

THE WALPOLE * NORFOLK * WRENTHAM * PLAINVILLE BABE RUTH LEAGUE LOCAL RULES SPRING 2008

The league has two divisions: 14-15 Year Old Division and a 13 Year Old Division. April 30th is the cut off date to determine age eligibility for each division.

The League will follow all rules listed in the official Babe Ruth Rules and Regulations book and the official baseball rulebook except as modified below.

PITCHING

14-15 Year Old Division

- A pitching week is defined as Monday through Sunday. No pitcher is allowed to throw more than seven innings in a week (including high school innings if appropriate.)
- Each manager will contact the high school (public or private) coach to determine which players are permitted to, prohibited from or limited in their pitching until the high school season ends. The manager shall provide his league representative with this information in writing and that information will be made available to the League President at his request.
- One pitch constitutes an inning.
- If a pitcher throws three innings or less, he may pitch the next day.
- A pitcher who throws four or more innings must have three full days of rest (i.e.: If the pitcher throws more than three innings on Monday, can not pitch again until Friday.)
- The rest rule applies to high school innings as well (i.e.: If the pitcher throws more than three innings on Friday for his high school team he can not pitch that weekend and must wait until Wednesday before he may pitch again.)

13 Year Old Division

- A pitching week is defined as Monday through Sunday. No pitcher is allowed to throw more than seven innings in a week.
- One pitch constitutes an inning.
- If a pitcher throws three innings or less, he may return the next day.
- If a pitcher throws four innings, he must have three full days of rest.
- If a pitcher throws five or more innings, he must have four full days of rest.
- No pitcher may pitch three consecutive days

All Divisions

- Manager must keep pitching logs on all pitchers and record it in the scorebook when the pitcher has started and stopped.
- A pitcher must be removed after the second trip during any inning by a manager and although he may stay in the game, he may not return to the mound.

- A pitcher removed after the first trip in any inning by a manager may stay in the game, and may return to the mound.
- All pitchers are allowed one warning on a balk before the balk rule is enforced in all games prior to May 31. After that date, all balk rules are enforced.
- Pitchers must accept all catcher signals with the pitcher's foot in contact with the pitching rubber.

OFFICIAL GAMES

- All games must be played. No games may be rescheduled without permission of the league commissioner. Unauthorized game changes could result in forfeits.
- All games not played are treated as losses in determining final standings,
- No new inning shall begin after two hours.
- All games shall revert to the score of the previously completed inning.
- Winning team receives two points
- In the event of a tie, each team receives one point.
- An official game is five innings. If the home team is ahead after 4 1/2 innings, this constitutes an official game. All games stopped due to darkness or weather and are not official shall be treated as a suspended game and shall be resumed from the point play has stopped.

SLAUGHTER RULE

If a team is ahead by ten runs or more after completion of either the fifth or sixth inning, the game is over.

ROSTER

- A team must have eight players from their own roster to play a game. In the regular season, you may select another player from your division to complete a lineup. In the playoffs, all players must be on your official roster. A roster must not exceed 15.
- Roster changes due to injuries or someone moving into town. may be made up until May 15. Rosters are official as of May 15th and must be forwarded to the League President on or before that date.

LENGTH OF APPEARANCE IN GAME

14-15 Year Old Division

A player must have a minimum of two innings in the field and one at bat. If any player fails to receive that in an official seven inning game (with the home team having its last at bat), the game shall be forfeited.

13 Year Old Division

A player must have a minimum of three innings in the field and one at bat. If any player fails to receive that in an official seven inning game (with the home team having its last at bat), the game shall be forfeited,

All Divisions

- If the game is not an official seven inning game and an individual has not received the playing time listed above, the player must start the following game to insure it does not happen in consecutive games.
- Scorebook must reflect when an individual enters and exits the game.
- A manager, at his discretion, may choose to use a ten man batting order, with one individual serving as the extra hitter. The extra hitter shall alternate *in the field* with any player in the regular lineup but shall always bat in the same place in the lineup. The extra player must play a minimum of three innings in the field.
- If a manager chooses to have a continuous batting order then free substitution is allowed.
- If a manager chooses not to have a continuous batting order then he shall advise the umpire and the opposing coach prior to the start of the game and shall designate the same on his lineup card.
- At no time, except in case of injury, shall a substitute player be used as a designated hitter. (This rule is not intended to allow managers to not play individuals, in the field).

UMPIRES

- No one can leave the bench area to argue balls and strikes.
- Managers may have a reasonable time to discuss plays in the field or rule interpretations.

- Yelling, swearing or harassing umpires may result in ejection. A player ejected must remain in the bench area; a manager ejected must leave the premises.
- A player may be ejected without a warning for throwing equipment or other objects.
- Two ejections for a player or manager in the course of the season will result in the suspension of the individual for the remainder of the season including playoffs.
- All protests will be given to the league President. The protest should follow Babe Ruth guidelines.

SLIDE RULE

- A runner must slide into any base if there is a play at that base. At home plate, a play is defined as within three feet from home plate.
- The catcher may not block home plate.
- A runner will be called out if in the umpire's opinion there should have been a slide on the play.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Courtesy runners will be allowed for injured players, both managers must agree on the substitute runner.
- Catchers must wear throat guards and catching helmets when behind the plate.
- There is no hidden ball in the 13 year old division.
- Metal spikes are prohibited in the 13 Year Old Division..
- Metal spikes are permitted in 14-15 Year Old Division
- Any Babe Ruth stamped baseball may be used as a game ball. (Wilson, Diamond, Rawlings, Etc.)

REVISED & APPROVED: MARCH 19, 2008