

**Bethesda/EWA/College Grove/Nolensville**  
**Local League Rules**

**GENERAL RULES**

1. A complete time at bat begins when a player takes position in the batter's box as a batter with a count of no balls and no strikes and ends when that player reaches base safely or is declared out.
2. If the batter refuses to take position in the batter's box during the time at bat, the umpire shall order the pitcher to pitch and shall call strike on each such pitch. The batter may take a proper position after any such pitch and the regular ball and strike count shall continue, but if the batter does not take proper position before three strikes are called, the batter shall be declared out.
3. Babe Ruth League Teams may use a courtesy runner for both the pitcher and the catcher at any point during the game and can choose that runner. Teams should take into account any player that may bat during that inning should be avoided and the use of a bench player is recommended.
4. A player will not be permitted to transfer to another team due to pre-arranged agreements between head coaches and assistant coaches.
5. Field gates will be closed during games.
6. All Cal Ripken players will play (6) defensive outs and get at least (1) complete turn at bat. In Cal Ripken League, all players will be in the batting order and free substitutions will be allowed on defense. There are no exceptions other than a shortened game. (Re: Rainouts.) In the case of a shortened game, the coaches' integrity will allow those players to start the next game. It is also the hope of the Recreation Department that players will see as much playing time as possible during the season to keep these children interested in the program.
7. Two offensive coaches may be on the field but need to be in foul territory. This shall be minimum 18 inches from baselines, and will be marked. (First and Third base coach boxes)
10. A team may borrow players from one division below within the same league.
11. Intentional delay of game will result in one warning. After one warning umpire will add or remove as appropriate 5 mins. to/from the game clock dependant upon which is deemed more detrimental to the team causing the delay.
12. Intentional collision with another player will result in an out and the player ejected. Umpires will use their own discretion.
13. Any questions need to be discussed between the two head coaches and umpire prior to the start of the game.
14. The first game of the day or night, must start on time.
15. All protests must be in written form, and given to the Rec. commissioner within 48 hours. Cost will be \$50 for each protest.

## EQUIPMENT

1. Any bats or balls meeting Cal Ripken Baseball specifications shall be legal for local play.
2. A pitcher shall not wear a shirt with white long sleeves. Shoes must be worn at all times.
3. Face guards are optional and provided on the helmets worn by batters, base runners, on deck hitters. Catchers must wear a catcher's mask with a helmet made as part of the mask or a separate unit.
4. It is mandatory for all catchers to wear a protective cup supporter in all games. It is highly recommended that coaches get all players to wear a protective cup while participating in Babe Ruth or Cal Ripken Baseball.
5. In the Cal Ripken League Cleats must be rubber. No metal spikes allowed. Interchangeable cleats are allowed only if rubber spikes are used.

## MINOR DIVISION 9/10

1. No leading off.
2. No drop third strike.
3. Infield fly rule is in effect.
4. Runners @ third are "Frozen" when the catcher attempts to pick off a runner stealing second-first half on the season only.

## MAJOR DIVISION 11/12

1. Drop 3<sup>rd</sup> strike is in effect.
2. Infield fly rule is in effect.
3. Balks will be called but no penalty first ½ of season. Second ½ of season balks will be penalized.
- 4.

**NOTE: Mid-Season rule changes effective for games played on or after May 1<sup>st</sup>.**

## PITCHING REGULATIONS

1. In Cal Ripken Major and Minor League a pitcher may grant an intentional walk without throwing to the batter. To grant the intentional walk the pitcher tells the umpire of his intentions and the umpire directs the batter to first base. (This is a time saving measure)
2. **Cal Ripken Minor Division 9/10:** Under no circumstances shall a pitcher be permitted to pitch in more than 6 innings per calendar week. (Monday through, and including Sunday). If a pitcher pitches in more than 3 innings in one assignment, they are required 2 calendar days rest prior to pitching again. Each game in which a pitcher pitches is considered an assignment. If a pitcher delivers one pitch in an inning, they shall be charged for one inning pitched.\*
3. **Cal Ripken Major Division 11/12:** Under no circumstances shall a pitcher be permitted to pitch in more than 8 innings per calendar week (Monday through, and including Sunday). If a pitcher pitches in more than 3 innings in one assignment, they are required 2 calendar days rest prior to pitching again. Each game in which a pitcher pitches is considered an assignment. If a pitcher delivers one pitch in an inning, they shall be charged for one inning pitched.\*

**LOCAL RULE CHANGE REGARDING BATTING ORDER**

In the Cal Ripken Major and Minor League (9-12 ages), all teams will be required to list and bat all players in the official batting order. All players will bat in this order and any (9) players are allowed to play defense (Free substitution is permissible). Minimum of (6) defensive outs must be played by each member of the team during a regulation game.

### **ALL DIVISIONS**

No team is permitted to score more than 7 runs during their turn at bat. Once the 7<sup>th</sup> run crosses the plate, this half of the inning is declared over.

10 run mercy rule is in effect. Any team leading by 10 or more runs after the 4<sup>th</sup> inning shall be declared the winner and the game is over. If the home team is trailing and time has NOT expired, they will have the opportunity to finish their scheduled 'at-bat' (seven run inning rule is in effect). If the game is tied or the home team is trailing at the end of regulation time, the home team will be afforded the opportunity to take their turn at bat (unless they are trailing by 8 or more runs).

### **CAL RIPKEN MAJOR LEAGUE ONLY**

Major League will implement the larger field size consisting of 70 foot base lengths and a 50 foot pitchers mound. Major League will implement leading off for the base runners.

### **TIME LIMITS**

9/10 Year olds: 1 hour 40 mins.

11/12 year olds: 1 hour 45 mins.