



# **2022 Bentonville Parks and Recreation Baseball**

## **Spring Season 13/15-year-old Babe Ruth League**

### **League Rules**

- **13/15.01** Official Babe Ruth League Baseball Rules and Regulations & Official Playing Rules and any additional BYB Board approved League/Park Rules will regulate play. There will be absolutely **NO** special rules agreed upon between managers or between managers and umpires.
- **13/15.02** A regulation game is 7 innings OR a game that has ended due to the hard stop 90-minute time limit (regardless of number of innings) OR a game that has ended due to the mercy rule. When a game reaches the time limit, the home team will complete the bottom half of the inning (if tied or behind). A new inning will not begin after the 90-minute time limit. Games can end in a tie (no extra innings).
- **13/15.03 15 RUN RULE (Babe Ruth 13-15)**, Any game must be terminated immediately if one team is ahead by fifteen (15) or more runs after three and one half (3 ½) or four (4) innings and each team has had equal times at bat. Any game for Babe Ruth Baseball 13-15 and 16-18 Baseball must be terminated immediately once becoming regulation (4 ½ or 5 innings) if one team is ahead by ten (10) or more runs and each team has had equal times at bat, or the home team is leading.
- **13/15.04** Pursuant to “MUST PLAY RULE” on pg. 22: For the 13-year-old Pitching (a) and the Must Play Rules (b) and - An inning is defined as completing 3 outs.

**13/15.04 (a) 13-year-old Pitching: It is required that a combination of 13-year-old pitcher(s) are to complete 1 inning of pitching per game.** This is so that younger pitchers gain game pitching experience. Failure to do so, violates the pitching rules and can result in a forfeit. Please note the 13yo's in the game pitching log.

**13/15.04 (b)** All players must have minimum one (1) at bat and one (1) defensive inning per game. All substitutions must be reported to the home plate umpire and the official scorer and must follow the rules of baseball including the special “Re-Entry rule” as outlined in the Babe Ruth League Baseball Rules and Regulations & Official Playing Rules book. Violation of this minimum play rule is an automatic forfeit except where noted below:

- If a regulation regular season game does not provide for 3 complete innings, the minimum play rule forfeit **is not enforced**; **if, all** players who did not meet **all** of the minimum play requirements begin the next scheduled game as a starter with a minimum one (1) at bat and one (1) defensive inning. Non-compliance with minimum play rules or the starter requirement in the next game will result in a forfeit. Both Managers will note in their game results if a game didn't complete 3 innings that their opponent and/or their team didn't play the required minimum play and note the number of innings played.
- **13/15.05 Extra Player (EP)** – The use of a 10th player in the lineup is in effect. A team may elect to add a tenth player to the batting order for league play, district, state, regional and World Series tournament competition. This player will be indicated in the line-up as the “EP”. The “EP” will be treated as any other starter and cannot be eliminated during the course of the game. The “EP” cannot be added to the line-up once the game begins. NOTE: If a team's line-up starts with 10 players, the team must finish with 10 players. Penalty shall be a forfeit. The “EP” may appear in any position in the batting order.
- **13/15.06** Cups are MANDATORY for all catchers.

- **13/15.07** There will be a city league tournament at the end of the season with all teams participating.
- **13/15.08** Courtesy Runner allowed for the catcher of record when there are two outs. The Courtesy Runner must be the last recorded out. Under no circumstances can that player be skipped.
- **13/15.9 Pitching Limitations** apply to all games played. (NOTE: There is no limit to the number of pitchers a team may use in a game). Pitchers can pitch a maximum of 7 innings per game week (Monday – Sunday). One pitch in an inning counts as 1 full inning. 2 calendar day's rest are required if a pitcher pitches more than 3 innings in a game. Rule applies to all games regardless of when played, including rescheduled and makeup games.
- **League Age 13-15**
  - **Intentional Walk Rule** An intentional base on balls may be given by the defensive team by having its catcher or coach request the umpire to award the batter first base. This may be done before pitching to the batter or on any ball and strike count. The ball shall be declared dead before making the award.
  - All pitchers must adhere to the innings pitched count rest requirements.
  - If a game is forfeited before it becomes a regulation game, include no records. Report only the fact of the forfeit. This means the pitching eligibility would be the same as it was prior to the forfeited game. The pitching eligibility for the next game would be the same as it was prior to the forfeited game.
  - In a game suspended by darkness, weather, or other causes and resumed the following calendar day, the pitcher of record at the time the game was halted, may continue to the extent of his/her eligibility for that day, provided said pitcher has observed the required days of rest.
  - Games in which an ineligible pitcher has been used, as specified shall be declared forfeited. The withdrawal of an ineligible pitcher after that pitcher is announced, or after a warm-up pitch is delivered, but before that player has pitched a ball to a batter, shall not be considered a violation. Tournament Officials are urged to take precautions to prevent protests.

### **Official Innings Pitched Count Record**

- The **Home** team must designate a scorekeeper as the official innings pitched count statistician. The innings pitched count statistician shall record all innings pitched. The innings pitched count sheet will be kept in the score booth (the home team has the score book so they can keep it also). If the home team would like an extra person to do that and keep only the innings pitched count sheet, that is fine to have the 3rd person. AGAIN, all score booth personnel are OFFICIALS of the game and are not to advocate for their team but keep the books/innings pitched count for both teams, without bias toward the opposing team.
- Please make sure that date, field, home, and visitor information at the top of the sheet gets filled out for each game.

- The innings pitched count statistician must provide the current inning pitch count for any pitcher when requested by either manager or any umpire. However, the manager has the ultimate responsibility for knowing when his/her pitcher must be removed to meet the mandated rest requirements.
- After each half inning, the umpire will check the pitcher's inning count and coaches should confirm what has been recorded in the score booth. If there is a great discrepancy (between what they thought and what is in the score booth), it should be discussed and taken care of before the start of the next half inning. Anything in the official score booth that is recorded and is not checked and the next half inning starts will be official (just like we do with the score).
- The official innings pitched count statistician should inform the umpire-in-chief when a pitcher has delivered his/her maximum limit of innings pitched for the game, as noted above. The umpire-in-chief will inform the pitcher's manager that the pitcher must be removed. However, the failure by the pitch count statistician to notify the umpire-in-chief, and/or the failure of the umpire-in- chief to notify the manager, does not relieve the manager of his/her responsibility to remove a pitcher when that pitcher is no longer eligible.