

2021 Minors Division RULES

GAME

All games are played under the official baseball rules and regulations of Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken except for the local exceptions as noted below.

1. Games are to begin on time. Any team that does not have enough players to start the game may borrow players from the other team without penalty. The borrowed player is not to be used in their skilled position and they cannot pitch for the borrowing team.
2. There will be a 5 run limit applied to all innings except the last which will be unlimited. An exception to this rule would be an over the fence homerun. All runs scored as a result of the homerun, would count.
3. There are to be only 9 Fielders in the field at any time placed in the appropriate positions.
4. A "regulation game" will be 6 innings long, unless interrupted by time, weather or darkness, etc. Four innings, (or 3½ if home team is ahead) constitutes a "regulation game".
5. 10 run Rule is in effect after 4 innings. Managers can decide to keep playing if both sides agree and time is not an issue.
6. There is a 1 hour 30 minute time limit which will be interpreted as follows: No new inning shall start after one hour thirty minutes of elapsed time. Start time should be noted in each team's scorebook before the first pitch is thrown. The umpire has the official game clock and final ruling on game time.
7. In the event the game time is approaching the limit, the "last Inning" must be declared BEFORE the visiting team bats. If it is not declared then the inning is played with the five run limit in effect. It cannot be declared once the inning has commenced.
8. There will be NO BUNTING allowed at this level of play.
9. There is no infield Fly Rule
10. There is no dropped third strike.
11. If a game is suspended before it has become a "regulation game" and the umpire declares it a "no game" the pitching eligibility is the same as it was prior to the beginning of the "no game" situation. (0.06.6) Managers use your common sense and judgment when reassigning pitchers.

PITCHING

Managers must use their common sense and judgment when assigning pitchers. Per Babe Ruth Baseball, Players at the AAA level(ages 9-10) are not recommended to throw more than **75 pitches** in a game or more than **30 in one inning**. **These are guidelines for you to considered when managing your pitchers.**

1. Pitchers can pitch a maximum of 2 innings per game or 6 innings per week.
2. An official week runs from Monday to Sunday.

3. If a pitcher throws just one pitch in an inning, that is considered an official inning.
4. A pitcher CANNOT pitch in more than 1 game per day including external games.
5. Managers are required to keep a pitch record in their score book and report to the commissioner after each game.
6. A pitcher must be removed from the mound on the second visit to the mound by the team Manager or Coach in the same inning. (8.06)
7. A pitcher must be removed from the mound if he hits more than 1 batter in an inning.
 - a. As soon as a pitcher hits his 3rd batter in a game, he shall be removed.
 - b. Once removed from the game as a pitcher, the player cannot return to the mound in that game.
8. The player can take any other defensive position and bats in order.
9. Games in which an ineligible pitcher has been used shall be declared a forfeit.

SUBSTITUTIONS

1. This is a developmental level and it should be the manager's goal to expose his players to as many defensive positions as possible during the course of the season. If a player is willing to attempt to play a position, they should be provided that opportunity.
2. All players in attendance will bat in order (1-12.1-12). Players may be substituted in the field at will except for the pitcher.
3. Players should be rotated through multiple positions. Players should not remain in the same defensive position during the majority of the game.
4. All players must play in the field for three innings or at least one-half of the game. No player shall sit the bench more than one inning at a time.
5. All players must play in the field every other inning.
6. Late arrivals will be inserted at the end of the batting order.
7. Players departing early will be skipped in the batting order and no penalty shall be assessed in that batting spot.

BASE RUNNING/STEALING

1. Slide or veer is in place. Runner must avoid contact with players in the field or will be called out and possibly ejected from game. This is a judgment call by the umpire and not disputable!
2. Runners may steal, but may not leave the base until the pitch crosses the plate. If he leaves early the runner must return to the base occupied without penalty to the batter.

3. Absolutely no stealing of home. Home may be taken only when forced by a walk or on a play following a batted ball, but not overthrows resulting from an attempted steal or pickoff.
4. No head first sliding. All runners must slide feet first or they may be called out.

FIELD MAINTENANCE

1. Both teams will outline the base paths before the game as well as rake around the bases and pitchers mound. The managers are also responsible for taking out the bases and putting everything away and locking the storage area.
2. Both teams coaching staff need to rake the base paths area around the bases and the pitchers mound after a game. Be sure the pitching mound is properly filled in.
3. There is a hose for use to water down the field if needed. If using the gator to drag the field **do not run over the bases or home plate** with the drag net as this will damage the bases and home plate.

SCORES/RAINOUTS.

Both managers **MUST** e-mail or text in the score, pitching innings and pitch counts to Dean Michalski after the game is complete at 609-457-4549 or deanmic@comcast.net. In case of rain, the managers make the call on a game cancellation. Once the game is under way, the umpire has full control on calling a game for reasons he sees fit. Please notify the umpires at least thirty minutes prior to a game start of rain or other cancellation.

Chuck Fowler is the umpire coordinator, phone: 856-364-7776

Playoffs

1. Playoffs will be single elimination format.
2. Total points accumulated during the regular season will determine seeding for the playoffs.
5. Regular season points will be accumulated as follows:
 - a. 2 points for each win
 - b. 1 point for each tie
 - c. 0 points for each loss
3. The higher seed will be the home team for each game.
4. Teams will not be permitted to borrow players if they are short. All players on the roster should be there.
5. Pitchers are allowed to throw two innnngs max per game and no more than 6 innngs in a week.

BAT THROWING

#1-A BATTER WHO ACCIDENTLY THROWS HIS BAT WILL NOT BE DECLARED OUT BY THE UMPIRE---THE ONLY TIME A PLAYER WILL BE DISCIPLINED BY AN UMP IS WHEN IN UMPIRES JUDGEMENT THE PLAYER THREW HIS BAT INTENTIONALLY --CAN ISSUE WARNING OR IF OVERLY MALICIOUS CAN

EJECT PLAYER--THIS IS EXTREMELY RARE AND I HOPE NOT TO HEAR THIS HAPPENED-----BASICALLY WE ARE ASKING THE MANAGERS AND COACHES TO TAKE CHARGE OF THIS SITUATION AND TEACH THEIR PLAYERS ABOUT BAT THROWING-----

-REALLY TOO MUCH TO ASK OUR 13-14 YR UMPIRES TO MAKE THIS CALL---- THEY HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO ONLY GET INVOLVED IF BAT THROWING WAS INTENTIONAL.

#2--CONCERNS AA--MINORS--AND MAJORS-----WHEN THERE IS ONLY A RUNNER ON THIRD BASE AND A BATTER IS WALKED --SOME MANAGERS WOULD HAVE THE WALKED BATTER TOUCH FIRST BASE AND GO DIRECTLY TO SECOND BASE WITHOUT STOPPING--AT THESE YOUNGER LEVELS THE CATCHER WOULD USUALLY NOT MAKE THROW TO SECOND BASE FOR FEAR OF HAVING RUNNER ON THIRD COME HOME ON HIS THROW TO SECOND—THIS IS REALLY NOT BASEBALL AND WILL NOT BE PERMITTED IN THIS LEAGUE.

Scoreboard – We have a scoreboard on the AAA field and it is the responsibility of the home team(third base side dugout) to have a player, coach or parent operate the scoreboard. The controller for the scoreboard will be kept in the shed behind the field and is to be returned after the last game is played that day. If there is multiple games in one day the controller is to be turned over to the next manager and so on until the last game. **Please make sure the scoreboard is used during all games.**

Dean Michalski 609-457-4549, deanmic@comcast.net
Umpires - Chuck Fowler- 856-364-776