

## 2014 Gateway Babe Ruth League Playing Rules for regular season

- The Babe Ruth league is operated as a competitive division. Records of wins and losses during the regular season will be kept for playoff seeding. A coach or manager is allowed to have instructional conferences during the game as long as they do not interfere with the normal flow of the game. It is very important that the Coaches confirm with the Umpires at the plate that you are playing Babe Ruth Rules. The Umpires will not know if it's a Varsity game or Babe Ruth Game unless you tell them at the plate.

- There will be forfeits! If a team can't field 8 players at the start of the game. The 9<sup>th</sup> spot in the lineup is an out. If there is a forfeit a scrimmage will be played and we will request the Umpires call the game. A scrimmage will only go 4 innings max. Pitching rules do count.

- ### Lineup structure.

- A Team may use a 9 or 10 man lineup or higher with free substitutions but must use that lineup throughout the game. A continuous line up is not necessary. If you play with an 8 man lineup the 9<sup>th</sup> position is an automatic out. A player must play out the complete inning before being removed. (When the Team bats and fields that is considered a full inning.) A pitcher may not reenter the pitching position after being removed from the mound.

- The game MUST be scored in the team's official score book. First and last names of players must appear in the lineup. Please keep score books neat and accurate.

- If a pitcher balks, the umpire will make the call, and will then explain to the pitcher what he did incorrectly. Base runners will advance on the first balk call per pitcher.

- No pitcher may pitch more than **7 innings per week**. A pitcher may have up to 8 warm up pitches.

- A courtesy runner may only be used for catchers when there are 2 outs, to help expedite the game. The courtesy runner can only be the player who made the previous out. This will be used all season.

- **Games will consist of seven innings - or a 2 1/2 hour time limit. Rain-outs MUST be rescheduled in 1 week and attempted to play within 2 weeks.**

- Coaches are strongly urged to get their players in and off the field as quickly as possible. A new inning may not begin after the 2 hour 30 minute mark.

- 10 Run slaughter rule will be in effect after the 5<sup>th</sup> inning.

- The Home Team is to supply 3 new baseballs at the start of each game.

- The HOME FIELD League will provide two umpires per game.

- At the conclusion of the game, the home team MUST rake the infield, home plate area and pitcher's mound. Both teams are responsible for rubbish pick up. Teams are to email The President the game results, the umpires names, pitchers names and innings pitched. This means after game Head coaches should go over these details. Please email to President and copy the WEB Master that day to keep information updated for all the Teams, Leagues records and for newspaper articles.

- Good sportsmanship, fair play and exemplary conduct will be mandatory for all players, coaches, managers, umpires and fans. The umpire will have sole discretionary judgment on continuance of play if a disruption of any kind occurs; i.e., rain, weather, fan disruption, etc.