



2019

8U REGIONAL TOURNAMENT GROUND RULES

11.00 BABE RUTH SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS APPLY IN THEIR ENTIRETY, EXCEPT AS MODIFIED BELOW

11.05 SPECIAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

11.05 [3] TOURNAMENT FORMAT:

Pool Play, Single Elimination or Double Elimination – either is Guaranteed at least 3 games per team. Regional commissioner will make that determination once all teams have registered. Format chosen will be whatever makes best use of field space.

- a. Time Limit-Pool Play Rounds Apply: All Pool Play Games are limited to 1 1/2 hours. Tie games count for seeding.
- b. Elimination Rounds: 1 ½ hours' time limit applies to Elimination Rounds. Time Limits do not apply to Semi-Finals or Championship Games. No ties in Elimination play.
- c. Time Limits may change for ALL rounds: This may occur if weather is a factor.

Scheduling & Rescheduling Games:

Unless otherwise directed by the Region Softball Commissioner all games will be scheduled or rescheduled electronically using approved software (Tourney Machine, if available).

Official Scoring of a Game

There will be an official scorekeeper for all games. If possible, scoring of game utilizing approved software and devices capable of running the program shall be used. Unless waived by The Region Softball Commissioner, there will also be a hard copy record of all games should the electronic device or software malfunction (805 Stats, if available)

Official Start Time

Pool Play & Elimination Round Games officially begin as soon as the batting order of the home team has been handed to the Game UIC. Re: Rule 4.01[d]

Official Completion Time

Rule 11.05[4] Game Completion Rules Apply except as modified as follows:

1. Pool Play Games Only

- a) No NEW inning will start after 1 Hour 30 minutes. Tie games are allowed in Pool Play.

11.07-8U [e] Add the following

- 1.0 The Blue Flame / Black Flame Spring-Loaded Pitching Machine is the Official Pitching Machine of Babe Ruth League, Inc. and shall be used for all tournament games. The machine shall be operated by a team coach during his team offensive half of an inning.
- 1.1 Positioning Machine - The pitching machine shall be positioned on the mound a distance of 35' with a speed setting of 32 mph (established when ball crosses home plate).

11.07-8U [g] Revised to Read

Even though a pitching machine will be utilized for pitching, the player fielding the pitching position must take a defensive position in line with, but preferably slightly behind the pitching machine with two feet in the pitching circle, unless directed otherwise by the umpire to avoid interfering with operation of the pitching machine.

**BATTED BALL HITTING PITCHING MACHINE
(NEW GROUND RULE – BABE RUTH LEAGUE, INC)**

If a batted fair ball hits any part of the pitching machine without touching a defensive player first, it is immediately dead. The batter will be awarded 1st base. All other runners return to the base they occupied before the ball was put in play unless they are forced to advance as a result of the batter being awarded 1st base. If a batted fair ball is first touched or THROWN by a defensive player, and then hits any part of the pitching machine, IT IS A LIVE BALL

ELIMINATION ROUND TEAM SEEDING

THE POINT SYSTEM USED FOR DETERMINING TEAM SEEDINGS IS

WIN – 3 POINTS LOSS – 0 POINTS TIES – 1 POINT

Pool Play Standings are determined as follows

1. Win – Loss Record –
If tied:
2. Results of Head to Head Competition
If tied:
3. Fewest Runs Given Up
If tied:
4. Run Differential with a Maximum of 10 Per Game

Other Rules, Reminders, and Clarifications

RULE 2.0 - INFIELD FLY - DOES NOT APPLY

RULE 2.0 - COURTESY RUNNERS

A Courtesy Runner is Mandatory for the catcher with two (2) outs. Use of a Courtesy Runner is optional with less than two outs. THE COURTESY RUNNER MUST BE A PLAYER WHO IS NOT IN THE LINEUP. The player may only be used as a courtesy runner once per inning.

- a. A Courtesy Runner IS NOT permitted for the pitcher.

