

INTERBORO CAL RIPKEN BASEBALL LEAGUE

2018 – Rookie Division – 8U Boys Baseball

OFFICIAL RULES

The latest edition of the Cal Ripken Division of Babe Ruth Baseball Rules & Regulations shall be the official playing rules of the INTERBORO CAL RIPKEN BASEBALL LEAGUE subject to certain variations determined by the Directors of the League. When any rule or its interpretation is in conflict, the INTERBORO CAL RIPKEN LEAGUE and their intent will apply.

ARTICLE I

GENERAL RULES OF PLAY:

- A. A ball that is hit fair and rolls through, bounces over or goes through the fence in any way while in play will be a ground rule double.
- B. A ball that is hit fair and while bouncing in fair territory is touched by a spectator will be declared dead and any runner or runners will be permitted to go to the base to which the runner was advancing when the ball was touched.
- C. A thrown ball which rolls through, bounces over or goes through the fence in any manner will be declared an overthrow. Any runner or runners will be awarded one base in addition to the base to which the runner was advancing when the overthrow was made.
- D. A thrown ball which goes into the dugout area or over the backstop will be declared an overthrow with all runners advancing according to Section C of this Article.
- E. Swinging or called third strikes whether held by the catcher or not constitutes an automatic out.
- F. The area around the backstop will be kept clear of players, coaches, managers and spectators.
- G. After the game is started, pitchers will warm up on the sidelines. An adult must be with the pitcher and catcher when they warm-up.
- H. Catcher must wear protect gear (cup).
- I. Two out courtesy runner for the catcher is permitted. It must be the last player who recorded an out, no exceptions.
- J. All teams shall be split evenly by talent. Any team found to be “stacked” will be reviewed by the board of directors and possible be asked to disband or forfeit all games won up to that point.

ARTICLE II

GAME

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- A. A regulation game is six (6) innings. However, if the game has been played for One hour forty-five minutes (1:45), and another scheduled game is to follow, the game will end.
- B. Bases (1st and 3rd) will be sixty (60) feet from home plate and the pitcher's rubber will be forty-three(43) feet from home plate.

ARTICLE III

BATTING

- A. All rostered players present for the game shall bat in order, whether playing defensively or not. The batting order will be adhered to. Any player not present prior to the beginning of the game cannot be placed in the batting order being submitted to the opposing manager. Players arriving late will be placed at the bottom of the batting order and his name must be submitted when he enters the order.
- K. There is no "Bunting" or "Fake-Bunt and Swing".
- L. The pitcher and coach pitcher will be at the depth of the rubber 43 feet and on the dirt area of the mound before the batter swings.
- M. A half inning is over when five (5) runs have scored or three (3) outs are recorded whichever occurs first. This rule will apply to every inning including the last. If time permits, it is recommended to finish the last, inning up to five (5) runs, to maximize playing time.
- N. Batting helmets must be used while at bat. Batting helmets must be used while in the on-deck circle and as base runners. If a runner intentionally shakes off his helmet while running, he is out.
- O. No stealing or leading off is permitted.
- P. Base runners must remain in contact with their bases until the player makes contact with the pitched ball. Penalty for leaving early: The player is returned to the base. On the second occurrence the runner is removed from the base but no out is recorded. No team warnings. If the player leaves early and the ball is put into play the defensive team will have the right to make an out through the natural course of the play. If no out is recorded than the runner who left early can only advance one base.
- Q. A thrown bat constitutes an out after a warning by the umpire per player.
- R. **Child pitch innings: Pitches in the strike zone not swung at will be called strikes. If the third strike is swung at and missed, it will be a strikeout. Walks will be issued after four balls. When bases are loaded, and the count reaches (4) balls, the coach will come in to finish the pitching and inherit the count. The batter cannot be walked in this situation.**

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- S. **Coach pitch innings:** After four (4) good pitches the player will be instructed that they have to swing at the next good pitch or they will be called out. No walks will be issued while the coach pitches.

