

2015 Spring Wayne-Wilson Softball Rules
8U/10U/12U Rookie Local League Options
Updated 4-12-15

8U Machine Pitch- Rookie

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The 8U Softball Rookie rules will be followed for regular season play with the following additions:

- * 8U are required to wear chinstraps on all batting helmets. This is a Wayne County rule required for all Wayne County teams. (Wilson is exempt from this rule as they are not one of our teams, but they are interlocking their schedule with ours)
- * Face masks are required on all batting helmets. This is a Babe Ruth rule, and it is not negotiable.
- * 8U are required to wear a fielder's mask when playing any infield position. We encourage it in all positions, but it is only a requirement for the infield. This is a Wayne County and Wilson County rule.
- * The Louisville Slugger Spring-loaded machine will be used for regular season play.
- * 8U will only use one ball at the pitching machine. The catcher will be expected to throw it back to the pitcher after every pitch.
- * The home team is required to provide 2 new balls for the game.
- * The time limit on the game is 1 hour and 30 minutes with nothing new after 1 hour and 25 minutes.
- * In an effort to avoid time issues with the catcher it is mandatory that a courtesy runner is used for the catcher after the 2nd out.
- * The state run rule will be followed as written in the Rookie Softball rules for tournament play. This means a slaughter rule is in place. The game will be called if at the completion of 4 innings the visiting team is ahead by 10 runs or 3 ½ innings if the home team is ahead by 10.
- * Wilson County and Wayne County teams will always use a continuous batting order. Free substitution is in place with a continuous batting order.

- * Batters will get five pitches or 3 swings. A batter cannot foul out.
- * All games will have a 5 run per inning (finishing the play) or 3 outs rule. This could mean that a team scores 8 runs in an inning._

**Babe Ruth League, Inc. – Southeast Region 2012 DISTRICT, STATE, & REGIONAL
BABE RUTH SOFTBALL 8U LEAGUE RULES Tournament Rules (and
recommended regular season rules):**

1. A spring-loaded Louisville Slugger Portable Pitching Machine will be used in Regional Tournament play.
2. Age: 8 & under (must have been registered with Babe Ruth League, Inc.). Players cannot turn 9 before January 1st (2012).
3. Player roster: 12- to 15-player roster with 10 players batting in order (11 with EH).
 - A. An Extra Hitter (EH) can be used as the 11th batter. If a team elects this option it must start with the EH and end with the EH or forfeit the game. [Both teams in a game are not required to use this option.]
 - B. There will be four outfielders. ALL outfielders must remain in the grass area of the outfield (cannot be positioned in the infield at any time).
 - C. One player is placed on either side of the pitching machine assuming the defensive position of the pitcher. Both feet must remain inside the pitchers circle until the ball is hit.
 - D. The catcher takes her normal position in full gear.
4. Game length: 6 innings. Each batter receives a maximum of five pitches. If the batter strikes out, or if the ball has not been hit into play after five pitches, the batter is out.
 - A. If the batter fouls the 5th pitch, batter will receive pitches as long as batter continues to foul pitches. [Note: Any fouled bunt after two strikes is an out.]
 - B. The half inning is over when three outs are made.
 - C. The batter is out if she swings on a third strike and misses the ball.
5. Field dimensions: Standard Babe Ruth 12U Softball Division base length of 60 ft.
6. Pitching machine: The pitching machine is placed at 35 ft. with a speed of 32 mph (established when ball crosses home plate). The front two legs of the machine must be placed in front of the pitching rubber (best if up against the front edge of the rubber or at least the front edge of any underground base for the pitching rubber). Coaches are not allowed to check the machine before their team bats. Only umpires can make adjustment decisions.
7. UMPIRE will feed the machine. Machine should be checked prior to batting. Only the umpire can make adjustments during play.
8. Dead ball:
 - A. The ball will be declared dead when the defensive team stops the lead runner or the runner abandons the effort to advance. Once play has been stopped, no other runners may advance beyond the last base tagged.
 - B. The ball will be declared dead when a player is injured and in the umpire's judgment is unable to continue the play.

C. When a batted ball hits the pitching machine (Refer to Rule 5.09(f)). [The pitching machine is considered the same as an umpire. When the ball is declared dead, the batter occupies first base and the base runners advance one base, only if forced.]

9. Infield fly rule: There is NO INFIELD FLY RULE.

10. Bunting: Bunting is allowed. However, NO FAKE BUNTING IS ALLOWED. If the batter offers to bunt then she must bunt the ball or pull the bat back to take the pitch. If the batter offers to bunt, pulls the bat back and then swings at the pitch, the batter will automatically be declared out by the umpire.

