

2021 PLYMOUTH BABE RUTH REGULAR SEASON LOCAL RULES:

PITCHING RULES *(FOLLOWING MLB "PITCH SMART" RECOMMENDATIONS):

13 -16-YEAR-OLD PITCHERS – **MAX 95 pitches** per day

Exception: If a pitcher reaches the 95-pitch limit while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch until any one of the following conditions occurs:

1. that batter reaches base.
2. that batter is put out.
3. the third out is made to complete the half-inning.

Note 1: A pitcher who delivers 41 or more pitches in a game cannot play the position of catcher for the remainder of that game. A player who as caught 4 or more innings may not pitch that day. Pitchers may not reenter the game once removed for the pitcher's positions.

We will be using pitch count rules. Each manager is responsible for verifying pitch counts after each inning and recording the pitch counts in their books.

MANDATORY – pitch counts are to be recorded and emailed to Billy DePaul/Bill Coakley/Brian Fabry after the game. Managers have 24 hours to report.

YES – BOTH MANAGERS report or verify the pitch counts (for both teams) and final scores for games. It is ok for one manager to email the group and the other manager to just confirm the numbers – but we need verification from both managers.

Consistent failure to not adhere to this rule with a simple email will result in a Board of Directors decision up to and including removal as manager.

Pitchers league age 13-14 must adhere to the following rest requirements:

- If a player pitches 66 -95 max pitches in a day, four (4) calendar days of rest must be observed.
- If a player pitches 51 - 65 pitches in a day, three (3) calendar days of rest must be observed.
- If a player pitches 36 - 50 pitches in a day, two (2) calendar days of rest must be observed.
- If a player pitches 21 - 35 pitches in a day, one (1) calendar days of rest must be observed.
- If a player pitches 1-20 pitches in a day, no (0) calendar day of rest is required.

Pitchers league age 15-16 must adhere to the following rest requirements:

- If a player pitches 76-95 max pitches in a day, four (4) calendar days of rest must be observed.
- If a player pitches 61 - 75 pitches in a day, three (3) calendar days of rest must be observed.
- If a player pitches 46 - 60 pitches in a day, two (2) calendar days of rest must be observed.
- If a player pitches 31 -45 pitches in a day, one (1) calendar days of rest must be observed.
- If a player pitches 1-30 pitches in a day, no (0) calendar day of rest is required.

Note 2: Pitching is limited to 2 innings total for any 16-year-old per outing. Pitch counts do factor in usage for the 16s as well. One pitch = one inning.

A double header is considered 1 Day Pitching. If a pitcher throws 31 pitches Game 1, he/she is ineligible to pitch in Game 2.

PBR Rules

Mayflower Division: Umpires are instructed to call balks; not the coach or manager. Balks are introduced Game 1. Managers can agree to warnings prior to the game but it is not mandatory.

Pilgrim Division: Balks are not called until playoff time and each pitcher is allowed one warning per playoff game before receiving the balk call. Umpires should be made aware of the balk rule. If managers want the balks called – manager(s) discretion but needs to be agreed upon pre-game with the umpire.

Baserunning:

7.08 -- Any runner is out when:

(a) (1) running more than three feet away from his/her baseline to avoid being tagged, unless such action is to avoid interference with a fielder fielding a batted ball. A runner's baseline is established when the tag attempt occurs and is a straight line from the runner to the base which he/she is attempting to reach; or

(2) after touching first base the runner leaves the baseline, obviously abandoning all effort to touch the next base; or

(3) the runner does not slide or attempt to get around a fielder who has the ball and is waiting to make the tag

Slide or Avoid Rule Confusion:

NFHS Rules: Runner does not legally slide and causes illegal contact and/or illegally alters the actions of a fielder in the immediate act of making a play, or on a force play, does not slide in a direct line with the bases or:

1. A runner may slide in a direction away from the fielder to avoid making contact or altering the play of the fielder.
2. **Runners are never required to slide**, but if a runner elects to slide, the slide must be legal. Jumping, hurdling, and leaping are all legal attempts to avoid a **fielder as long as the fielder is lying on the ground**.

