**2023 North Dakota**

**12-Year-Old State Tournament**

*July 26- 30, 2023*

***Essentia Health Baseball Complex***

***500 13th Avenue West (across from Young Field)***

***West Fargo, ND***

A logo of a baseball team

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Greetings,

On behalf of West Fargo Baseball, we would like to welcome you to the 2023 North Dakota Cal Ripken 12U State Baseball Tournament. We look forward to hosting this event and hope that everyone has a wonderful time supporting their respective teams. We are also excited to showcase our new Essentia Health Baseball Complex that is located across the street from Young Field. This complex features two new diamonds with turf infields and grass outfields, sponsored by Scheels and Essentia Health.

All tournament games will be played on these two fields. The complex also includes covered dugouts, scoreboards, field lighting, a concession stand, picnic canopy, bathrooms, and four turf batting cages. We appreciate all your efforts in keeping our complex clean and ready for baseball. Please note there are absolutely ***no sunflower seeds*** allowed in the complex.

This packet contains valuable information regarding the tournament such as tournament headquarters, team check-in, opening ceremony information, tournament guidelines/rules, and game conduct. Once again, West Fargo Baseball is looking forward to hosting this event and a great weekend of baseball!

Best regards,

West Fargo Baseball

**2023 12-Year-Old State**

**Cal Ripken Baseball Tournament**

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**500 13th Avenue West (across from Young Field)**

**July 26-30, 2023**

**West Fargo, ND**

**Tournament Email Address:** [**2023ND12USTATE@gmail.com**](mailto:2023ND12USTATE@gmail.com)

**Tournament Manager: Todd Rheault**

**Email:** [**todd.rheault@advantagesolutions.net**](mailto:todd.rheault@advantagesolutions.net)

**Phone: 701-361-7545**

**Pre-Tournament Information**

Participating teams should send the following information to [2023ND12USTATE@gmail.com](mailto:2023ND12USTATE@gmail.com): (Due by Friday, July 14)

* Team roster with jersey numbers (see Excel email attachment)
* Team picture with players and coaches cut line

Entry Fee of $300 + Gate Fee of $300 made payable and sent to:

West Fargo Baseball

PO Box 295

West Fargo, ND 58078

Tournament schedule will be released no later than Wednesday, July 19th.

Tournament schedule, standings, brackets can be found on Exposure Baseball App:

Search: NORTH DAKOTA CAL RIPKEN 12U STATE TOURNAMENT

<https://baseball.exposureevents.com/206933/north-dakota-cal-ripken-12u-state-tournament>

**Team Check-In**

Team Managers MUST check-in a minimum of 1 ½ hours prior to your first scheduled game at Tournament Headquarters which will be located at the Essentia Health Baseball Complex.

1. Receive Opening Ceremony Instructions
2. No sunflower seeds allowed
3. Please help us keep our facility clean
4. Any questions you may have

**Opening Ceremonies**

1. All players and coaches must attend
2. Opening Ceremonies will take place at Young Field
3. Thursday July 27 at approximately 6:00 P.M.
4. Everyone (coaches and players) should come dressed in FULL uniform

**Tournament Binder**

1. Letter of League Eligibility (Signed by State Commissioner)
2. Tournament Team Roster (Signed by League President)
3. Babe Ruth SAFE coaches’ Certification
4. Local League Rosters (Tournament team players and coaches highlighted).
5. Coaches Certification Information (ID card or Certificate, beginning in 2008). Tournament managers and coaches must complete coaching education and certification prior to the start of their first level of tournament competition.
6. Certificate of Insurance Coverage (Accident and Liability).
7. Insurance Claim Form (signed by the League President)
8. Consent of Treatment forms.
9. Any applicable waivers.
10. A team photograph with all players identified by name and number

**Tournament Rules and Guidelines**

1. Coaches are to have lineup cards submitted to Tournament Headquarters one hour prior to the start of each game. Please include:
   1. Starters first and last name, number, position
   2. Reserves first and last name, number
   3. Coaches/Manager first and last name
2. AAA Tournament (10 teams, double elimination bracket)

* During bracket play, the home team will be determined by the higher seed throughout the tournament. For games in which there are teams with the same seed, a coin flip will determine the home team. (ex. 1st in East vs. 1st in West) This will take place at tournament headquarters one hour prior to the start of each game.

1. AA Tournament (7 teams, pool play into single elimination bracket)

* During pool play, the home team will be determined by a coin flip. Coin flip will take place at tournament headquarters one hour prior to the start of each game.
* After pool play, the top 2 seeds from each pool will advance to a single elimination bracket.
  + The following tiebreakers will be used for seeding: (Babe Ruth Rules)

a. Win-Loss Record

b. Results of head-to-head competition

c. Least number of runs allowed in Total Pool Play

d. Run differential in Total Pool Play (maximum 10 plus/minus per game)

f. Runs scored in Total Pool Play

* During bracket play, the home team will be determined by the higher seed. For games in which there are teams with the same seed, a coin flip will determine the home team. (ex. 1st Pool A vs. 1st in Pool B) This will take place at tournament headquarters one hour prior to the start of each game.
* For a three-way tie, first break the three-way tie by these rules and then start all over with the two remaining teams.

