

Santa Rosa Babe Ruth League, Inc.
PO Box 8163
Santa Rosa, California 95407
Local League Rules and Regulations
Revised January 28, 2007

<u>SECTION</u>	<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
1.0	Organization	3
1.1	Board of Directors	3
1.2	League Divisions	4
1.3	Geographical Boundaries	4
1.4	Manager Selection	4
1.5	Criteria for Manager Selection	4-5
1.6	Manager Responsibilities	5
2.0	Registration	5
2.1	Eligibility	5
2.2	Registration for Play	6
3.0	Drafting of Players	6
3.1	Tryouts	6
3.2	Draft Procedure	6-7
3.3	Vacancies	7
4.0	Refunds	7
5.0	Playing Schedule and Practice Games	7
6.0	Equipment	8
7.0	Start of Games	8
7.1	Starting a game	8-9
7.2	Game Length	9
7.3	Postponements	9
7.4	Ground Rules	9
8.0	Rules	10
8.1	Official Playing Rules	10
8.2	General Playing Rules	10-11
8.3	Rule of Conduct on the field	11-12

<u>SECTION</u>	<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
9.0	Protests	12
10.0	League Standings and Playoffs	12-13
10.1	Point System	12
10.2	Playoff Format	13
10.3	Playoff Rules	13
11.0	Tournament Teams	13-14
11.1	Managerial Selection	13
11.2	Tournament Team Selection	14

1.0 ORGANIZATION

1.01 Santa Rosa Babe Ruth League, Incorporated is a chartered League of Babe Ruth Baseball, Incorporated. Babe Ruth Baseball is dedicated to developing better citizens, by providing properly supervised baseball competition.

1.1 Board of Directors

1.11 Administration of the League is the sole responsibility of the Board of Directors.

1.12 The Board of Directors shall consist of no fewer than five and no more than twenty-one board members.

1.13 The board of directors will have a core group of five members that will stay on the board for the following year. These five will be nominated by the other board members and voted on in September. Any person wishing to be on the board shall attend this meeting and make it known at that time. These offices will be in effect starting October 1st for these and other positions.

1.14 Officers of the Board shall be:

- A. President
- B. Vice-President
- C. Secretary
- D. Treasurer
- E. Player Agent

1.15 Officers of the board shall be elected by a majority of the board and shall serve for a period of two years.

1.16 There shall be an Executive Committee of the five Officers of the board. This Executive Committee may be called upon on interpretation of these rules and implement them when/if issues need to be decided on between regularly scheduled board meetings. This committee shall also serve as the Protest Committee, (see section 8.17). In the event a person holds two officer positions, the President will appoint another person from the board to fill the fifth position.

1.2 League Divisions

League Divisions

- 1.21 The league shall have three divisions. Operations shall be the responsibility of the Board of Directors.
- 1.22 The first division shall be officially classified as the 13 to 15 year old division.
- 1.23 The second division shall be officially classified as the 16 to 19 year old division.
- 1.24 The third division shall be officially classified as the Cal Ripken League. *

1.3 Geographical Boundaries

- 1.31 The league geographical boundaries shall comply with Babe Ruth and Cal Ripken Regulations.* (0.015).

1.4 Manager Selection

- 1.41 All managers must apply on an annual basis.
- 1.42 The Player Agent and President will interview all new applicants. The Player Agent may provide a list of applicants and make recommendations to the Board of prospective managers for approval. A manager's choice(s) for coaches is subject to board approval. *

1.5 Criteria for Manager Selection

- 1.51 Be willing to be finger printed via Live Scan through the Department of Justice and possible Federal Bureau of Investigation if manager has lived outside of California at the leagues expense.
- 1.52 Not have been convicted of any felony crimes.
- 1.53 Prior manager experience.
- 1.54 Prior coaching experience.

- 1.55 Baseball Knowledge
- 1.56 Ability to commit self to team and the league throughout the season.
- 1.57 Have no outstanding equipment and/or uniforms.

