

Oahu Babe Ruth League 2021 FALL SEASON RULES

A. FALL SEASON

1. A developmental program to prepare players for the division that they will participate in during the upcoming Spring/Qualifying season.
2. Teams are expected to complete season as scheduled. Canceling games may result in fines and/or removal from the League. Managers of teams removed from the League may be prevented from participating in future Oahu Babe Ruth League seasons.
3. Restriction of players outside of stated Program boundaries are NOT applicable.

B. TEAM COMPOSITION:

1. NO LESS than 12 players must be rostered. Teams are encouraged to carry larger rosters during the Fall Season as we understand that baseball may not be the primary focus during the Fall Season.
2. A minimum of 1 (one) Manager and 3 (three) coaches are to be listed on each team roster. Teams are encouraged to roster additional coaches.
3. Only managers and coaches registered and listed on active rosters are eligible to enter the field /dugout to coach the team.
4. **Once the rosters are submitted, no movement between teams will be allowed by either players or coaches.**
5. Teams will be registered in the respective division based on the player's age on May 1st of the upcoming calendar year.
6. Replacement Players: If a player is unable to complete the season due to injury or moves to another island or out of state, or other circumstances that prevent player participation, the manager may request to replace that player with someone new. **SUBJECT TO LEAGUE APPROVAL.**
7. Team fees will be assessed each year based on the cost of running the Program.

C. COACHES:

1. Coaches shall serve as a role model to players and parents by conducting themselves in a professional and civil manner, demonstrating good sportsmanship at all times.

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2. An ejection of a manager or coach by the umpire from a game will result in an automatic two (2) game suspension. The league reserves the right to impose additional penalties it deems appropriate, which may include expulsion from the league. Suspensions may be extended if the manager or coaches DO NOT COMPLY.
3. Unacceptable behavior shall not be tolerated and may be subject to League action. Examples include but are not limited to the following:
 - a. Profanity;
 - b. Openly critical comments directed toward the opposing team and/or umpires;
 - c. Abusive language or actions towards own players;
 - d. Unsportsmanlike conduct;
 - e. Absence of control of parents and supporters;
 - f. Non-compliance of league rules.
4. Any threat or physical contact towards an umpire, the coach shall be removed from the game immediately and serve an automatic two (2) game suspension. If an ejection occurred prior to the threat or physical contact, the coach shall be issued a four (4) game suspension (two (2) games for the ejection under Section C-2 and two (2) games under Section C-4). If the threat or physical contact occurs after a game, a two (2) game suspension shall be issued. The League reserves the right to impose additional games of suspension as it deems appropriate for a first offense. For a second offense, the League may suspend the coach for the entire season or expel the coach from the League and ban him/her from future participation in any OBRL sponsored league.
5. Background checks conducted by Oahu Babe Ruth League through Sports Engine are required for all coaches, volunteers.
6. All coaches MUST complete “Coaching Youth Baseball: The Babe Ruth Way” online certification program on the Babe Ruth League website (baberruthcoaching.org/coaches/). The certificate issued upon passing is good for life.
7. Coaches should familiarize themselves with the rules of baseball and those pertaining specifically to Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth baseball and have them in their possession during games. There is no need to argue any point of the game in the absence of the copy of the rules. If there is a disagreement regarding the proper application of a rule, coaches shall not engage in a drawn out argument with the umpire. DURING THE FALL SEASON THERE ARE NO PROTESTS. THE UMPIRE’S RULING IS FINAL.
7. Coaches and players are to remain in the dugout during the game.

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- a. Manager is responsible to keep non-players, parents and non-coaches out of the dugout.
 - b. Manager is responsible for keeping parents and supporters away from the area surrounding the dugout.
9. Managers may be disciplined (manager will receive one warning. On the second infraction, manager will be suspended for two (2) games) for the following:
- a. Use ineligible players (not registered) will be responsible for any injury to said player and will forfeit all games in which the ineligible player was used.
 - b. Discouraging players from showing up for certain games will result in the team being removed from further league play.
 - c. Failure to control unsportsmanlike conduct by coaches, players, parents and team supporters are subject to local rules stated above Coaches 3a-3f and Baseball Rule 4.06.

D. PLAYERS:

1. League age as determined on May 1st of the upcoming calendar year.
2. Good sportsmanship (absence of less than preferred behavior) is highly encouraged.
3. Ejection based on unsportsmanlike conduct will result in a 2 (two) game suspension.
4. The league reserves the right to impose additional penalties it deems appropriate including expulsion from the league.

E. EQUIPMENT.

1. Bats: *For information and full clarification on bats, go to baberruthleague.org.*
2. Each team will be provided with game balls by the league.
3. No metal cleats are allowed for Cal Ripken divisions. Metal cleats are allowed for Babe Ruth divisions (13 and above).
4. Chrome batting helmets; Chrome Catcher's Mask/Helmet are not permitted

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5. Protective masks/flaps for batting helmets are recommended but not required.
6. Catcher's helmet must cover the ears.

