

# **TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS**

All tournaments will be played according to the Official Baseball Rules and Regulations and Babe Ruth Baseball Rules and Regulations. The following is provided as a quick reference to common Rule questions to avoid any problems at the District Tournaments.

## **Game Reporting Time**

Players, coaches and managers must be in uniform (full baseball) and at the field one (1) hour before their scheduled game time.

The lineup must be presented to the official scorekeeper twenty (20) minutes before game time.

## **Home Team**

The home team for each game will be decided by a flip of the coin (except for the first game in which the host plays at which time they will be the home team **for that game only**) by the Tournament Director or other designated tournament official at least thirty (30) minutes prior to game time. The flip should be done as soon as both teams arrive so that teams can go to the appropriate dugout.

## **Infield Practice**

Each team will be allowed ten (10) minutes fielding practice. The home team will start thirty (30) minutes prior to game time. The visiting team shall practice next for ten (10) minutes. The last ten (10) minutes prior to the start of the game shall be used for the introduction of players and for the ground crew to prepare the field for play.

## **Ground Rules**

The Tournament Director or another tournament official will go over all ground rules with the managers and umpires at home plate prior to the start of each game.

## **Forfeit**

The official time established to begin play is twenty (20) minutes after scheduled start.

Official Baseball Rules 4.15 through 4.17

## **Scorekeepers**

### Official Scorekeeper

An official scorekeeper designated by the tournament official will maintain the official record of each game. All changes are to be given to the Official Scorekeeper.

All managers must report to the Official Scorekeeper immediately after the end of the game to verify their team's pitching record.

### Team Scorekeeper

Each team is allowed a scorekeeper. The scorekeeper will **not** be in uniform and will not be allowed on the field or allowed to participate in coaching activities. Team scorekeepers are **not** allowed in the dugout.

## **Press Box**

Only the official announcer, official scorekeeper, official scoreboard operator, accredited reporters and tournament officials are permitted in the Press Box.

## **Players Must Remain in Dugout**

Players in uniform shall not address or mingle with spectators, nor sit in the stands during the game.

Players and substitutes of both teams shall confine themselves to their team's benches unless actually participating in the play or preparing to enter the game, or coaching at first or third bases.

Only team members (uniformed) shall occupy a bench during the game, this includes players, manager, coaches and bat person.

Official Baseball Rules: 3.09 and 3.17

## **Jewelry, Tobacco, Cell Phones**

Wearing jewelry is not permitted.

Cell phones and pagers are not permitted on the field.

The use of tobacco of any kind will not be allowed by anyone within the confines of the playing field during the Tournament.

## **Team Composition**

Each Tournament Team may consist of no less than twelve (12) or more than fifteen (15) players, one Manager and two Coaches only. Managers, coaches and players are only allowed to participate on **one** tournament team.

Birth documentation to be submitted **must** be either **original birth certificates** or **Babe Ruth Identification Cards**.

Babe Ruth Rules and Regulations 11.01-1

**All members of the coaching staff must present documentation that they have taken the coaches' certification course.**

## **Re-entry Rule**

There are two types of re-entry rules in effect:

### **Re-entry of nine starting players**

Any of the nine starting players, including the pitcher, may withdraw and re-enter once, provided such player occupies the same batting position whenever he is in the lineup. A substitute who is withdrawn may not re-enter. For a more detailed explanation of this rule, refer to the RE-ENTRY RULE EXPLANATION page in the book.

Babe Ruth Rules & Regulations: Re-Entry Explanation

### **Re-entry of an already used player**

This will be permitted if all substitutes have been used and an injury occurs which prohibits the injured player from continuing in the game. The opposing manager must make the selection of this substitute.

Babe Ruth Rules & Regulations: 11.05 - 9

### **Ten Run Rule**

Any game must be terminated once becoming regulation if one team is ahead by ten (10) or more runs and each team have had equal times at bat or the home team is leading.

Babe Ruth Rules & Regulations: 11.05 – 8

### **Intentional Walk**

This is not automatic. The pitcher is required to pitch to the batter.

