

# Queen Anne's County Baseball

## 2015 Junior (13-15) 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: 90 feet
- b. Home plate to center of second base: 127 feet 3 3/8 inches.
- c. The pitcher shall pitch from a rubber placed as 60 feet 6 inches 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
7 innings	4 ½ (Home team winning) or 5 innings	Two Hours 30 Minutes/ No new inning after 2 hours 15 minutes

- a. No new inning may start after two 2 hours 15 minutes. Games called because of the time limited will be considered regulation games regardless of the number of innings played.

**5. Participation:**

<b>Official Game (5 Innings or more)</b>	<b>Full Game (7 Innings)</b>
Each player shall play defensively for a minimum of 6 outs	Each player shall play defensively for a minimum of 6 outs

**Note A:** A Babe Ruth 13-15 team shall have a minimum of three (3) 13 year olds and a maximum of five (5) fifteen year old players on the team.

**6. Base Running:**

<b>Leading Off</b>	<b>Stealing</b>	<b>Stealing Home</b>	<b>Courtesy Runner</b>	<b>Sliding</b>
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:**

<b>Maximum Runs Per Inning</b>	<b>Mercy Rule</b>
Unlimited	No Mercy Rule

**8. Pitching Rules:**

<b>Max Innings</b>	<b>Balks</b>	<b>Trips to Mound</b>	<b>Hit Batsmen</b>
7 Innings per week 7 innings per game	Yes	See Note "B"	Coaches Discretion

**Rule 0.06 Pitching Limitations:**

- a. A Babe Ruth pitcher, regardless of age, may pitch seven (7) 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 Babe Ruth pitcher must have two (2) calendar days rest between pitching assignments if he pitches in more than three (3) 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 :** A pitcher must be removed when a manager makes a 2<sup>nd</sup> trip to same pitcher in the same inning.

**9. Batter:**

Bunting	Infield Fly Rule	Dropped 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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:**

<b>Bats</b>	<b>Cleats</b>	<b>Balls</b>
No more than 34 inches in length and 2 5/8 in diameter. See Note “a”	Rubber or Metal	Any ball stamped “Official Babe Ruth League”

- a. The bat may not exceed 34" in length, and the bat barrel may not exceed 2 5/8" in diameter. All aluminum/alloy barrel bats and all composite handle (only) aluminum/alloy barrels are allowed. Only composite barrel bats certified and marked BBCOR .50 will be allowed. Wood barrel bats conforming to the specifications of Official Baseball Rule 1.10 are allowed. See [baberruthbaseball.org](http://baberruthbaseball.org) for list of non-compliant bats under player tab.

**11. Umpires:**

- a. The Junior (15U) 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 Junior Division so that it can be handled appropriately.
- b. The head umpire for the Junior Division will call balls and strikes while standing behind the plate.
- c. Before each game the manager of each team should ask if there are any parents who would like to help by umpiring the bases. This will make for a better game. Each coach must approve the volunteering parent.

**12. Lineup Options and Associated Rules:**

- a. Extra Player – A tenth player will be added to the batting order during league games. This player will be indicated in the line-up as the “EP”. The “EP” will be treated as any other starter. The “EP” may appear in any position in the batting order. “EP” is coach’s choices but must be announced prior to the start of the game.
- b. Re-Entry Rule – Any of the nine starting players (10 with “EP”) may withdraw and re-enter once provided such player occupies the same patting position whenever he is in the line-up. A substitute who is withdrawn may not re-enter. All pitchers are governed by the provisions of Official Baseball Rule 3.05 if withdrawn while

on the mound pitching. The pitcher withdrawn while a batter or base runner may re-enter the game immediately. If the pitcher is removed from the game because of a second trip in the same inning he may re-enter the game in any position with the exception of pitcher. **Interpretation of the rule** – Each of the nine (10 with “EP”) starting players may be withdrawn from the game and re-entered once. When re-entered the player must occupy the same batting position as he occupied when starting the game, i.e., a starting player and his substitute cannot be in the game at the same time. Babe Rule Book pages 11-12.

- c. Re-entry of used player – Babe Ruth League will allow re-entry of already used players if all substitutes have been used and injury occurs, or a player is ejected. Selection of this substitute must be made by the opposing manager. This type of re-entry can only take place when an injury prevents a player from continuing in the game or a player is ejected. The injured or ejected player, once removed from the game, cannot re-enter.