F. GAMES/PLAYING RULES:

1. Time Limit:

- a. All 10u and 12u games will be played with a **1 hour 45 minute “drop dead”** time limit or 6 innings.
- b. All 13 prep and 15u games will be played with a **2 hour “drop dead”** time limit or 7 innings.
- c. Time commences from the first pitch.

2. Scoring Rules:

- a. Five (5) runs or three (3) outs, whichever comes first, will end an inning.

- b. **THERE IS NO OPEN INNING RUN RULE DURING THE Fall Season.**

3. Game balls: Each team to provide one (1) new and one (1) playable to the umpire at the start of the game. If more balls are needed, playable balls will be provided by teams as follows: visitors – home – visitors – home etc.

4. One (1) offensive timeout per inning.

5. One (minute) or five pitches, whichever comes first, between innings.

6. Babe Ruth Contact Rule will be in effect.

7. Balk Rule: One (1) warning per pitcher in the 12U division for *Fall League only*. Cal Ripken rules will apply to the 9-10 division.

8. Foul Balls: BOTH teams will be responsible for retrieving and returning balls to plate umpire.

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9. Pitching:

- a. Starting pitcher will be allowed up to 12 warm up pitches.
- b. Substitute pitchers will be allowed up to eight (8) warm up pitches.
- c. Pitching limit. 10u and 12u Cal Ripken pitchers may not pitch more than two (2) innings per day. 13u and 15u pitchers may not pitch more than three (3) innings per day.
- d. Intentional Walk – Pitchers no longer have to deliver the four pitches to intentionally walk a batter. The manager can inform the umpire at any point during an at bat that he/she would like to intentionally walk the batter. **(new for 2017)**

10. Trips to the Mound - Three (3) visits per game. *Changing pitchers will not count as a visit. A pitcher visited twice in the same inning, MUST be removed as a pitcher.*

11. Slash Bunts **are NOT allowed** in the 10u 12u **Cal Ripken Divisions.** A batter is out for illegal action when the player fakes a bunt and then takes a full swing, thus eliminating a player from fake bunting (slap hitting) the ball. **Penalty:** Batter is out, the ball is dead, no runners may advance.

12. Courtesy Runner: For the catcher of record only with two (2) outs to expedite the game. Player that made the second out for the inning will be the courtesy runner.

13. Batting:

- a. All players present WILL be listed on the lineup and bat.
- b. Players arriving late will be added to the end of the lineup.
- c. A player that leaves the game early will not be recorded as an out. Players remaining move up in the lineup.

14. Substitution -. All players present will be substituted into the game defensively every other inning. No player will sit more than one inning.

15. Scorekeeper: Home team will be official scorekeeper during games, and will be responsible for monitoring game start and end time.

16. Dugouts: Home team – 3rd base; Visitors – 1st base.

17. All games canceled due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances beyond the Leagues control will NOT be made up.

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G. PROTESTS:

1. No protests during Fall season. Umpire's decision is final.

H. GENERAL RULES:

1. Use of alcohol before, during, and after games is NOT ALLOWED.
2. Use of tobacco products is NOT ALLOWED in and around dug out area.
3. Teams are responsible for their own uniforms. Uniforms will be the same color and style for players with numbers on the back. Coaches will wear the same color and style shorts for games and shirts will be tucked in. Baseball hats while on the field of play are required. **NO VISORS.**
4. Teams are responsible to secure their own practice fields. A copy of the league's liability policy will be provided upon request.
5. Canceling Games - should you have to cancel a game, it must be done via email to darren.ueki@gmail.com It is the canceling team's responsibility to notify their opponent. If you are short players, reach out to your opponent and see if borrowing players on defense is agreeable. Teams failing to notify their opponent and the League may incur a \$50 fine payable before their next scheduled game as we pay the umpires who show up and games are not played.

REPORTING INFRACTIONS:

Infractions: MANAGERS will be responsible for reporting any infractions, use of illegal players, playing short, lack of umpires, etc. Any infractions reported to the League MUST be in writing with supporting documentation of the infraction. Any infraction reported to league officials verbally will not be accepted by Oahu Babe Ruth League Officials.

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The only way to correct problems is to have them reported. Complaining outside of the League does little to help resolve issues.

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Supplemental COVID-19 Rules and Procedures

OBRL will follow the guidance and policies provided by local and state governments regarding outdoor activities. In addition, OBRL will impose the following:

- **NO TENTS** or any other types of temporary coverings are allowed.
- Teams must warm up outside of the baseball complex (**baseball complex** is defined as the four entrances in the outfield)
- Teams must meet outside of the baseball complex and enter as a group.
- Teams playing the second game of the day must wait until teams from the previous game have vacated the baseball complex.
- Only three (3) people are allowed to sit in the dugout. All other team members must socially distance in the bleachers and along the fence down each foul line
- Teams must vacate the baseball complex immediately after games are completed. Coaches wishing to talk to their teams must do so outside of the baseball complex.
- NO POTLUCKS before or after games.

Violation of these rules and procedures may result in the revocation of permits by the City and County.

As requirements change, OBRL will update this policy.

Thank you for your support and cooperation!