Official Baseball Rule 6.08a

### **Pitching Limitation**

No pitcher will be allowed to pitch more than six (6) innings in two (2) consecutive tournament games in the same tournament level. (Cal Ripken Division)

No pitcher will be allowed to pitch more than seven (7) innings in two (2) consecutive tournament games in the same tournament level.

Babe Ruth Rules & Regulations: 11.05 - 4

### **Slide Rule**

There is no “must slide rule” in effect for tournament play at any level of Babe Ruth Baseball. The “must slide rule” is a Federation rule, not an Official Baseball Rule or a Babe Ruth Rule & Regulation.

## **Contact Rule**

If a runner attempting to reach home plate intentionally and maliciously runs into a defensive player in the area of home plate, he will be called out on the play and ejected from the game. This is an umpire's judgment call.

Babe Ruth Rules & Regulations: Tournament Rules

## **Players Substitutions**

A player, or players, may be substituted during a game at any time the ball is dead. A pitcher may change to another position only once during the same inning; e.g., the pitcher will not be allowed to assume a position other than a pitcher more than once in the same inning.

Official Baseball Rule 7.10

## **Appeals**

The appeal of a missed base is not automatic. The umpire will not rule on a missed base unless the team properly makes the appeal on the field.

Official Baseball Rule 7.10

## **Protest**

A judgment call cannot be protested. All protests must be filed with the umpire-in-chief immediately. Play will be stopped until the Protest Committee gives a ruling. (Protest Committee is comprised of one representative from each team playing and the District Commissioner or his representative.)

Babe Ruth Rules & Regulations: 11.05 – 10

Only a manager may protest.

Official Baseball Rules: 4.19

Babe Ruth Rules & Regulations: 11.05 – 10

The decision of the Protest Committee is final.

### Babe Ruth Rules & Regulations: 11.05 – 10

No protest, except on player eligibility, will be honored after a game has been completed.

### Official Baseball Rules: 4.19

#### **Trips to the Mound**

Trips to the mound shall be limited to one (1) per inning per pitcher. The second trip in the same inning to the same pitcher 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.

### Official Baseball Rule 8.06

### Babe Ruth Rules & Regulations: Tournament Rules

#### **Warming Up a Pitcher**

Anyone warming up a pitcher whether he is on the mound or on the sidelines must wear protective headgear.

### Babe Ruth Rules & Regulations: Tournament Rules

#### **Designated Hitter**

Official Baseball Rule 6.10 does not apply to Babe Ruth Baseball. The Designated Hitter is not permitted.

#### **Courtesy Runners**

There are no courtesy runners.

#### **Suspended Games**

Suspended games due to weather or curfew will be rescheduled and played prior to continuing with the regular schedule of play.

- (a) Rescheduling will be done by the designated District Tournament Director & the Host League President or Tournament Director.
- (b) A suspended game will begin from the exact point at which play was stopped.

Remember, all tournament games must be six (6) innings for Cal Ripken Division and seven (7) innings for all other divisions.

## Babe Ruth Rules & Regulations: 11.05 – 7

### **Conduct**

Each manager and coach is responsible for his/her personal conduct on and off the field as well as each team member's. All are officially placed on notice that we want everyone to enjoy themselves at the District Tournament, but that no conduct which could be interpreted as detrimental to the basic aim of Babe Ruth Baseball, which is "building better citizenship", will be tolerated. Any team or individual whose conduct is not above reproach will be disqualified and sent home without delay.

### **Jurisdiction**

All tournaments are under the jurisdiction of the District Commissioner or his appointed representative. The District Commissioner or his representative shall rule on any item that is unresolved by the game official.

**THE DISTRICT COMMISSIONER OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE SHALL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO REMOVE ANY PLAYER, COACH, OR MANAGER FOR ACTIONS DETRIMENTAL TO BABE RUTH BASEBALL.**

Any behavior or misconduct on or off the field could cause disqualification of a manager, coach, player or the entire team from the tournament.