1. Home Team will occupy the 3rd Base Dugout.
2. The tournament will provide game balls for each game. One ball for the starting pitcher will be given to each coach during the pre-game meeting, one hour prior to the start of each game. (Tournament Headquarters)
3. There are four batting cages available at Essentia Health Baseball Complex. Each team preparing to play will have access to one of the cages. Please be mindful of your time in the cage. We will also have the outfield green space at Exchange Field adjacent to the Essentia Health Baseball Complex. Please stay off the infield at Exchange Field.
4. There is no pre-game infield allowed prior to the start of any game. Fly balls in the outfield as well as ground balls in foul territory along your dugout are allowed.
5. Umpires will enforce all rules and regulations covered in the Babe Ruth League, Inc. Baseball Rules and Regulations and Official Playing Rules.
6. Managers, coaches, and players shall wear full uniforms:
   1. Coaches must wear matching Jerseys/Uniforms or matching cage jackets.
   2. Coaches must wear baseball pants matching players. (This is not a softball event; you are coaching a baseball team in a State Tournament).
   3. Patches do not need to be worn.
7. Equipment – bats, gloves, etc., shall be stacked neatly in their proper places at all times.
8. Discarding bats and protective helmets in any way shall be deemed unsportsmanlike.

1. All games are scheduled for 6 innings or 5 ½ innings if the home team is leading.
2. The 10-run rule is in effect throughout the entire tournament. Games shall end at the conclusion of 3 1⁄2 innings (home team) or 4 innings (visiting team) if the score differential is 10 or more. The losing team must have batted a minimum of 4 turns at bats. The 15-run rule is in effect throughout the entire tournament. Games shall end at the conclusion of 2 1⁄2 innings (home team) or 3 innings (visiting team) if the score differential is 15 or more. The losing team must have batted a minimum of 3 turns at bats.
3. All protective gear must be worn. Helmets for batters and runners as well as bat boys/girls.
4. Any player warming up the pitcher must wear a mask (includes bullpen).
5. Intentional Walk: Umpire declares ball dead and awards batter 1st base- no pitches are thrown or counted against the pitch count.
6. No designated hitter or courtesy runners are permitted.
7. EXTRA PLAYER: A team may elect to add a 10th player to the batting order. Prior to the beginning of the game, this player will be indicated in the line-up as the “EP”. The “EP” will be treated as any other starter and cannot be eliminated during the game. If a team’s line-up starts with 10 players, the team must finish with 10 players. Penalty shall be a forfeit.
8. Teams may allow the use of a continuous batting order which allows every player to bat.
9. The Babe Ruth League re-entry rule is in effect for all games (all starters may re-enter one time).
10. No protest on judgement calls, only on rule interpretations. Game will stop until the protest is ruled on. Any protest of an incident must be made immediately after the incident. Once a pitch has been thrown following said incident, the incident can no longer be protested.
11. The protest committee will consist of Todd Rheault and Jeff Gould.
12. Only fifteen (15) players, three (3) coaches and one (1) batboy/batgirl are allowed in the dugout.
13. Jewelry is permitted in all divisions of Babe Ruth League Inc. Umpires have the authority to remove anything believed to distract or increase risk to player safety.
14. No metal cleats allowed.

**Pitching Rules:** *PENALTY IS FORFEIT OF THE GAME*

* Maximum pitches in a day = 85
* Rest Period:
  + - * 1-40 pitches = 0 days rest
      * 41-65 pitches = 1 day rest
      * 66+ pitches = 2 days rest

**\*\*\*** If the pitcher reaches the maximum pitch count limit while facing a batter, he may continue to pitch until the batter reaches base safely or is put out.

**Pitch Counts**

Official pitch counts will be tracked at official score table behind each field. Coaches should verify for accuracy between innings and at conclusion of game. Pitch counts can be viewed in Exposure Baseball App.

**Trips To The Mound**

The second trip in the same inning to the same pitcher shall automatically result in the removal of that pitcher from the mound AS A PITCHER ONLY.

NOTE—Any pitcher, starter or substitute removed from the game on the first trip or in between innings may return to the mound later in the same game.

**Bat Rules:**

* All non-wood bats must have the USA Bat Marking
* Bat Barrel up to 2 5/8”
* No BBCOR Allowed

**Zero Tolerance Policy:**

* North Dakota has adopted a Zero Tolerance Policy for parents and spectators.
* Parents/spectators using inappropriate and disruptive behavior shall include, but not limited to: use of obscene or vulgare language in a boisterous manner to anyone at any time, taunting of players, coaches, officials, umpires, or other spectators by means of baiting, ridiculing, and/or threat of physical violence or actual physical violence.
  + Penalty: If an umpire, NDBRD representative or tournament official observes a parent/spectator displaying inappropriate and disruptive behavior that interferes with other spectators or the game, the umpire, NDBRD representative or tournament official will stop the game and identify violators to the team manager, coaches for the purpose of removing parents/spectators from the spectator’s viewing and game area. Once removed, the game will resume. In addition, these disciplinary provisions are in effect before and after games. Violators may be subject to further disciplinary actions by local governing bodies and ND Babe Ruth Baseball.