



CAL RIPKEN 7-8 YR. OLD TOURNAMENTS / SUGGESTED LEAGUE RULES & REGULATIONS Last revision - May 30, 2018

1. **TIME LIMIT:** One hour and twenty minutes (1:20) or six (6) innings whichever comes first. In the event of a tie, the games will continue until there is a winner. In the championship game there will be no time limits.
2. **BATTING ORDER:** All team members will bat round robin. If a batter becomes disabled during the game and cannot bat, it is NOT an out. If a child is sick before the game, leave him off of your line up and inform the opposing coach, umpire and the press box. This player cannot enter that game. If a base runner becomes ill or injured while on base, the base runner will be removed from the game. A substitute base runner will be put on the base just vacated by the injured/sick base runner. The substitute base runner to be placed in the ball game as the new base runner will be the last batter who is in the dugout. Must have nine (9) players to start and play a game. If you drop to eight (8) players for any reason the game will be called a forfeit.
3. **DEFENSE:** Will consist of nine (9) regular fielding positions and one (1) additional rover in the outfield. A second pitcher may not be used on the infield. The pitcher will be placed to the side of the machine, within four (4) feet of and behind the forward most point of the machine. The pitcher may not be beyond the forward most point of the machine before the ball is put in play. Penalty: If the ball is not hit the umpire shall declare "no pitch". If the ball is hit the offensive coach may choose between the play and "no pitch".
4. **RUNS PER INNING:** A maximum of six (6) runs per inning per team.
5. **CONTACT RULE:** Babe Ruth rule: 6.05 (m) shall apply
6. **DEAD BALL:** Time will be called by the umpire when no runner is advancing. The ball becomes dead when a batted ball hits the pitching machine or the individual feeding the machine. The batter will be awarded first base. No runners may advance unless forced. Any thrown ball which hits the machine remains alive and in play. The ball becomes live when it leaves the pitching machine.
7. **PITCHING MACHINE:** The Louisville Slugger Blue Flame Ultimate Pitching Machine speed will be set on 9 and 4 (the 4 may have to be adjusted if the field has a mound) to achieve an approximate speed of 40 MPH. If a newer model Louisville Slugger Black Flame machine is used, those settings may be different and determined by the Umpire-in-Chief and Tournament Director. The rear of the machine will be placed 46 feet from home plate. The umpires may allow adjustment of the machine at the beginning of any inning to maintain consistency. The machine may be adjusted during an inning with the consent of both coaches or if deemed necessary by the umpire. The machine will be operated by the umpires.
8. **THE BATTER:** 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.
9. **THE CATCHER:** Must wear a facemask, helmet, mitt, chest protector, shin guards, and a protective supporter with cup. The catcher must also wear a catcher's mitt and not a fielding glove or mitt of any other kind.
10. **COURTESY RUNNER:** Will not be allowed.

11. **INFIELD FLY:** Will **not** be in effect.
12. **FREE SUBSTITUTION:** Will be in effect.
13. **BUNTING:** Will be allowed. There will be a no “slash” bunt rule. This is defined as a fake bunt that is followed by an attempted swing. The penalty for violating this rule will be, the ball ruled dead, the batter will be out and no runners will advance.
14. NOT USED.
15. **SPECIAL BASE RUNNING RULE:** Cal Ripken Baseball Special Base Running Rules (a, b, c) shall apply (page 13). At no time can a runner advance to home plate if he or she is on third base when the pitch is made, unless the catcher throws to a base to make a play or the ball is hit by the batter. Stealing will not be allowed on a “no-pitch”.
16. **BATTER IS OUT:** After three (3) strikes. If, in the umpires judgment, the machine delivers a ball out of the strike zone a “no pitch” will be called unless the batter swings in which case it will be called a strike. Each batter will be allowed a maximum of three (3) pitches. A foul ball on the 3rd and subsequent pitches will be allowed another pitch regardless of the number pitches thrown.
17. **SLINGING A BAT:** If a batter slings his bat, a warning will be given to the team at bat. After one warning, any player on the warned team who slings his bat will be called out immediately and no runners will advance. The umpire will be the sole judge of whether the bat was slung or dropped. **This is NOT an appeal play.**
18. **COACHES:** One (1) team manager and three (3) coaches are allowed to be rostered for these age groups. On defense, coaches must remain in their dugout. One (1) coach may stand directly in front of the dugout for the purpose of instruction and positioning.
19. **BASE AWARDS:** All overthrown balls are live unless the ball leaves the field of play, in which case, a one (1) base limit will be given to the runners. Any (fair) batted ball that bounces over, rolls through or under a fence will be a ground rule double.
20. **INTERFERENCE:** As defined in the Babe Ruth Rule Book will be enforced. This includes batters and catchers deliberately attempting to distract.
21. **HIT BY PITCH:** If the batter is by a pitch, he or she will not be awarded first base. It will be ruled as a no-pitch. If the batter cannot continue the at-bat, the next batter in the lineup will take their place and the count will start over.
22. **RUN RULE:** If a team is ahead by thirteen (13) runs after four (4) complete innings (3 ½ for the home team) the game will be called. If a team is ahead by seven (7) runs after five (5) complete innings (4 ½ for the home team) the game will be called.
23. **GAME TIME:** Be at field at least 30 minutes prior to game time.
24. **UMPIRES:** The field umpire will call plays on the bases. The home plate umpire shall be Umpire-in-chief for the game and will call fair or foul, plays at home plate, leaving early and assist in calling plays on the bases. Any thrown ball striking an umpire, in fair territory, is in play.
25. **LINEUPS:** One (1) copy to score box, umpire and to opposing coach ten (10) minutes before game time. First initial, last name and number are required.
26. **TOBACCO:** Use is prohibited.

27. **OTHER:** Refer to the Cal Ripken Tournament Rules and the Officials Base Ball Rules for situations not covered here.

**CAL RIPKEN 7 & 8 YR. OLD TOURNAMENT
RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. The tournament team manager must place in the custody of the tournament officials the following documents prior to the start of competition:
 - a. Birth documents or records as specified by rule 0.04, paragraph 1 each of the tournament team players.
 - b. Certificate of coverage of group accident insurance policy. (3 claim forms)
 - c. Certificate of coverage of League Liability insurance policy.
 - d. Tournament team roster certified and signed by the league president.
 - e. Consent of Treatment Forms. 2 Copies per player
 - f. Coaching Certification I.D. Card or Certificate. Tournament Managers and Coaches must complete coaching education and certification prior to the start of their first level of tournament competition.
(These documents must be in a 1 inch ring binder, in protective plastic cover sheets)
2. **All managers and coaches must be in FULL uniform, NO SHORTS**
3. A ball stamped Official Cal Ripken or Babe Ruth League Baseball shall be used in all tournament play.
4. Each tournament team roster must include a minimum of twelve (12) players with a maximum of fifteen (15) players.
5. All managers, coaches and players are required to wear the Official Cal Ripken Baseball shoulder emblem on the left sleeve of their uniform, or on their cap.
6. In bracket play, the higher seeded team gets their choice to be home or visitor.
- 7 All 7&8 year old teams will be required to participate in the Cal Ripken Tournament trail starting at the lowest level (District and State) before they are eligible to enter a Regional Tournament.

Rob Featherston
Assistant Southwest Regional Commissioner – Cal Ripken Division

February 25, 2017