

Tri-Community By-Laws

Player Laws:

- A. Any youth (ages 9-12) having turned nine (9) before May 1st and not having turned 13 (13) prior to May 1st of the current year shall be eligible to participate in competition. Any player under the age of 9 that wants to play little league, must participate in player evaluations & coaches have final say if player can move up early or not.
- B. Games in which an ineligible player has been used shall be declared a forfeit.
- C. Any eligible player who is drafted and moves out of league boundaries may still participate in Tri-Community until the player ages out. The player will not be available for all-star or any postseason tournament play.

Team Laws:

- D. A team may not participate in more than FIVE (5) activities per week. This includes practices, league games & out of league games.
- E. Each team will have a minimum of ONE (1) practice per week.

Playing Rules:

- F. All Games shall be played according to the official baseball rules with the following exceptions:

- I. A catcher must wear a protective helmet and mask during all practices and games, including any player warming up the pitcher.

- II. Any player wearing a cast of any kind, be it for arms, legs, body & constructed of any kind of material (fiberglass, plaster, either hard or soft) will be allowed to play under Umpires, coaches & parents discretion. However, if player does play with cast,

he/she must be able to complete the MINIMUM for innings played in the field.

III. All batters, and those warming up at bat, will wear a protective helmet.

G. Protesting Games

I. No protest is allowed on an Umpire's Judgment Decision; only with the interpretation of said rule.

II. Protest must be made to Umpire before the next pitch. Protest must be presented to League President in writing within 24 hours.

H. Team Requirements

I. The Home Team will occupy the 3rd base dugout.

II. Both teams will supply ball retrievers for foul balls on their side of the field. If the ball is hit over the backstop, then the hitting team will retrieve the ball.

I. Coaching

I. All coaches of all teams will be expected to help during tournament play. Schedules will be made up well in advance of the first tournament game day and times will be posted and each coach will have his name entered beside the games that they pick to work.

II. There will be an official score keeper on site for each team during each game. The teams will be responsible for that person. If a parent cannot be persuaded and the home team has more than one coach, then one of the coaches must keep score and a player can coach one of the bases. (this is for regular league play)

Restrictions:

J. Pitching Limitations

I. The calendar week of Babe Ruth League, Inc. is Monday through Sunday (including Sunday).

II. A Babe Ruth Baseball pitcher, regardless of age, may pitch **SIX (6)** innings per calendar week.

III. A Babe Ruth Baseball pitcher must have **TWO (2)** full days rest if he pitches in more than **THREE (3)** innings. **ONE (1)** pitch is considered an inning.

IV. Only the starting pitcher can be removed from the mound & then return to the mound later in the same game.

V. If a pitcher is deemed ineligible, the ineligible pitcher must be removed from game. Substitute rule will apply.

K. Playing Limitations

I. Two and one half hour (2 ½) time limit with the following exclusions:

II. A maximum delay of 30 minutes is allowed between weekend games. A minimum of 10 minutes must be allowed for players to warm up.

III. If a game is called because of weather, curfew, or another reason, it is the regulation game if **FOUR (4)** innings have been completed, or if the Home Team has scored more runs in 3 ½ innings, then the **VISITING** Team has scored in **FOUR** completed half innings, or if the **HOME** Team scores **ONE** or more runs in its half of the **FOURTH** inning. If the game is **TIED**, it shall be declared a "**SUSPENDED**" game.

V. Suspended games will be scheduled at a later date determined by the League President & Coaches. The game will be resumed from the point of suspension. Attempts must be made to make the game up within the same week. Whenever the game is continued, the innings pitched will count toward the current week's count.

VI. Each child must play a **MINIMUM** of **TWO (2)** consecutive innings in the field defensively.

VII. All substitute players must be entered in the game by the end of the **FOURTH (4th)** inning.

VIII. Due to games shortened by weather, time, etc, any player not getting the required time will be considered a non-issue.

VIII. 1st base must be open for a team to intentionally "put on" a batter with a walk. A player may be "put on" base once a game. A player can be walked anytime with 4 pitches. Catcher must be in crouching position before a pitch can be released.

