be at the first game, but will be there later in the tournament, you must have a waiver from the State Commissioner or his designee, in order for them to be eligible. Any player not at the first game is ineligible for the tournament, unless they have obtained a waiver from the District Commissioner if a District Tournament or State Commissioner if a State Tournament. Commissioners will consider the reason for his absence as a basis for granting the waiver. This waiver must be initiated by the league president and must be initiated prior to the team's first game. Players must play in a game prior to the championship game to be eligible.
14. **Dugout** - Manager and three coaches, bat person (8-18yrs old) along with rostered players in the dugout only.
15. Manager is the only person to communicate with umpires.
16. **Home team** – In Double Elimination the first round of play is pre-determined, all other games will be determined by coin toss at the pre-tournament meeting. If using a pool play format, all games are predetermined with an equal number of home and visitor designations unless there is an odd number of games played. Home team dugout will vary based on the facility where the tournament is conducted. Visitors take infield first when time permits. Winners bracket champion is home team in the championship game, opposite team is home in the "if" game. Host team is automatically the home team for its first game.
17. **Line up sheets** - Managers must sign. Turn in half hour prior to game time. Not official until meeting at home plate. Use official Babe Ruth line up sheets provided. Changes during game give to home-plate umpire who will give to press box. (Use numbers not names when reporting changes). Be sure to list all substitutes on the line up sheet. There is no rule against Coach's numbers matching player's numbers. Players cannot have the same number.
18. **Ejections** are for the current game only unless further action is required by the umpire and or Tournament Director. If ejection occurs in the last inning of the game, suspension from coaching will be for the next game as well.
19. **Extra Player-EP** option can be used during tournament play. If a team starts the game with an EP, they must finish the game with an EP, otherwise the game will be forfeited. Rule Book page 21.
20. **Slash Bunt/Fake Bunt** - Cal Ripken Division only. A batter is out for illegal action when the batter fakes a bunt and then takes a full swing. Penalty: The batter is out, the ball is dead, and no runners may advance.

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21. **Electronic Devices** - Electronic devices, cell phones, head sets, will not be allowed in the dugouts or on the playing field by tournament participants. I-Pads for scoring are permitted.
22. **Video Recording** - No video recording devices may be hung from the backstop. Video recording of games from outside of the field of play is allowed as long as there is no disruption of or interference with the game. (See OBR 3.15 for photography within the playing field.) In Babe Ruth League, Inc., video recordings are not an authorized tool for use in determining the validity of a call. Penalty: The offending videographer shall be removed from the game and shall leave the playing field and can be removed from the complex for the remainder of the game or tournament, as deemed appropriate by the umpire as stated in Rule 3.15.
23. **Fan Behavior** – The team manager will be held responsible for the behavior of their fans. Fans are not to enter the playing field at any time for any reason and are to display a positive attitude to all teams, players, umpires, and officials.
24. **Alcohol, Tobacco and E-cigarettes** of any kind are prohibited at or near the park. ***The sale of such products may not be used as a fund raiser at or near the park.***
25. **Time Limits** - 9's, 10u, 11s and 12u will have a 2 hour time limit in the State Tournaments. The 13, 14, 16u and 18u tournaments will have a 2.5 hour time limit. Time limits apply to the Championship Games as well. ***The District Commissioner has the option to use time limits in the District Tournaments.*** In all cases this time limit is determined at the end of the previous inning. No new inning will start after the time limit is reached. Exception to the time limit is if the score is tied.
26. **Conduct and Disciplinary Code** Your team's conduct must be above reproach, both on and off the field. Any misbehavior or misconduct not only could cause the disqualification of an individual team member from the tournament but could also lead to the disqualification of your team. Types of bad conduct that could lead to disqualification: The use of profane or indecent language. Fighting or other aggressive behavior toward teammates, coaches, members of other teams, umpires, tournament officials, or other tournament participants on or off the field. Throwing or unnecessary abuse of any equipment or property. Any illegal acts. Managers, coaches, and players are to refrain from arguing or showing disrespect to the officials under any circumstances. If a manager, coach, or player is asked to leave the game by an umpire, Babe Ruth or tournament official, they must leave the tournament complex immediately. [An ejected player may be required to remain in the dugout if proper parental or guardian supervision is not at the field.] Failure to do so can result in actions against the entire team, including removal from the tournament.
27. **AIR HORNS, BOOM BOXES AND ANY OTHER ARTIFICIAL NOISE MAKERS ARE PROHIBITED IN THE BALL PARK!**
28. **Cal Ripken "10uB and 12uB" Tournament Rule additions:** - Time limit of 1 hour and 45 minutes (no new inning starts after the time limit is up) 7 run max per inning rule.

Allstar Team Roster – Florida ruling states that no allstar team can have more than 7 players from any one regular season team.

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In Closing - Be smart and avoid trouble. There is always a certain level of tension in competitive sports. We do not want you or your team to lose your competitive edge. The desire to perform at one's very best makes the game exciting for everyone. But ensure that your team stays under control, even if another player or fan says something that they find offensive. Tell your team to keep their cool, and not to respond to provocation in any way that could lead to disqualification. Remember, baseball games are won with hits and runs, not with words.

ANY ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO THE ABOVE PROCEDURES WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE PRE-TOURNAMENT MEETING