



# ONslow COUNTY BABE RUTH LEAGUE

Swansboro Baseball & Softball Association

9 December 2014

## I. CLARIFICATION OF BABE RUTH RULES, REGULATIONS AND LOCAL LEAGUE OPTIONS.

**Paragraph A.** The Swansboro Baseball & Softball Association (SBSA) Executive Board and Board of Directors have determined that affiliation with Babe Ruth League, Inc. will encompass the ideals and regulations best suited for our communities children.

**Paragraph B.** Any rules and regulations listed below are not intended to contradict any Babe Ruth Rule unless it is specifically stated that a Babe Ruth Rule is being waived and the League President has obtained written permission from Babe Ruth Organization.

### Section 0.01 Requirements for Charter

**Subsection (a)** The League President shall apply for the Charter or Continuation of Charter by February 1, of each year.

**Subsection (b)** Geographical boundaries for SBSA Babe Ruth Softball, Babe Ruth Baseball, and Cal Ripken Baseball shall be Onslow County lines.

**Subsection (c)** Players must live within these geographical boundaries. This shall be determined according to legal residence of the parent or legal guardian.

### Section 0.02 Definition of League, Player, Sponsor, Playing Rules

**Subsection (a) League** – See current Babe Ruth Rules and definitions.

**Subsection (b) Player Age Groups** – There may be exceptions to these age brackets based on skill levels and experience with the approval of the Board.

- (1) T- Ball (Boys and Girls Combined) – **Ages 4 - 6**
- (2) Rookie (Baseball), 8U (Softball) – **Ages 7 - 8**
- (3) Minors (Baseball), 10U (Softball) – **Ages 9 - 10**
- (4) Majors (Baseball), 12U (Softball) – **Ages 11- 12**
- (5) Prep League (Baseball) – **Age 13**
- (6) Junior League (Baseball) – **Ages 13-15**
- (7) Senior League (Baseball) – **Ages 16-18**
- (8) 14U (Softball) – **Ages 13-14**
- (9) 16U (Softball) – **Ages 15-16**
- (10) 18U (Softball) – **Ages 16-18**

**Note\*\*\***The ages listed above for each division are based on the player's age as of May 1st of the playing year for baseball and player's age as December 31st of previous year for softball. Competition is restricted to amateur players only. Every child must be given the opportunity to play ball. Teams shall not be permitted to recruit their own players. All players, with the exception of T-ball, shall take part in the draft selection program as outlined in this document. A player may request to play "up" with the approval of the Board and with special consideration tendered as outlined in the draft selection program outlined in this document. A player may also request to be a dual roster player on not more than two teams provided the Board approves such request.

### Subsection (c) Sponsors

(1) Babe Ruth Baseball forbids sponsorship by any organization or individual whose activities may be regarded as detrimental to the welfare of youth.

(2) Sponsors will not have a voice in the operation of the League.

### Subsection (d) Age group local league options

(1) **T-BALL:** will be played by the suggested rules according to Babe Ruth Rules and Regulations with the following exceptions:

- a. Game time shall be 1 hour. No new inning shall start after 55 minutes.



b. Once the last batter puts the ball into play, making him/her the last runner advancing the bases until he/she is:

1. Out at first
2. Tagged out
3. Third out is made
4. Scores

c. Teams will field all players present in a defensive position (i.e. no player sits on the bench while his/her team is on defense), with one extra infielder and the remainder as outfielders.

d. There will be no official scorekeeping for T-Ball.

e. Offensively, teams will remain at bat until the entire line-up has come to bat or three outs are recorded, whichever comes first.

**(2) ROOKIES BASEBALL** games shall be played by the suggested rules according to Babe Ruth Rules and Regulations with the following exceptions:

a. One umpire shall be used at all times with the umpire having the option to remain behind the plate, or be positioned behind the pitching machine.

b. Game time shall be 1 hour 35 minutes or six complete innings, whichever shall occur first. No new inning will begin after 1 hour 25 minutes. An inning begins with the third out at the bottom of a preceding inning. In case of a tie after 6 innings, the game will be entered as a tie.

c. Teams failing to field eight or more players shall forfeit the game. Late arrivals will be added to the end of the batting lineup.

d. **5 RUN RULE:** For the first three innings, offensive teams will remain at bat until they are put out three times or until they score five runs, whichever occurs first. If, however, four runs have been scored in one of these innings and runners are on base, should the batter get a base hit, all runs will score until the play has ended. In the fourth inning, scoring will revert to Official Cal Ripken Rules.

e. Machine pitch with a maximum of five pitches per player. If the batter fouls the fifth pitch, the batter will be allowed to continue at bat until the batter either hits the ball into fair territory, or strikes out.

f. No stealing of bases

g. All rostered players present will be in the batting line-up (Continuous Batting Order). Free substitution of defensive players shall be allowed with each player required to have a minimum of two innings or six outs playing time in the field. An injured player will be dropped from the line-up (provided the injury occurred in the field and the player was unable to continue play). If a player does not come to bat for any reason other than injury, that player will be considered out for that at bat and each subsequent time the player is called to bat. A player showing up late will be added to the bottom of the line-up.

h. An extra player is allowed on the field for this division. This extra player should be placed next to the pitching machine, so that there is a player on each side of the pitching machine.

