

5/30/2025 – 6/1/22025

**TOURNAMENT RULES**

1. 2025 Babe Ruth League Rules and Regulations along with official playing rules will be used unless specifically addressed below. Only USA bats are allowed in the tournament – USSSA bats are NOT allowed. (The one exception is at the 9u age group – both USSSA or USA bats are allowed for 9u only).

* Use of an illegal bat shall result in the player being ruled out.
* Use of an illegal bat is considered once the batter steps into the batter’s box with the illegal bat, regardless of contact being made or not.
* If a bat is found to be used illegally after a ball has been put in play, the illegal bat must be pointed out immediately to the umpire (prior to next batter starting their at-bat), and any runners that advanced must go back to where they were prior to the contact (as if the batter struck out).

2. Each team will supply two new baseballs per game.

3. There is no gate fees at any sites for the tournament. Concessions will be available at all sites.

4. All games will be 6 innings. Pool play time limit rule: No new inning can start after 90 minutes. Umpire will confirm official starting time. Mercy Rules (outlined below) apply for all games.

* No Time Limit for any of the championship bracket games:

5. 9 and 10-year-old divisions: Catcher does not have to catch a third strike, but the ball is live for all base runners. 11 and 12-year-old divisions: Dropped third strike rule is in effect.

6. All divisions, ages 9-12, players may steal home. Home plate is open for all age divisions.

7. All divisions play the field with 9 players.

8. All divisions must use a continuous batting order (entire roster is in the batting lineup).

* In a continuous batting order (CBO), you may not change the order that your players bat once the game begins.
* If a player becomes ineligible to bat, they are considered an out for only the first time through the order. After that, they're removed from the batting order and will not be considered an automatic out.
* With CBO, the defense is allowed "free substitution" meaning players can be entered or removed as desired. A pitcher cannot re-enter as a pitcher.

9. You must have 8 players to start the game.

10. Sliding rule will be enforced. Head first sliding is allowed in 11-12 divisions.

* At 9u and 10u division age groups, the first head first slide will be a warning for that team. After the warning, a head first slide will result in the runner being called out.

11. 9-10 year old divisions: 60’ bases and 46’ pitching mounds, players may leave base once the ball crosses home plate. 11-12 year old divisions: 70’ bases and 50’ pitching mounds, leading off and regular baseball will be played throughout.

12. 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.

13. Official Cal Ripken pitch counts and mandatory rest periods will be followed. Failure to follow the pitch count rules and/or mandatory rest period will result in forfeiting all games if an illegal pitcher was used. Pitch count rules and mandatory rest periods are:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Age** | **Daily Max (Pitches in a game/day)** | **Mandatory Rest Period** |
|  |  | **0 Days** | **1 Day** | **2 Days** |
| 9 – 10 | 75 | 1 – 40 | 41 – 65 | 66+ |
| 11 - 12 | 85 | 1 – 40 | 41 – 65 | 66+ |

*If a 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. This counts for DAILY MAX ONLY, NOT the Mandatory Rest Period.*

14. Violation of the pitch count rules will result in the coach being ejected from the game and suspended for the next game. The pitcher will not be able to pitch in the next game.

15. Courtesy runners may be used for catchers only for 10, 11 and 12-year olds once there are 2 outs in the inning. Due to the use of Continuous Batting Order - the courtesy runner shall be the player that was the last out. No courtesy runners for 9- year olds so they can work on developing base running skills.

16. There is no IO throughout the tournament.

17. Five warm-up pitches between innings. In order to keep the games on schedule, there will be no infield between games.

18. A new pitcher will be allowed 7 warm-up pitches.

19. Please have players hustle on and off the field.

20. Tie-Breaker System: If a game is tied after regulation innings have been completed during pool play or championship bracket play, the “California” tie breaker rule will go into effect. The last out in the previous inning will begin on 2nd base and there will be one (1) out. This will continue until a winner is declared or the time limit has been reached (where applicable).

21. Pool Play and Bracket Seeding Tie Breakers will be broken with the following format:

a. Record

b. Results of the head-to-head competition

c. Least number of runs allowed in Total Pool Play

d. Run differential in Total Pool Play (maximum 8 plus/minus per game)

e. Most total runs scored in Total Pool Play

f. Coin Flip

• For a three-way tie, first break the three-way tie by these rules and then start all over with the two remaining teams

22. In the event of the tournament being cancelled due to weather conditions the following will be used to determine refunds: No games played – All but a $100 administration fee refunded, 1 game played – Half of registration fee refunded, 2 games played – No refunds

23. Any player, coach, parent, or fan that is ejected from the game will have to leave the facility. The individual that is ejected will be suspended from the remainder of the tournament and will only be reinstated upon the approval of the tournament director.

**IMPORTANT TOURNAMENT INFORMATION**

1. Download the Baseball Exposure Events Mobile App for schedules, standings, and scores.

2. Tournament schedule and standings can be found online at our tournament exposure website.

3. No post-game on field meetings if there are teams waiting to play. Clean out your dugouts and get out as quickly as possible and meet in the green space between fields to allow the next game to start on time.

4. All pool and bracket play games will have a coin flip to determine the home team.

5. All cages are on a first come first serve basis. Please be courteous of other teams also trying to warm up if there are multiple teams looking to use the cages.

6. The winning team coach needs to e-mail a picture of the umpire’s scorecard that has all the information below. Please e-mail it to the following e-mail office@westfargobaseball.com.

a. Winning Team and Score

b. Losing Team Score and Score

c. Both teams pitch count.

d. Both coaches signatures.