11. Courtesy Runner: The catcher may have a courtesy runner run for them every time they are up to bat. Each courtesy runner used must be a player who is not in the game at the time. Each courtesy runner may only pinch run once per inning.

12. Base stealing: Base stealing is NOT PERMITTED

13. Softballs: Must use approved Babe Ruth 11" softballs. Optional Regular Season Rules but required for Tournament Play (District through Regional):

13. Ten-run rule: The ten-run rule (4 complete innings, or 3-1/2 innings if home team is ahead) will be in effect (tournaments only).

14. Umpires: Two umpires will be on the field at all times (one on the field and one at home plate, behind the batter). One will feed the pitching machine.

15. Credentials: Approved birth documents, Certificates of Accidental & Liability Insurance, Tournament Team Roster, Letter of Eligibility, Consent for Treatment forms, a 5x7 or 8x10 color or black and white team photo with the players, manager, and coaches identified, and Coaches Certificate of Completion of the Coaches Certification Program are required. In addition, Babe Ruth Softball patches must be displayed as specified in the current Rule Book.

16. Type of elimination [Note - The 1st and 2nd place State winners advance to the Southeast Regional Level.]: At the Regional level, pool play will be in effect with the teams placing 1st and 2nd in each pool division advancing to the championship round (single elimination).

Please note: In the 8U League, the Pitcher position is only a reference to a "Fielder's" Position (does not throw a pitch). Therefore, there is NO "Number of Innings Pitched" rule for the player in the position. The position player must remain within the "mound" 8' diameter circle and behind the machine (on either the right or left side) until the ball is hit. A "Courtesy Runner" is not allowed for the pitcher.

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10U Fastpitch

The rules will be followed as stated in the rulebook with the following additions:

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- * 10U are required to wear chinstraps on all batting helmets. This is a Wayne County rule required for all Wayne County teams. (Wilson is exempt from this rule as they are not one of our teams, but they are interlocking their schedule with ours)
- * Face masks are required on all batting helmets. This is a Babe Ruth rule, and it is not negotiable.
- * 10U are required to wear a fielder's mask when playing any infield position. We encourage it in all positions, but it is only a requirement for the infield. This is a Wayne County and Wilson County rule.
- * There will be no pitching limitations for local league play.
- * Babe Ruth Softball Tournament Regulations (10U Division) – Rule 11.05, Paragraph 12 – Increased the softball tournament pitching limitations in the 10U and younger divisions from six (6) innings to nine (9) innings in any two successive games.
- * Extra player (EP) is allowed.
- * During tournament play there are only 9 defensive players. During the regular season we will allow play with 10 defensive players giving more players playing time.
- * You may play with as few as 7 players, but an out must be taken for each player under 9. So if you start with 7 you will have to take 2 outs. If you start with 8 then you will take 1 out.
- * The home team is required to provide 2 new balls for the game.
- * The time limit on the game is 1 hour and 30 minutes with nothing new after 1 hour and 25 minutes.
- * In an effort to avoid time issues with the catcher it is mandatory that a courtesy runner is used for the catcher after the 2nd out.
- * The slaughter rule will be followed. The game will be called if at the completion of 4 innings the visiting team is ahead by 10 runs or 3 ½ innings if the home team is ahead by 10.

* Wilson County and Wilson County teams will use a continuous batting order. Free substitution is in place with a continuous batting order.

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12U Fastpitch

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The rules will be followed as stated in the rulebook with the following additions:

* 12U are required to wear chinstraps on all batting helmets. This is a Wayne County rule required for all Wayne County teams.

* (Wilson is exempt from this rule as they are not one of our teams, but they are interlocking their schedule with ours)

- * Face masks are required on all batting helmets. This is a Babe Ruth rule, and it is not negotiable.
- * 12U are not required to wear a fielder's mask when playing any infield position. We do however encourage it in all positions, but it is not a requirement for this age group.
- * Pitchers may pitch no more than 10 innings per calendar week. If one pitch is thrown in an inning, that inning counts toward the 10 for the week.
- * Extra player (EP) is allowed.
- * The home team is required to provide 2 new balls for the game.
- * You may play with as few as 7 players, but an out must be taken for each player under 9. So if you start with 7 you will have to take 2 outs. If you start with 8 then you will take 1 out.
- * The home team is required to provide 2 new balls for the game.
- * The time limit on the game is 1 hour and 30 minutes with nothing new after 1 hour and 25 minutes.
- * In an effort to avoid time issues with the catcher it is mandatory that a courtesy runner is used for the catcher after the 2nd out.
- * The slaughter rule will be followed. The game will be called if at the completion of 4 innings the visiting team is ahead by 10 runs or 3 ½ innings if the home team is ahead by 10.
- * Wilson County and Wayne County teams will always use a continuous batting order. Free substitution is in place with a continuous batting order.