



## Willamette Valley Babe Ruth

PO Box 7885  
Springfield, OR 97475



Subject: Willamette Valley League Area Participation Guidelines.

### Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline Babe Ruth League/Willamette Valley Babe Ruth Area Guidelines for player participation within a geographical boundary of WVBR.

Player participation is based on one of four criteria's:

1. Area based on residence.
2. Area based on school attended.
3. Area based on where a player will attend high school.
4. Area based on shared parental custody

### Policy

**Area based on residence:** All players MUST reside within the boundaries of WVBR and each player MUST play for the area team in which his/her primary residence is located. **There shall be no waiver or releases from this rule for any reason except those expressly mentioned in this section or the Babe Ruth League National Rules.**

**Area based on school attended (Grades K – 7):** Players may participate within an area based on the school for which they attend. If the physical location of the school where a player attends classes during a traditional academic year is within the boundaries of an established league, the player is permitted to participate in the established league. (Note: This excludes home schools, cyber schools, sports related schools, sports academies, or an after school situation where a student participates outside of the primary school in which he is enrolled.) Under the school boundary rule, once a player selects to participate in an area where the player is eligible, the player must finish the current season in that area. **Note: If a player is on a waiting list to attend a school in an area other than their physical place of residence, and has a letter from a recognized school district acknowledging a request for transfer, a player is eligible for transfer to the area for where they have applied to attend, with the approval of the Executive Board.**

**Area based on where a player will attend high school (8<sup>th</sup> Grade):** Players requesting to participate in an area outside of their home area must meet the following criteria in order to be considered for participation in a different area.

1. In District Transfer: Players can make an In District Transfer request from their local school district between the first week of January and the final week of February each calendar year. 8<sup>th</sup> graders who have requested an In District Transfer must provide a copy of their application requesting transfer, and deliver it to their current Area Director for Area consideration prior to the first annual player evaluations of each year. If the current Area Board approves the request for transfer, the current Area Director will inform both



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the new Area Director and the League President of the transfer. The player must participate in all required evaluations. Should a player fail to participate in all required evaluations, they will be released to the League Pool for the National Division. The player will not be allowed to return to their home area. **Note:** The home area reserves the right to deny any transfer request if it inhibits the home areas ability to field a team.

2. Out of District Transfers: For players who are requesting an Out of District Transfer from one school district to another, the Out of District Transfer request must be made to the incoming school district during the month of March. For 8<sup>th</sup> graders who will be requesting an Out of District Transfer, they must make a written request to their current Area Director for Area consideration prior to the evaluation date of the area for which they are requesting transfer. If approved, the current Area Director will notify the new Area Director and the League President of the approved request. The player must participate in all required evaluations. **Additionally, the player will be required to show a copy of their Out of District Transfer application to their current Area Director, and new Area Director no later than March 5<sup>th</sup> of the calendar year.** Should a player fail to participate in all required evaluations, or fail to provide a copy of their Out of District Transfer application to their current or new Area Directors by March 5<sup>th</sup> of the current calendar year, they will be released to the League Pool for the National Division. The player will not be allowed to return to their home area. **Note:** The home area reserves the right to deny any transfer request if it inhibits the home areas ability to field a team.

**Area based on shared parental custody:** In the event a player is involved in a shared custody arrangement between parents, the player **MUST** play in the area team for which they go to school. In other words, if the player is residing with parent (a) in one area, and going to school in the area where parent (b) resides, they **MUST** play for the school where parent (b) resides since this is where initial residence was established. Should the player enroll in school where parent (a) resides, then the player will have the option of playing in the area where parent (a) lives. No exceptions to this rule will be given (Babe Ruth Rule 0.01, Paragraph 5, exception, would apply).

### **Penalty**

If a parent is guilty of intentionally filing a false address, or falsifying documents so that their child would be eligible to play in an area other than the one that their real address, or school of record dictates, the player would be immediately suspended for the remainder of the season, and all games the player participated in would be forfeited. (Note: The ineligible player would be eligible to return to the area for which they are designated the following season). In addition to any suspension/forfeits, a team may be subject to additional sanctions based on the recommendation of the Sportsmanship Committee.

If a parent truthfully files an address to play for a specific area and it is found out later that the player should be playing for a different area, there shall be no penalty and the player will be allowed to play out the remainder of the current season with the team for which he is



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participating with. Upon conclusion of that season, the player will return to the area for which he should actually be playing for.