X. Pitcher must be on mound with 1 foot on rubber for play to be considered dead.

L. No available substitutes following player ejection

I. If a player is ejected or becomes incapacitated and no legal substitutes are available, then the opposing coach shall pick the substitute player from the roster of the team that had the ejected/incapacity player, thus avoiding a forfeited game.

II. Each player **MUST** play in at least half the scheduled games to be eligible for tournament play and/or All-Star selection.

Draft Procedures:

M. Teams will draft in reverse order of the prior season's finished (i.e. 4, 3, 2, 1).

N. Each team will draft in each round in sequence until all registrants are drafted, or the agreed upon number of players.

O. Brothers and sisters must play on the same team. Cousins or other family will be placed on same team upon request of parents.

I. Exception: Parental request as approved by the League President.

II. Exception: When players are in a different league of play, for example, Player in Coach Pitch league and older sibling in regular Babe Ruth League.

All Star Teams:

P. Team Composition

I. Any Special Tournament teams shall take into consideration all eligible players in the league. Winning coach of regular season gets 1st pick of what all-star team to choose.

II. All stars will be selected from all eligible players from team rosters.

III. The all-star manager has the option of choosing his entire team as the all-star team.

League Schedule and Playoffs:

Q. The league will have a minimum of 10 games during a regular season. The schedule will be set forth by the League President prior to the start of the season.

R. The league may conduct a Championship Tournament.

S. The form of such tournament (double elimination, single game, playoff, best of three series, etc) shall be at the

discretion of a coach's vote and shall be set prior to the start of league play.

T. At the end of league play, if a tie situation should exist, the method for breaking that tie will be:

I. The teams' Head-to-Head Record

II. If the Head-to-Head is a tie, then there shall be a one game playoff.

League Discipline

U. Players and managers are expected to maintain a high standard of conduct and sportsmanship.

V. Coaches & assistants are encouraged, and expected, to attend all league Meetings.

W. A player ejected from one game will be suspended at a minimum of the next scheduled game. If a player is ejected from a second game, the player will be suspended from league play pending a meeting between the player's parents & the League President. The League President shall have final decision.

I. The umpires that were involved in the ejection are not required to attend the meeting, with the exception of the Umpire-in-Chief for rule interpretation purposes only.

II. The SECOND (2nd) ejection of a player will result in a MINIMUM of a THREE (3) game suspension which includes playoffs.

III. The player may be reinstated, but a THIRD (3rd) ejection will result in suspension for the remainder of the season, including playoff and tournament play.

III. All disciplinary issues will be referred to the League President & Rules Committee

(which consists of a parent from each of the teams currently in the league).

IV. Any suspension for more than ONE (1) game may be appealed to the League President & Rules Committee.

X. Managers or assistant coaches ejected from a game may be suspended for one game. The League President & Rules Committee may take action.

I. The League President & Rules Committee's decision will be final.

Y. All equipment (hats, helmets, bats, etc) that is picked up for use must be placed down in the same manner. Throwing of equipment **WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.**

I. The penalty can result in automatic ejection from the game by umpire(s) without a warning.

II. The observance of this violation by the League President and not noticed by the umpires may require the appearance of the manager and/or the player & player's parents before the League President & Rules Committee for a meeting.

Z. Any member of the Tri-Community Baseball League that uses abusive language or gestures in the ballpark will be suspended for one game, plus ejection from the game at the time of the offense.

Miscellaneous provisions:

AA. Any situation that may develop, which is not covered in these bylaws, will be ruled upon by the League President & Rules Committee in the best interest of the league and the youth.

BB. Bylaw Violations:

I. Any violation of the bylaws will be reviewed by the League President & Rules Committee. The League President & Rules Committee may take any action that is deemed necessary. The League President & Rules Committee's decision is final.

CC. Injuries involving open wounds;

I. Player is to be removed from the game

II. Substitute player must be entered per substitute by-laws.

III. The injured player will be unable to return to the game until the problem has been corrected.

IV. The primary exception will be bloody noses. They may be treated on the field, if it is possible. After a reasonable amount of time, if the problem remains, then the player must be removed from the game until the problem has been corrected.

V. Coaches, and anyone else involved with the injured player, should exercise common sense.

Erica Webb, President
Tri-Community Baseball