RULE 3.03 [NOTE] – RE-ENTRY OF STARTING PLAYERS - Any of the nine starting players may withdraw and re-enter once provided such player occupies the same batting positions whenever in the line-up

RULE 11.05 [5] – RE-ENTRY OF ALREADY USED PLAYERS is permitted if all substitutes have been used and an injury occurs, or a player is ejected. This type of re-entry can only take place when an injury prevents a player from continuing in the game or a player is ejected. Selection of this substitute shall be made by the opposing team manager.

RULE 11.05 [6] -MERCY RULE – Games must be terminated once becoming regulation if ahead by fifteen or more runs (2 ½ -3 innings), or ten or more runs (3 ½ - 4 innings), and has had equal time at bat, or the home team is leading.

RULE 11.07-8U [J] STEALING - IS NOT PERMITTED

Other Rules, Reminders, and Clarifications

Rule 0.02 [8] Regulation Game – is 6 innings or 3/4 innings if the game is called by the umpire based on run limit rule 11.05[6].

Rule 4.17 Paragraph 3 Recognition of a Protest

Whenever the manager protests a game because of an umpire decision allegedly in violation of the rules the protest will not be recognized unless the umpires are notified immediately at the time of the play or before the next pitch is made or a runner is retired.

Rule 11.05 [7] Add: Requirement for Handling Protests.

Before calling the protest committee to the field, the Game UIC shall ask for the Region UIC to report to the playing field when the manager disagrees with the decision rendered by the umpire or Game UIC. If the Team Manager is not in agreement, the Region UIC shall call the Protest Committee to the playing field. After providing the facts stated by the Game UIC, Region UIC, and Team Manager the Protest Committee will go to a remote location of the field. The decision of the Protest Committee will be given the Game UIC, Team Manager, and Region UIC. All decisions of the Protest Committee are Final.

RESCHEDULING GAMES

Only the Region Softball Commissioner or his designee shall reschedule games that have been suspended or canceled due to weather or such circumstance rendering a field unavailable for play. Teams will not leave the tournament area unless instructed. Use of Electronic Scheduling and Rescheduling of games Team Managers will be given instructions for accessing the internet which they must routinely check.

Rule for Controlling Intentional Interference by Design with the Flow of a pool play game.

UNDER RULE 9.00 THE UMPIRE CONTROLS THE GAME AND IS NOT REQUIRED TO HONOR TIME OUT REQUESTS IF a Manager or base coach) IS CONSIDERED INTERFERING WITH THE FLOW OF A GAME BECAUSE OF TIME RULES.

MEDICAL EMERGENCY SERVICES

Provided by: Local Emergency Ambulance Units

UNDER ABSOLUTELY NO CIRCUMSTANCE IS ANY TEAM MEMBER SEVERLY INJURED OR OTHERWISE IN NEED OF IMMEDIATE PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL ATTENTION TO BE MOVED UNTIL DETERMINED SAFE BY MEDICAL SERVICE EMT PERSONNEL OR OTHER

LICENSED MEDICAL PERSONNEL QUALIFIED TO ADMINISTER
EMERGENCY FIRST AID.

RESTRICTED ACCESS TO SCOREKEEPING AREA

1. The only persons permitted to be seated at the Scorekeeper's table during a Game are

Operator of the Scoreboard
Keeper of the Scorebook
Game Changer Scorekeeper

MANDATORY RESTRICTED VIEWING ZONES
IMMEDIATE AREA OF
PLAYING FIELD ANNOUNCER'S TABLE

Viewing of a game by spectators will not be allowed immediately behind, left and right of the scorekeeper table. A zone will be created at least 1 ½ - 2 feet in any direction from the scorekeeper table. Creation of the zone will be clearly identified by means of staking and roping off. The purpose of this zone is to reduce the level of distraction generated primarily by attempts or actual dialogue between spectator and scorekeeper.

Any updates to these Ground Rules will be posted on the Mid-Atlantic Region Tournament web page <https://marbaberuthsoftball.org>

THE BEST OF LUCK TO ALL TEAMS!

RALPH ERRICO
Softball Commissioner
Mid-Atlantic Region
Babe Ruth League, League, Inc.