

# **SOUTH LINCOLN SPORTSPLEX BABE RUTH BASEBALL RULES**

All games will be played according to the Babe Ruth League Rules and Regulations with the following modifications and clarifications.

## **PLAYER ELIGIBILITY**

Any player who's 13th, 14th or 15th Birthday falls before April 30th of the current year.

## **GENERAL**

Each team is allowed four (4) adults in the dugout; one (1) manager and three (3) assistant coaches.

Any coach who calls time and goes onto the playing field more than two (2) times in one inning per pitcher to talk to a player or players, will be required to remove the current pitcher from the mound.

## **EQUIPMENT**

Approved (unaltered) baseball bats (not softball), wood or aluminum may be used. Aluminum bats are limited to a diameter of no more than 2-5/8".

All batters and runners must wear batting helmets. Any batter who bats without his headgear is out after the first (1st) pitch. Any player running the bases and deliberately removing his headgear, in umpire's judgment, will be called out. **EXCEPTION:** Home run over the fence or time out.

If a runner's helmet comes off while the runner is advancing to a base, then once the runner reaches the base, whether safe or out, time will be called, the ball is dead and no runners may advance.

The catcher must wear the full catcher's outfit, this includes: Protective helmet with attached mask, protective cup and throat protector.

Any player, manager or coach warming up a pitcher at home plate shall wear a protective mask. It is recommended that anyone warming up a pitcher at any location wear a mask.

## **THE PLAYING FIELD**

The pitching distance is sixty feet, 6 inches (60'-6").

The base paths will be ninety (90) ft.

## PITCHING RULES

A pitcher may pitch seven (7) innings per calendar week. A pitcher that throws one (1) pitch in an inning will be charged with one (1) complete inning pitched. A calendar week runs from Monday through Sunday (inclusive).

Pitchers must have two (2) calendar days of rest between pitching assignments if he pitches more than three (3) innings in any one (1) game.

## OFFENSE

Each team will bat nine (9) players per game with the option of adding a tenth (10th) Extra Hitter (EH). If used, the Extra Hitter (EH) must be declared at the start of the game and may appear in any position in the batting order.

A regulation game will be seven (7) complete innings. The game may be called if one team is ahead ten (10) or more runs after it becomes a regulation game.

Games will have a one hour and thirty minute (1:30) time limit. No new Inning will start after the time limit is reached.

Five (5) innings constitute a regulation game in case of bad weather or any other cause, which in the umpire's judgment interferes with further play, or four and one half (4-1/2) innings, if the home team is ahead.

A starting player who is removed from the game on defense shall re-enter the game only as a replacement for the player occupying the same batting order position held originally by the starting player.

If the score is tied at the end of seven (7) innings, the game ends in a tie. Extra innings will not be played.

Teams may start a game with a minimum of seven (7) players.

Players who intentionally (umpires judgment) discard their batting helmet as a batter or base runner will be called out, the ball is dead and no runners may advance.

After one (1) warning per game per player for slinging the bat, the batter will be called out for each additional time that he/she slings the bat, the ball is dead and no runners may advance.

## DEFENSE

Only nine (9) players will play on defense in any inning.

If a team has less than nine (9) players, the manager may decide which position(s) to leave vacant on defense. **EXCEPTION:** Pitcher and catcher.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

Players injured and removed from the game cannot under any circumstance return to the game.

The use of an illegal player will result in the forfeiture of any and all games in which the illegal player participates.

A coach or player ejected from a game will be suspended for their next scheduled game. The coach must meet with the Sportplex League Manager before coaching in any remaining games. A second ejection received by a coach or a player will result in their suspension for the remainder of the season.