



Willamette Valley Babe Ruth League Playoff Format & Rules



Playoff Format

All league playoffs will use a six-team double elimination format.

The #1 Seed and #2 Seeds will receive a bye in the first round and automatically advance to the quarterfinals. The remaining teams will play as follows:

- Game #1: #4 Seed vs. #5 Seed
- Game #2: #3 Seed vs. #6 Seed
- Game #3: #1 Seed vs. Winner Game #1
- Game #4: #2 Seed vs. Winner Game #2
- Game #5: Loser of Game #2 vs. Loser of Game #3
- Game #6: Loser of Game #1 vs. Loser of Game #4
- Game #7: Winner Game #3 vs. Winner Game #4 (Winner advances to Championship Game).
- Game #8: Winner Game #5 vs. Winner Game #6
- Game #9: Loser Game #7 vs. Winner Game #8 (Winner advances to Championship Game).

Championship Round

- Game #10: Winner Game #7 vs. Winner Game #9
- Game #11: If necessary (if L10's first loss)



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Pitching

Cal Ripken Baseball and Babe Ruth 13-15 Baseball - Tournament Pitching Rules

These pitch count limitations will apply to all League tournament games played. For the local league season, leagues are still permitted to use pitching limitations as defined in Rule 0.06 and under Local League Options – Pitch Count.

There are no limitations on the number of innings a pitcher may pitch in a tournament (bracket or pool play) game subject to the following pitch count limitations:

TOURNAMENT PITCHING REST REQUIREMENTS				
AGE	DAILY MAX (PITCHES IN GAME/DAY)	REST PERIOD		
		0 Days	1 Day	2 Days
7-8	50	1-20	21-35	36+
9-10	75	1-40	41-65	66+
11-12	85	1-40	41-65	66+
13-15	95	1-45	46-75	76+

1. If the pitcher reaches the maximum pitch count limit while facing a batter, he may continue to pitch until the batter reaches base safely or is put out.
2. **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.
3. All pitchers must adhere to the pitch count rest requirements before pitching in another tournament game.
4. All players have full pitching eligibility beginning at each level of tournament competition. (League, District, State, Area, Regional, and World Series)
5. In a game suspended by darkness, weather, or other causes and resumed the following calendar day, the pitcher at the time the game was halted may continue to the extent of his/her eligibility.
6. Games in which an ineligible pitcher has been used, as specified above, shall be declared forfeited. The withdrawal of an ineligible pitcher after that pitcher is announced, or after a preparatory (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.



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Official Pitch Count Record

1. The Tournament Director must designate the scorekeeper or another game official as the official pitch count statistician. The pitch count statistician shall record all pitches as defined in the rule book (Rule 2.00 – A pitch is a ball delivered to the batter by the pitcher.), in addition to any pitches delivered to the batter ruled a “no pitch” by the umpire.
2. The pitch count statistician must provide the current 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.
3. The official pitch count statistician should inform the umpire-in-chief when a pitcher has delivered his/her maximum limit of pitches 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.

12-Year-Old Swing Player Option

A 12-year-old player may play in a Cal Ripen and/or American/National (13 – 15 Prep) league. For the tournament season, **the Area Director/ President shall declare to the League President which tournament the 12-year-old player participates in.** The player must meet all Babe Ruth League, Inc. eligibility requirements for the respective division in which he/she participates. A player can only participate on one tournament team in any given year (Rule Book, P. 21).

Note: All swing players must play in 50% of their local league’s games to qualify for tournament play, i.e., a 12-year-old swing player who does not participate in 50% of his Cal Ripken local league’s games is not eligible for a Cal Ripken tournament team (Rule Book, P. 21).



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Mercy Rule

Rookie Majors and Rookie Minors

Seven (7) runs after 5 innings, (or 4 ½ if home team is leading).

AA, AAA, Majors, and Major-Minor

Ten (10) runs 4 innings (3 ½ if home team is leading).

American/National

Ten (10) runs after 5 innings (4 ½ if the home team is leading).