ARTICLE IV

FIELDING

All players present for a game must play at least three (3) innings as a defensive player in the field. No player can play more than four (4) innings in the same position.

- A. Ten (10) defensive players will be allowed on the field during an inning of play. Players will be positioned at all infield positions with the remaining four players in the outfield. At no time will any of the outfielders assume the position of a short fielder.
1. An outfield cannot cover a base after a hit or make an unassisted play at a base.
- B. If a thrown ball hits the coach, the ball is dead and the umpire will position the runners.
- C. Play will cease when the ball reaches the infield and is controlled by the defensive team. A player cannot advance more than 2 bases per offensive play, except for a homerun.
- D. The umpire will make the judgment if the runner is to advance to the next base after the defensive team gains control of the ball. Only the umpire will decide if the player was past the half way point to the next bag.
- E. There is no "Infield Fly Rule".
- F. Pitcher position during coach pitch – player must have one foot on the pitching dirt mound area while the coach delivers the pitch.

ARTICLE V

PITCHING

- A. For innings one (1), two (2) and three (3) player pitch will occur until May 6th. May 7th player pitch will be innings 1,2, 3 and 4, and coach for 5 and 6
- B. One ball pitched constitutes one inning pitched.
- C. Innings pitched will be a rolling three innings.

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- D. Once a pitcher is removed from the position of pitcher they cannot reenter as a pitcher. They can reenter at any other position. No matter how many trips.
- E. Coach pitch will be used for any extra inning game.
- F. Two (2) time outs or abnormal delays in an inning by a manager or coach for the purpose of conferring with a defensive player shall cause the pitcher's removal from the game.
- G. If a pitcher is obviously wild and has struck two (2) batters in an inning or three (3) in the game, the pitcher shall be removed from the mound for the duration of the game.
- H. No player will bat from the tee.

ARTICLE VI

FIELD DECORUM

The action of players, managers, coaches, umpires and League officials must be above reproach.

- B. Uniformed players, managers, coaches and umpires only shall be permitted within the confines of the playing field prior to and during the games. All players, managers and coaches shall be seated on the bench unless actively participating. One (1) player will be permitted in the on-deck circle at a time. The first infraction results in a bench warning. The second infraction results in the removal of the offending player.
- C. Incessant derisive remarks or behavior directed at the opposing team or the umpires will not be tolerated. Should anyone (player, manager, coach, etc.) continue after a warning by the umpire, president or vice-presidents, to hurl insults at anyone, that person will be removed. If the team participates, forfeiture may result.
- D. No player shall circulate among the spectators or converse with them while the game is in progress.
- E. Managers will be given one (1) warning by the plate umpire to inform any parent of his/her unsportsmanlike conduct. If the parent refuses to cooperate, the game will be an automatic forfeit.

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- F. A manager or coach may not come onto the playing field to question a judgment call made by an umpire. The manager or coach may have a player who is in the game request an appeal by the umpire who made the call. However, the decision to request assistance from another umpire is solely at the discretion of the umpire who made the call. A manager or coach who comes onto the playing field to question a judgment call is subject to removal from the game and the dugout area.
- G. The throwing of helmets, bats or any equipment by a player, manager or coach, whether in disgust or not, will not be tolerated. No warning will be given and that person will be removed from the game.
- H. Smoking/chewing of any tobacco items will not be permitted, by anyone, inside the fenced-in boundaries of the playing field during pre-game preliminaries and games.
- I. Alcohol will not be permitted inside the fenced-in boundaries of the playing field at any time.

ARTICLE VII

PLAYOFFS

- A. Playoffs will be seeded randomly and scheduled in accordance with the division structure of that year.
- B. Playoff structure for Major, Minor and Rookie leagues will be determined before the playoffs of each season by the Board of Directors.
- C. All teams in all divisions will be in the playoffs.
- D. All playoff games must be played to their conclusion. Games stopped due to weather, darkness or any other reason will be rescheduled and resumed from the point at which they were stopped.