**(3) 8U SOFTBALL** will be played according to the Babe Ruth softball rules with the following exceptions:

a. One umpire shall be used at all times, with the umpire having the option to remain behind the plate or to be positioned behind the pitching machine.

b. Game times shall be 1 hour 30 minutes or six complete innings, whichever shall occur first. No new inning will begin after 1 hour 25 minutes. An inning begins with the third out at the bottom of a preceding inning. In case of a tie after six innings, the game will be entered as a tie.

c. Teams failing to field nine or more players shall forfeit the game. Late arrivals will be added to the end of the batting lineup.

d. **5 RUN RULE:** For the first three innings, offensive teams will remain at bat until they are put out three times or until they score six runs, whichever occurs first. If, however, five runs have been scored in one of these innings and runners are on base, should the batter get a base hit, all runs will score until the play has ended as usual.

e. Machine pitch with a maximum of five pitches per player. If the batter fouls the fifth pitch, the batter will be allowed to continue at bat until the batter either hits the ball into fair territory, or strikes out.

f. No stealing of bases

g. An extra player is allowed on the field for this division. This extra player should be placed next to the pitching machine, so that there is a player on each side of the pitching machine.

**(4) MINOR BASEBALL** games shall be played by the suggested rules according to Babe Ruth Rules and Regulations with the exception of the following:



- a. Teams failing to field eight players from their roster by 15 minutes past game time shall forfeit the game. Forfeits count as losses and cannot be replayed.
- b. With two outs and the catcher on base, the offensive team shall use a runner for the catcher. The runner will be the player who made the last out shall be used.
- c. Game times shall be limited to 2 hours or six complete innings, whichever shall occur first. No new inning shall start after 1 hour and 45 minutes. In case of a tie after the time limit and before six innings are complete, the game will be entered as a tie. In case of a tie after six innings, game will continue until time limit. If game is tied at time limit, game ends as tie.
- d. All rostered players present will be in the batting lineup (Continuous Batting Order). Free substitutions of defensive players (except for pitching and pitching rules) shall be allowed with each player required to have a minimum of two innings or six outs playing time in the field. An injured player will be dropped from the line-up (provided the injury occurred in the field and the player was unable to continue play). If a player does not come to bat for any reason other than injury, that player will be considered out for that at bat and each subsequent time the player is called to bat. A player showing up late will be added to the bottom of the lineup.
- e. **5 RUN RULE:** For the first three innings, offensive teams will remain at bat until they are put out three times or until they score five runs, whichever occurs first. If, however, four runs have been scored in one of these innings and runners are on base, should the batter get a base hit, all runs will score until the play has ended as usual. In the fourth inning, scoring will revert to Official Playing Rules.
- f. **MINOR DIVISION ONLY:** For the first two innings, Manager/Assistant Coaches will pitch for their team. Five pitches per player, if the fifth pitch is fouled off, then the batter will continue to bat until they either hit the ball into fair territory or strike out. Three swinging strikes and the batter is out. Walks and stealing are not permitted while coaches are pitching. In the third inning pitching reverts to player pitch and all normal play following Cal Ripken rules.

**(5) 10U SOFTBALL** games shall be played by the suggested rules according to Babe Ruth Rules and Regulations with the exception of the following:

- a. Teams failing to field nine players from their roster by game time shall forfeit the game. Forfeits count as losses and cannot be replayed.
- b. With two outs and the catcher on base, the offensive team shall use a runner for the catcher the runner shall be a player not in the game at the time of the last out, or if none are available, the player who made the last out shall be used.
- c. Game times shall be limited to 1 hour and 30 minutes or six complete innings, whichever shall occur first. No new inning shall start after 1 hour and 25 minutes. In case of a tie after the time limit and before six innings are complete, the game will be entered as a tie. In case of a tie after six innings, game will continue until time limit. If the game is tied at time limit, game ends as tie.
- d. **5 RUN RULE:** For the first three innings, offensive teams will remain at bat until they are put out three times or until they score six runs, whichever occurs first. If, however, five runs have been scored in one of these innings and runners are on base, should the batter get a base hit, all runs will score until the play has ended as usual.

**(6) MAJOR BASEBALL** games will be played according to Babe Ruth 70ft base rules with the exception of the following:

- a. All rostered players present will be in the batting lineup (Continuous Batting Order). Free substitutions of defensive players (except for pitching and pitching rules) shall be allowed with each player required to have a minimum of two innings or six outs playing time in the field. An injured player will be dropped from the line-up (provided the injury occurred in the field and the player was unable to continue play). If a player does not come to bat for any reason other than injury, that player will be considered out for that at bat and each subsequent time the player is called to bat. A player showing up late will be added to the bottom of the lineup.
- b. **5 RUN RULE:** For the first three innings, offensive teams will remain at bat until they are put out three times or until they score five runs, whichever occurs first. If, however, four runs have been scored in one of these innings and runners are on base, should the batter get a base hit, all runs will score until the play has ended as usual. In the fourth inning, scoring will revert to Official Playing Rules.

**(7) 12U, 14U, 16U, AND 18U SOFTBALL** games shall be played by the suggested rules according to Babe Ruth Rules and Regulations, with the only exception being that of a time limit, no new inning shall start after 1 hour 30 minutes.

**(8) Interlocking Play** – all Babe Ruth League rules for tournament play shall apply to all interlocking league games unless otherwise agreed upon by the other league.



EXECUTIVE BOARD SIGNATURES

PRESIDENT David Washington

VICE-PRESIDENT [Signature]

SECRETARY [Signature]

TREASURER \_\_\_\_\_

BOARD OF DIRECTORS SIGNATURES

CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD [Signature]

BASEBALL COMMISSIONER [Signature]

SOFTBALL COMMISSIONER [Signature]

BOARD MEMBER [Signature]

BOARD MEMBER [Signature]

BOARD MEMBER [Signature]

BOARD MEMBER [Signature]