### **Tournament Winners**

Tournament winners will be given binders with information on the State Tournament. They are to make contact with the host representative as soon as possible.

The team will also need three (3) 5x7 or 8x10 color photographs with the players and coaching staff identified.

## **RE-ENTRY RULE EXPLANATION**

Rule: Re-entry – any of the nine starting players may withdraw and re-enter once, provided such player occupies the same batting position whenever he is in the line-up.

Note: If a player re-enters illegally as a pitcher, fielder, or runner, there is no penalty except that he must be removed from the game immediately when discovered. If he re-enters illegally as a batter, such as illegal re-entry, player is penalized according to Official Baseball Rule 6.07, Batting Out of Order.

Listed below are the interpretations of the above rule:

- When re-entered, the player must occupy the same batting position as he occupied when starting the game, i.e., a starting player and his substitute cannot be in the game at the same time.
- A pitcher withdrawn from the game may re-enter immediately if withdrawn while a batter or base runner, if he was one of the nine starting players. If withdrawn while he is on the mound pitching, his substitute must fulfill Official Baseball Rule 3.05b before he is permitted to re-enter the game.
- All other starting players may be withdrawn and re-entered immediately or anytime at the discretion of the manager.
- A substitute may replace a substitute and the starting player may still re-enter for the substitute, i.e., starting player Jones is replaced by substitute Smith; substitute Smith is replaced by substitute Clark. Starter Jones is eligible to replace Clark.
- A starting player withdrawn from the game more than once cannot re-enter.
- Withdrawal and re-entry takes place only when a player has been removed from the game.
- 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, if he was one of the nine starting players.
- The provisions of Official Baseball Rule 3.05 govern the starting pitcher. He must be in compliance with the Babe Ruth Rules & Regulations 11.05 – 4 and 11.05 – 6 in order to re-enter as pitcher.

## UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

As a representative of your league at the District Tournament, you are required to dress appropriately.

The Official Baseball Rules allow a league to provide that each team wears a distinctive uniform at all times (Rule 1.11b – 1). In accordance with that, the following regulations have been adapted for the District Tournament:

- All players on a team shall wear uniforms identical in style (different numbers due to re-entry rule). (Official Baseball Rule 1.11a – 1)
- All players' uniforms shall include minimal 6" numbers on their backs. (Official Baseball Rule 1.11a.1)
- Sleeve lengths may vary for individual players, but the sleeves of each individual player shall be approximately the same lengths. (Official Baseball Rule 1.11c-1)
- No player shall wear ragged, frayed or slip sleeves. (Official Baseball Rule 1.11c-2) No cutoff or sleeveless shirts will be permitted unless a tee shirt with sleeves is worn under it.
- All players are required to wear solid baseball over-the-calf socks, OR white over-the-calf socks with stirrups, OR all-in-one stirrup socks. Ankle length socks are not permitted.
- Managers and coaches are required to be in baseball pants and shirts similar in style and color to the players' uniforms.
- Shorts are not classified as baseball pants and are not permitted.
- Caps must be worn by every player while playing but may be omitted during infield practice. The manager and coaches while on the playing field must also wear caps.
- Players taking infield practice must be in uniform. Warm-up tee shirts may be substituted for the baseball jersey, but must conform to Official Baseball Rules 1.11-1, 1.11c, and 1.11c2.
- No player whose uniform does not conform to that of his teammates shall be permitted to participate in a game. (Official Baseball Rule 1.11a-3) This rule is extended to apply to the managers and coaches.
- The Official Babe Ruth Baseball/Cal Ripken shoulder emblem must be worn on each team member's left uniform sleeve. Any player or coach not wearing a shoulder patch is ineligible for tournament play. (Babe Ruth Rule & Regulations: Tournament Rules)
- It is noted that some leagues cannot afford to have an "all-star uniform" and that players will wear their distinctive team uniforms on the all-star team. This is permissible as long as they conform to the definition of a complete baseball uniform as stated in the above rules and regulations and have the Babe Ruth shoulder patch on them.