

Queen Anne's County Baseball

2014 Major (11-12) Division Rules of Play

1. On the Field:

- a. The actions of players, managers, coaches, umpires and league officials must be above reproach.
- b. It is the coach's responsibility to ensure that the actions of their parents are also above reproach.
- c. Batboys and/or Batgirls are not permitted.
- d. The use of tobacco and alcoholic beverages in any form is prohibited on the playing field, benches and dugouts.

2. Field Dimensions:

- a. Distance between bases: 70 feet
- b. Home plate to center of second base: 99 feet.
- c. The pitcher shall pitch from a rubber placed as 50 feet from the rearmost point of home plate.

3. Safety:

- a. The batter, players in the on-deck batting area and base runners must wear a protective helmet that gives protection to the top of the head, temples, ears and base of the skull. Headgear shall be NOCSAE approved.
- b. Players should dress in the same manner (Caps and T-Shirts/Uniforms).
- c. Players may not wear jewelry, except for medical identification.
- d. It is recommended, but not required, that all male players should wear cup-type athletic supporters.
- e. Catchers are required to wear shin guards, chest protector, cup-type athletic supporter (males only), and catcher's mask with throat protector and protective headgear (which gives protection to the top of the catcher's head) when behind home plate. Coaches shall be responsible for enforcement of this rule.

4. Game Length:

Full Game	Innings Required to be Official	Game Time Limit
6 innings	4 innings	Two Hours/ No new inning after 1 hour 50 minutes

5. Participation:

Official Game (4 Innings or Less)	Full Game (6 Innings)
Each player shall play defensively for a minimum of 3 outs	Each player shall play defensively for a minimum of 6 outs

6. Base Running:

Leading Off	Stealing	Stealing Home	Courtesy Runner	Sliding
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes See Note "A"	Yes See Note "B"

- a. A courtesy runner can be used for the catcher if there are two outs in the inning. The courtesy runner has to be a player from the bench who is not currently being used as a defensive player.
- b. When a base runner is taking the next available base the runner is required to slide into a base feet first. At no time should a player who is running the bases slide into any base head first.
- c. Exception to the sliding rule. If a runner is taking a lead and needs to get back to his/her occupied base to avoid a tag can do so head first.

7. Run Limits and Mercy Rules:

Maximum Runs Per Inning	Mercy Rule
Unlimited	No mercy rule

8. Pitching Rules:

Max Innings	Balks	Trips to Mound	Hit Batsmen
6 Innings per week 4 innings per game	Yes See Note "A"	See Note "B"	See Note "C"

Rule 0.06 Pitching Limitations:

- a. A Cal Ripken pitcher, regardless of age, may pitch six (6) innings per calendar week.
 - a. Rule 1 applies to all games regardless of when played. This includes rescheduled and make-up games.
 - b. If a pitcher delivers one (1) pitch in an inning he shall be charged for one (1) inning pitched.

- b. The calendar week of babe Ruth Baseball is Monday through, and including, Sunday.
- c. A Cal Ripken pitcher must have two (2) calendar days rest between pitching assignments if he pitches in more than two innings in any one game. Each game in which a pitcher pitches is considered an assignment.
- d. Games in which an ineligible pitcher has been used as specified in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 shall be declared forfeited. The withdraw of an ineligible pitcher after the pitcher is announced or after a warm-up pitch is delivered but before that pitcher has pitched a ball to a batter shall not be considered a violation. Babe Ruth League Officials are urged to prevent forfeits.
- e. Each game in which a pitcher pitches is considered one (1) "assignment".
- f. A pitcher who is removed from the mound may not be allowed to pitch again, but can play anywhere else defensively.
- g. If a game is called before it has become a regulation game and the umpire declares it "no game" the pitching eligibility is the same as it was prior to the beginning of the "no game" situation.
- h. Although there are not written restrictions as to the use of pitchers in Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken. Babe Ruth strongly cautions extreme care be used so an individual player is not overextended, i.e., protect the players arm.

Note A: When a pitcher commits the first Balk the umpire shall warn the pitcher that he/she has balked. When a pitcher balks a second time the umpire shall follow the official playing rules of the Cal Ripken League. (Rule 8.05)

Note B: A pitcher must be removed when a manager makes a 2nd trip to same pitcher in the same inning.

Note C: A pitcher must be removed when she/he hits a 2nd batter in a single inning, or a 3rd batter in the same game.

9. Batter:

Bunting	Infield Fly Rule	Dropped 3 rd Strike
Yes	Yes	Yes

- a. The batter, base runners, and the player "on-deck" shall wear a helmet. All other players on offense will be on their benches in their dugouts when the team is at bat.

10. Bats, Balls, and Cleats:

Bats	Cleats	Balls
2 ¼	Rubber	Any ball stamped "Official Babe Ruth League or Cal Ripken League"

11. Umpires:

- a. The Major (12U) Division utilizes official umpires for their games. The League will not tolerate any manager arguing with these umpires. If there is a problem with a certain umpire it should be reported to the Commissioner of the Major League so that it can be handled appropriately.
- b. The head umpire for the Major Division will call balls and strikes while standing behind the plate.

12. Lineup Options and Associated Rules:

- a. All players on the team must bat, regardless of whether or not they played on defense the inning before, or will in following innings.
- b. Any player may substitute defensively for any other player at any time in the game. There may not be changes in the batting order during the game.
- c. Players may, after the game begins, be added to the lineup of a team batting the lineup only if the player arrives before any of his teammates have received at least one pitch during a second plate appearance. A player arriving late, but who is eligible to join the game, must be placed at the bottom of the batting order.
- d. Unlimited substitutions on defense are permitted. Players may re-enter game at any time. Batting order must remain the same throughout the game and coaches must include all available players in the line-up. Exceptions allowed for players who must leave early or who arrive late.