



2021 Bentonville Parks and Recreation Baseball

Spring Season - Merchants Park T-Ball Cal Ripken Ages 4 and 5

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.

Park Rules

- **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.

National Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken League **Rules 2021 Changes/Updates**

Updated 01/27/2021.

The International Board of Directors has approved the following rule changes beginning with the 2020 season. These changes will be reflected in the 2020 Babe Ruth League, Inc. Rules and Regulations.

Rules changes/clarifications for the 2021 Season

1. **Rule 0.01; Number 7 - BACKGROUND CHECKS:** Babe Ruth League requires all managers, coaches, and volunteers with consistent active engagement with players to register with our National Athletic Safety Program for Background Checks and Abuse Prevention Training. Babe Ruth League, Inc. chartered leagues are required to conduct a nationwide background check on all managers, coaches, Board of Directors, and any other persons, volunteers, or hired workers, who provide regular service to the league and/or have repetitive access to, or contact with, players. Once a volunteer has successfully completed the background check, it is valid for a two (2) year period from the date of completion. (Cal Ripken Baseball, Babe Ruth Baseball, Babe Ruth Softball)