1.6 Managers Responsibilities

- 1.61 Responsible for all team equipment and safety condition of same. If a piece of equipment is unsafe for use, contact the league Equipment Manager or designate for immediate replacement.
- 1.62 Responsible for coordination of all fundraisers and all other activities which pertain to their team and the league.
- 1.63 Arrange for the distribution and return of all uniforms and any other Equipment issued to team and /or each individual player.
- 1.64 Responsible for preparing the playing field.
- 1.65 Assign a team representative and score keeper.
- 1.66 Responsible for behavior of team, coaches and parents.
- 1.67 Violation of any rule may result in immediate removal from the manager's position. Failure to carry out any necessary duties as prescribed in these rules is cause for removal.
- 1.68 In the event of a vacancy during the season, the successor shall be the rostered coach, with board approval.
- 1.69 All players, managers, and coaches must wear league approved team uniforms for any official scheduled games. Any players, managers or coaches who are not wearing league approved team uniforms will not be allowed in the dugout or on the baseball field.

2.0 Registration

2.1 Eligibility

- 2.11 A participant must be a legal resident of the area serviced by the league.

- 2.12 A participant must be of the required playing age on or before April 30th. A certified birth certificate (copies are not acceptable) must be shown at registration the first year in Babe Ruth. A laminated card will remain on file for the remaining years in the league.*

2.2 Registration for Play

- 2.21 All players must be registered on or before the established deadline date. Returning players to the league will have priority registration to help determine the amount of new registrations taken. After these amounts have been met, all remaining potential players will be placed on a waiting list.
- 2.22 Any entry fee for each player must accompany his/her registration form unless otherwise approved by the President. The Board of Directors shall set the fee.

3.0 DRAFTING OF PLAYERS

3.1 Tryouts

- 3.11 Tryouts shall be held the first part of March, (weather permitting), on a regulation sized field. If the weather has left the fields unusable, other arrangements shall be made.

3.2 Draft Procedure (only managers, coaches and board members are allowed to be present during the draft).

- 3.21 Cal Ripken / 13-15 Year old Division
- a) The team with the least points (see section 9.11) will draft first in each round according to the previous seasons league standings. The balance will follow in order. In case of a tie, the order of the draft picks shall be as stated in section 9.12.
 - b) A new team's draft order will be decided by lottery draw. Their numbers will fall between designated draft pick orders.
- 3.22 On draft night selections may be traded once only by each team. You may trade a player, having not already played on your team, for picks. **AT NO TIME IS THIS INFORMATION**

TO LEAVE THE ROOM AFTER THE DRAFTS ARE COMPLETE!

A one time only time limit of 5 minutes per team will be allowed during the draft. The regular time limit of 2 minutes per round will be enforced during all other rounds of the draft. The manager must let everyone know that he wished to use this option at the beginning of his pick of the round.

After the completion of the draft, team rosters will be filled out and signed by the league President, certifying the eligibility of all listed players.

3.3 Vacancies

3.31 The Player Agent must replace a voluntary or involuntary vacancy on the team within 72 hours from the time the vacancy is created. If the Player Agent cannot fill the vacancy within 72 hours, the manager shall be allowed to recruit to fill the vacancy. A player will not be replaced after the 11th game unless the roster falls below 11 players. A player replaced due to illness or injury shall retain his spot on the team's roster for the next season. The replacement player will retain a position on the team roster after he has played 7 regular season games.

4.0 REFUNDS

4.01 Refunds will not be considered after the first scheduled game unless due to injury or illness. This refund will be prorated with board approval.

5.0 PLAYING SCHEDULE AND PRACTICE GAMES

5.01 Practice schedules that include practice games will be distributed by the League Scheduler. Full team practices will only be held as scheduled.

5.02 The manager or league approved coach **MUST** be present at all practices and games. **ONLY LEAGUE ROSTERED PLAYERS MAY PRACTICE WITH THE TEAM.**

5.03 Practices or practice games, or any combination thereof, prior to the start of the league season, shall be limited to 4 per week. Practices

conducted after the start of the league season shall be limited to one per week. Playoffs are not considered part of the regular season.

6.0 EQUIPMENT

6.01 The home team is to furnish 2 new game balls with the visitors furnishing 1 new ball for the start of each game. The visiting team will, if necessary, furnish the first additional ball and then the teams will alternate if additional baseballs are needed. All games at Doyle Park will be provided three baseballs from the snack bar to start the game.

