

## **DOWNERS GROVE BABE RUTH LEAGUE LOCAL RULES AND REGULATIONS 2015**

The league will be governed by the Official Baseball Rules, published by the National Baseball Congress Of America, and supplemented by the Rules and Regulations of Babe Ruth League Baseball and the following local Downers Grove Babe Ruth Baseball Local Rules and Regulations.

### **1. PITCHING RULES**

A pitcher, regardless of age, may pitch only seven (7) innings per calendar week. A calendar week is a period of seven (7) successive days beginning at 12:01 a.m. Monday through until Sunday at 11:59 p.m. This rule applies to all games regardless of when played, and includes rescheduled and make-up games.

A pitcher must have two (2) days rest between pitching assignments in which a player pitches more than three (3) innings. A day begins at 12:01 a.m. and continues for 24 hours. Each game in which a pitcher pitches is considered an assignment. If a pitcher delivers one (1) pitch in an inning, that pitcher shall be charged for one (1) inning pitched.

Example: A player pitching in more than three innings on Sunday cannot pitch again until Wednesday. The first rest day begins at 12:01 a.m. Monday and the second rest day continues through 11:59 p.m. Tuesday.

EXCEPTION: A pitcher may complete one game and start the next game when two games are played on the same day, provided the limitation of innings pitched in a week has not been exceeded.

A pitcher removed from the pitching position may not return during the game as a pitcher.

Games in which an ineligible pitcher has been used as specified above, shall be declared forfeited.

### **2. STARTING TIME OF GAMES**

Any game scheduled to follow another scheduled game will start at its designated time or ten (10) minutes after the last out of the game before it, whichever is latest. (The above does not prevent a game starting sooner, if both managers and the umpires agree).

When a game start is declared by the home plate umpire in accordance with the above, a team will have ten minutes (10) to field a team or a forfeit will be declared by the home plate umpire.

Infield practice must be completed 5 minutes prior to the start time. This will be enforced by the Home Plate Umpire.

### **3. LENGTH OF GAMES**

There is a time limit of 2:20 for Prep13, American and National games. If an American game reaches the time limit specified in this section, a winner will be declared regardless of the number of innings played. Only games that are tied when the time limit is declared or that are affected by field conditions will be suspended and resumed at a later date. National games called on account of time will be rescheduled and finished at a later date.

The game will end when either team is ahead by ten runs after five innings have been played, or after 4 1/2 innings, if the home team is ahead by ten runs.

When it starts to rain hard enough to delay the game because of either field conditions or lightning, the umpire-in-chief will stop the game and declare a delay of play. There is no time limit for how long a rain delay can occur, but with lightning, you resume play when the "all clear" siren sounds. If the field (batters box and/or pitching mound) are in good condition even after a 40 minute (or whatever) rain, resume play. The time limit is not affected by the delay. (just like a time out in basketball) If however, the rain creates a soggy mound and batters box, the game is called. (that is why the managers should cover the box and mound) At Memorial and Gilbert, it is easy to tell when the field is unplayable as the "Soil Master" gets a "glossy" look. When that happens, it's done. During the week, if the first game runs real late, the second game may very well have to be played at another time. If the first or second game gets canceled on a Saturday or Sunday, the managers of all later games should be out there to prep the field to get it playable for games.

For those of you who play at Memorial, as soon as the umpire stops play, get out on the field and cover the mound and batters box. The tarps are usually rolled up along the back stop on the 3rd base side. If they are not there and it looks like rain, get someone to find them. If the field is already "glossy", soaked and unplayable, don't cover anything, as the damage is already done.

When there are either one (1) or two (2) outs, a substitute runner may be used for the CATCHER and for the PITCHER. The substitute runner shall not be in the line up at the time of the substitution. The pitcher and the catcher must be the current pitcher and catcher in order to be substituted.

#### **4. RE.ENTRY**

Players may be substituted during the game as directed by the managers. A player may re-enter only in the same position in the batting order.

In Nationals, a nonstarter once entered into a game, then removed, MAY NOT re-enter.

In Americans, a player once entered into a game, then removed, MAY re-enter once.

In Prep 13, all players MAY enter and re-enter anytime.

