



Bentonville Parks and Recreation Baseball

4U Cal Ripken T-Ball

League Rules & Objectives

- Have Fun! Keeping baseball FUN-especially in the early stages of youth baseball-is a primary concern of Babe Ruth League's Cal Ripken Division.
- T-Ball: Ballplayers learn basic rules, hitting from a tee and fielding fundamentals (catching and throwing) in a supportive team environment.
- Development of players in baseball skills, leadership, teamwork, competition and sportsmanship.

- **The Sportsmanship Code of Babe Ruth League**

Develop a strong, clean, healthy body, mind and soul.

Develop a strong urge for sportsmanlike conduct.

Develop understanding of and respect for the RULES.

Develop courage in defeat, tolerance and modesty in victory.

Develop control over emotions and speech.

Develop spirit of cooperation and team play.

Develop into real, true CITIZENS.

- **4.01** Official Babe Ruth League Baseball Rules and Regulations & Official Playing Rules and any additional BYB Board approved League/Park Rules will regulate play. There will be absolutely NO special rules agreed upon between the coaches.
- **4.02** Game time will be 45 minutes, regardless on innings or completion of the batting order. An inning is over when the team has gone through the lineup. However, players that are out are to go back to the dugout. It is the initial stage of teaching the "out" rules of the game.
- **4.03** All players will play in the field and all rostered players present at the game shall bat in the lineup.
 - **Defensive (in the field)**
 - **4.03.A** All players not playing in the traditional infield positions will play on the grass in the outfield. The traditional infield is made up of P, C, 1st, 2nd 3rd bases and shortstop.
 - **4.03.B** The pitcher will wear a helmet and should be in contact with the rubber and make a pitching motion before the batter swings at the ball.
 - **4.03.C** The catcher takes the position behind the plate - standing behind the hitting coach. The offensive coach at the tee will need to assist and protect the opposing catchers.
 - **4.03.D** Players are required to rotate positions at each inning, so that each player gets an opportunity to play different positions.
 - **Offensive (batting)**
 - **4.03.E** All rostered players present at the game are in the lineup and will bat. Players must remain in the batting order. Late players are inserted at the end of the lineup.

- **4.03.F** All batters will wear a batting helmet when on the field of play, whether as an on-deck hitter, a batter, or a base runner.
- **4.03.G** All hitters will hit the ball from a batting tee. The tee should be adjusted to such a height the batter will be able to **swing level**.
- **4.03.H** Three complete misses of the ball while batting constitutes a strike out.
- **4.03.I** No leading off, no stealing, and no advancement on a passed ball or wild pitch.
- **4.03.J** No courtesy runners.
- **4.04** Only T-Ball softie balls are to be used. No Hard or regular league baseballs.
- **4.05** The league will follow the rules regarding bats set forth by the Babe Ruth / Cal Ripken organization, including any changes that may occur during the course of the season.
- **4.06** A 10-minute warm-up will take place at each team's respective dugout side on the field. Effectively dividing the field in half for warm-ups.
- **T1.01** T-Ball baseball is an instructional division. Scores or standings will not be maintained. There should not be any social media regarding winning or losing. It is not encouraged to have players' parents or the coaching staff discussing scores and winning as this is not the focus at this age group.
- **T1.02** No smoking or chewing tobacco will be allowed in the confines of the playing field. Alcoholic beverages and drugs are not permitted anywhere in the park. Coaches you may not go outside the dug out to smoke during the game in which your team is playing. These products include smokeless tobacco, **E-cigarettes, vapors**, and all related alcohol products. **(City of Bentonville Ordinance – only allowed in the parking lots)**
- **T1.03** There will be no profanity, obscene gestures or throwing of any equipment.
- **T1.04** No player shall be suspended or disciplined by a team without league approval.
- **T1.05** Removing team from the field: No manager shall refuse to have his team take the field or remove his team from the field for any reason. PENALTY: 1 game suspension of the manager. Wireless communication devices are not allowed. However, Electronic Scoring Devices are permitted. **No device on the field or in the dugout may be used as a means of communication.**
- **T1.06** Violation of the coaches' code of conduct, will be reviewed by the Program Supervisor and could result in a game suspension or removal.
- **T1.07** No Jewelry, no exceptions. Medical alert and religious bracelets or necklaces are not considered jewelry. If worn, they must be taped to the body so as to remain invisible.
- **T1.08** All equipment shall be kept in the dug outs during the game.
- **T1.09** All players, Managers and Coaches - unless they are on the field playing a position, on base, in coach's box, up at bat, or in the on-deck circle, will be in the dug-out. On offense, a coach shall be at the plate in order to place the ball on the tee. In addition, a first base and third base coach will be in their respective coaches' box on the field. **An offensive fourth coach in the dugout.** On defense, coaches are to be stationed beyond the infielders (on the grass) in order to provide instructions to all defensive players.
- **T1.10** No thrown bats, if you have player(s) whom are prone to this please work with them.
- **T1.11** Keep the bench and dugout area clean, participate in getting the field ready for the next game by picking up the dug-out and field.

- **T1.12** The league will follow the rules regarding bats set forth by the Babe Ruth / Cal Ripken organization, including any changes that may occur during the course of the season.