Penalty: Runner is out. Interference is called and the ball is dead immediately. On a force play with less than two outs, the runner is declared out AS WELL AS the batter-runner. Other runners shall return to the bases occupied before the pitch. With two outs, runner is declared out; inning ends. Batter is credited with a fielder's choice.

There is no "must slide rule." The rule is, "slide or attempt to get around." The key in this situation is "fielder has the ball and is waiting to make a tag." If the fielder (any fielder, not just the catcher) does

not have the ball, and there is a collision, you CANNOT call the runner out, that can be obstruction by the defensive player. However, if the umpire determines that the runner deliberately attempted to injure the fielder, the umpire could eject the runner for unsportsmanlike conduct.

Slash Bunting:

Strictly prohibited in all levels. Batter is automatically out, dead ball, and no runners advance.

TIME LIMITS:

1. PBR has a 2 ½ hour time limit on all weekend games **when there is another game after it**. No inning will start after 2 hours and 15 minutes.
2. Also, any game on a school night has a 2 ½ hour time limit. There will be no inning started after 9pm on weekdays while school is in session.
3. Night games are limited to 10:00pm. Lights automatically shutoff at Forges BB1 at 10:15.

GAME PLAY:

Minimum Players to Start A Game:

NFHS Rules state 9 players to start; 8 to finish but Plymouth Babe Ruth instituted 8 players to start in 2019 and the rule was not changed prior to the season. Teams can start with 8 and must finish with 8.

Players can be added to the bottom of the lineup if they arrive late during the regular season at any time prior to the completion of the fifth inning during the game.

In the playoffs, the batter/player must arrive before the turn of the order or be considered a non-rostered player.

1. Batting order is continuous, free substitution for field play.
2. 10-run deficit after an official game (4.5 or 5 innings) play is ended. Home team needs to get final at-bat in the bottom of the fifth if trailing by more than 10.
3. Players must play a minimum of 9 defensive outs (3 innings) in a game.
4. Players are not allowed to sit in consecutive innings unless they are injured or designated as the DH/EH. If injured (only able to bat) – minimum defensive outs rule is superseded.
5. Players can be called up from the Pilgrim League to play if rosters limits are lower than 9. A list of players will be available from each of the Pilgrim Coaches once league play starts.
6. If a player is injured, injury replacements should be made to make rosters whole in the Mayflower if the available rostered players is below 12. Players can play in both leagues with this requirement as well.

PBR LEAGUE BAT RULES

13-15-year old players: The bat must be a baseball bat which meets Babe Ruth specifications and standards as noted in this rule. Bats that are not made of a single piece of wood shall meet the Batted Ball Coefficient of Restitution (BBCOR) performance standards or be marked with a USA Baseball stamp. Barrell is no greater than 2 5/8. A BBCOR stamp (BBCOR .50) will be visible

16-year old players only: Bat must represent a BBCOR stamp and **no greater than a -3 (drop 3) bat**. Ex. A 33-inch bat must weight 30 ounces or more.

Barrell no greater than 2 5/8. Diamond Kinetics "Swing Tracker" sensor which is attached to the bottom of the baseball bat can be used in live game-play.

PENALTY:

1. **If an illegal bat is discovered prior to the player completing his/her at-bat – the bat is simply removed from game-play and the at-bat continues.**
2. **A player who uses an illegal bat or non-conforming barrel dimension and hits a fair ball – the batter will be declared out. NO advancement on the bases will be allowed AND any outs during the play will stand. This is an appeal play. The at-bat will be considered legal once a pitch is thrown to the next batter**

DISTRICT – ALL-STAR ELIGIBILITY:

Spring Season Players must play in 60% of scheduled games to be eligible for District All Star Tournament teams. **(Note this rule has been suspended for the 2021 season per Babe Ruth HQ).*

BASEBALL IS BACK!