6.02 Team at bat is responsible for retrieval of balls that leave the playing area.

7.0 START OF GAMES

7.1 Starting a game

7.01 Managers will be responsible for getting games started on time. The games will start at the official (scheduled) start time unless unforeseeable circumstances, field conditions, high school games, no umpires, delay the start of the game.

7.02 The second game will start within 30 minutes after the end of the first game, or at the scheduled start time if the first game is completed within 1-1/2 hours. At the end of the first game, the teams will clear the dugout and field area immediately so that the second game can get started.

7.03 Players in the second game will be warmed up and ready for infield at the end of the first game.

7.04 A maximum of 10 minutes per team infield warm-ups shall be allowed prior to official start time.

7.05 Visiting team will take infield first. Home team will then remain on the field after their infield warm-ups and play will begin.

7.06 Each manager or coach will provide all copies of his lineup, including substitute players, players absent, injured, or not playing, to the

official score keeper and opposing manager then present his line up card to make official at the pre-game meeting.

7.07 If the umpire fails to appear by game time, the game will be postponed. At no time will a parent or Coach umpire the game.

7.2 Game Length

7.21 No inning shall start after 2 hours has elapsed from the official game start time. Game start time will be announced by the home plate umpire and will be written down by the official scorekeeper. For Cal Ripken no new inning shall begin after 1 hour 40 minutes.

7.22 13-15 and 16-18 year old divisions: 10 run rule will be in effect for all games. After 4-1/2 innings if home team is ahead. Cal Ripken 3 ½ innings.

7.3 Postponements

7.31 Postponements of regularly scheduled games may be granted only with the approval from the board of directors. Requests for postponements must be presented to the League Scheduler a minimum of 3 days prior to anticipated postponements.

7.32 Under no circumstances can a manager, coach, board member or any other person override the City of Santa Rosa's closure of a baseball park.

7.33 Postponed games shall be played at the date designated by the League Scheduler.

7.34 When a player, coach, or manager is ejected from the game, that individual becomes ineligible for the next game. If a player, coach, or manager is ejected a second time, the suspension will be for the next three consecutive games and subject to a board hearing. A third ejection will result in immediate expulsion from the league.*

7.4 Ground Rules

7.41 Umpires shall instruct manager to delegate retrieving of passed balls and picking up of equipment immediately as game action permits during play.

8.0 RULES

8.1 Official Playing Rules

- 8.11 Violations of these rules and regulations will not be tolerated and result in the suspension or expulsion of said individual (s) from further game or league participation.
- 8.12 All questions, disputes, protests, or modifications of rules and regulations not covered in these articles will be decided by the Board of Directors, which has the power to interpret and formulate such rules and regulations for all play. The protection and stimulation of competition will be used in setting these regulations and making decisions.
- 8.13 If in doubt on the interpretation of any of these rules, please contact the Board of Directors. The board will make all official interpretations of any rule.

8.2 General Playing Rules

- 8.21 Minimum play is required for each player in the Cal Ripken and 13-15 year old divisions.
- A) Every player must bat at least once per game.
 - B) Everyone will play defensively a minimum of:
 - a) 2 innings (6 outs)
 - C) Failure to meet these minimum requirements is a rule violation.
 - a) In playoffs, tournament or last regular season play violating team will forfeit.
 - b) Player denied an at bat will play the complete next game.
 - c) Player shorted 1 defensive inning will start and play at least 4 consecutive innings in the next game.
 - D. Enforcement
 - a) It is league policy to encourage scorekeepers, parents, opposing managers,

- players, and umpires to report violations of the minimum play rule to the Player Agent.
- b) The Player Agent will investigate and report findings to the Executive Board. Possible board action toward violating managers may include, but is not limited to:
- I. Request of written or verbal explanation.
 - II. Require additional play for shorted players.
 - III. Suspension for one or more games.
 - IV. Dismissal from the program.
 - V. If during playoffs – not eligible to manage tournament team.