#### **5. PLAYING TIME**

Each player has to play at least one-third of all the innings that he is present. When a player is benched for disciplinary reasons, those innings do not count as "innings present." However, if such action is taken, that player's manager must notify the player's parent(s) and notify the League President or his representative.

#### **6. PLAYER SHORTAGES**

Managers shall follow the procedures stated below when drawing players from teams other than their own to fill out their team when an insufficient number of players from his own team exists. Any exceptions must be cleared through the League President or his representative.

A. A manager may not start a player drawn from another team in place of an original team player, EXCEPT when the player drawn from another team will play the catcher position.

B. A manager may not pitch a player drawn from another team.

C. A manager may not play a player drawn from another team more than three innings, when 10 or more players are present.

DURING A GAME: If a team is unable to field nine (9) players due to injury or ejection of a player AFTER the game has begun and all starting players have reentered the game, the opposing manager shall designate a player from the affected team's bench to fill the open position.

D. National managers will pull a player from their American team, American managers will pull players from their Prep 13 team. Prep 13 managers will pull players from the next team in numerical order. (Team 1 pulls from team 2, 2 from 3...6 from 1.) There is no reason for a Prep 13 team be playing with players from more than 1 team. It is a matter of courtesy to call the manager of the team from which you are getting players.

## **7. PLAYER EJECTION**

Any player ejected from a game for any reason, must sit out the entire next game he is present in uniform.

## **8. PLAYOFF GAMES**

Refer to the game schedule for playoff berths.

If two or more teams tie for the final playoff position, the team with the better "head to head" record will qualify for the seed. If a tie occurs in the "head to head", then a playoff game will be played as soon as possible. If, due to weather a playoff game cannot be played "soon", then a coin toss will be used to determine the seed. All players will have full pitching eligibility for this game as noted in the Rules and Regulations of Babe Ruth Baseball. For clarification purposes as it relates to Rule 11.05. Playoff game and championship game will be considered two different levels of tournament play. Tournament rules covering courtesy runners for pitchers and catchers will apply.

## **9. PROTEST COMMITTEE**

The Protest Committee will consist of the League President, the Player Agent and the League Vice President. A written protest must be filed with the League President within 24 hours. A response will be made from the Committee within 10 days.

## **10. BEFORE AND AFTER EACH GAME**

Each Home team will be responsible for setting up the field, striping the foul lines, setting the bases, and raking and filling the infield as necessary, before the start of each game. Prep 13 and American home teams shall supply two new balls to the umpire for play. National home teams shall supply 3 new balls. At Memorial, the visiting team is to provide workers for the concession stand and to run the scoreboard

**After the last game or practice, the home team will fill any holes (at home plate, pitcher's mound, and bases.)** At Memorial Park, place the pitching and home plate practice mats in place. This is necessary to maintain good playing conditions for following games. Although the home team is responsible for the field condition, both teams should be sure that the field is left in good condition.

When the field is wet, or has standing water, be at the field prior to the start of your game to assist in getting the field ready for play. There is field conditioner and rakes in the shed to use for this purpose- If your game isn't until later in the day (i.e. Saturday) and the field is wet from a Friday night rain, be at the park early to help the other managers prepare the field for play.

## **11. IN CASE OF RAIN**

When a game is called because of rain or poor field conditions, your game will be rescheduled for play that same week. You will be notified with your new game time, and it will be posted on the concession stand.

## **12. REPORTING WINS & LOSSES**

For Prep 13, after each game the WINNING team will email the prep league director to report who won and who lost. For American/National, after each game the winning team will email the Babe Ruth Player Agent to report who won and who lost. There is no need to report who pitched, or the score. Win, loss records will be posted on the door in the shed after the second week of play, and will be kept current each week thereafter. If there is a discrepancy between the posted record and your record, it is probably because you didn't call in the win/loss. Email league director to reconcile.

## **13. SCORING**

It is important that accurate records be kept. This applies to the scorebook. please have your scorekeeper fill the book out as directed in the instructions of each book. Also, use last names in the player list. This solves the problem of trying to figure out which Jason, Tom, Bill, or John the play refers to. Fill in the position played, and the number of the player. This information is very helpful, especially if there is a question about whether a player is eligible, or if a game is disputed.