8.3 Rule of Conduct on the field

- 8.31 Players, managers and coaches must be instructed that they are to take special care in the use of facilities and equipment.
- 8.32 The manager and/or coach of each team must cooperate with the supervisor in charge of the facilities.
- 8.33 Any manager, coach, player, or member of the Board of Directors who conducts themselves in an unsportsmanlike manner while participating in any Babe Ruth League competition may be removed from further participation by the board after a fair hearing. Removal by the board will be final and binding. Only the manager, coach, player, and witnesses will be allowed to attend the hearing with the board. The board will select who will be in attendance. Consequences could include but are not limited to:
- ◆ Suspension of one game.
 - ◆ Suspension of one week of play.
 - ◆ NOT be eligible for any post season tournament play.
 - ◆ Possible expulsion from the league.
- 8.34 Any manager or player who, in the judgment of the umpire, is guilty of delaying completion of the game by stalling when time limit, darkness, weather, or other conditions make calling the game possible, shall be subject to immediate ejection from the game and possible suspension for a period of time, recommended by the Player Agent and approved by the Board of Directors.

- 8.34 The Executive Board will review all ejections from a game. Any action to be taken will be determined at that time.
- 8.35 A report of the ejection(s) shall be submitted by the ejecting Umpire to NBPO who in turn will notify the player agent within 24 hours.
- 8.36 There are no appeals for ejections which include players, manager or coaches.**
- 8.37** Upon the ejection of a player it will be up to the discretion of the Umpire in Charge whether that player is to leave the park or only the immediate playing area or dugout based upon the nature of the offense. If that player is allowed to remain outside the playing area they shall do so only if no further violations occur from that individual. In the event the ejection requires that that under age participant leave the park they will do so only if a parent or guardian is present to assume responsibility for that player. If a parent or guardian is not present then the Manager of the violating team will assume the responsibility for that player and will also be required to leave the field of play to maintain custody and control over the offending individual until released to the parent(s).

If the parents cannot be contacted the Manager has the ultimate responsibility to see that the violating participant gets home safely.

9.0 PROTESTS

- 9.01 The protest committee shall be composed of the Executive Board, with the Assigner of Umpires added as consultant as needed. (NOTE: The Assigner of Umpires, when acting as a consultant, will have no vote). In the event a person or persons on this committee has players (s) on a team involved in a protest, they will excuse themselves from this protest hearing and the President will appoint a new person. Proxies will not be accepted.
- 9.02 The committee shall rule on protests within five days of receiving said protest.

10.0 LEAGUE STANDINGS AND PLAYOFFS

10.1 Point System

10.11 All league games will be rated as follows for official standing in league play.

Win = 2 points

Tie = 1 point

Loss = 0 points

10.12 In case of a tie in points, the winner will be decided as follows:

- A) The best division record (if applicable).
- B) The team with the best record in games head to head between tying teams.
- C) The team that allowed fewer runs in games played between tying teams.
- D) The team with the most wins during regular season.
- E) The team that allowed the fewest runs during the regular season.
- F) A coin toss.

10.2 Playoff Format

10.21 All divisional playoffs shall be a double elimination format between the top team in each division (when applicable) or the top two teams if one division.

10.22 The team with the highest regular season standings will be given the choice of being the home team in the first game, after that home team will be determined by a coin toss.

10.3 Playoff Rules

10.31 Playoff games shall be played using tournament pitching rules.

10.32 Playoff rules: Tournament rules apply.

10.33 Minimum play rule will be in effect.

11.0 TOURNAMENT TEAMS

11.1 Managerial Selection

11.11 Interested managers shall submit their request in writing to the Board of Directors for consideration by May 31st. The board will select the manager based on ability, knowledge and cooperation with league policy. *

11.2 Tournament Team Selection

11.21 Player selection.

- a) All eligible players may participate in tournament play.
- b) Selection of this team will be made by the following: The tournament team manager is responsible for the selection of players assigned to the tournament team. The manager will fill the roster and announce the team members after approval by the executive board. There will be 15 players on the primary roster.
- c) The Executive Board shall approve the tournament team roster and coordinate the announcement of the players selected for the tournament team. No player notification can occur prior to board approval.