



WRYSA BASEBALL LEAGUE RULES

Instructional Baseball 8U

Supplement to WRYSA By-Laws & Policies

Sportsmanship and Conduct

Each team will be given a WRYSA Coaches packet to guide them in consistent handling of routine and occasional situations. If you have questions, please discuss them with your league coordinator.

Sportsmanship and conduct are the primary concern of the coaches and assistants. This includes the conduct of coaches, players, and fans of your team. Coaches will be required to sign the Coaches Code of Conduct which outlines the approved behavior for all WRYSA coaches. Proper youth sportsmanship attitudes must be instilled and maintained on every team. Encourage positive cheering by everyone.

This is an instructional league with parents and coaches encouraging players to do their best and have fun. Players should be engaged, run on and off the field, and be attentive.

Schedules

Games will begin at 5:30 and 7:00 **with no inning to begin after 6:45 and 8:15 respectively (1 hour and 15 minutes of play time).**

Both the home team and away team will split the field for warmups. Both teams will set up fields prior to the game and at the end of play secure bases, lights and lock facilities. On lighted fields the field lights should be turned off as soon as play is complete. The home team uses the first base dugout and visitors use third base. An umpire will be scheduled for each game. The home team will provide a volunteer base umpire.

Rain delays and Canceled games

Valid warning sirens will result in stoppage of play. Lightning will result in stoppage of play. When a game is suspended, a decision will be made within 15 minutes to continue play or cancel the game.

When a game is canceled, 4 innings constitute a complete game and is not to be continued or rescheduled. When teams have had one hour of playing time the game will be considered complete and is not to be rescheduled. The League coordinator will decide to cancel games if deemed necessary. Cancellations are for the entire night. The entire night will be added to the schedule as a make up by the league coordinator.

General Rules

Follow Babe Ruth League Inc. Rules, unless otherwise noted:

Pitching (Coach Pitch)

- Coaches will pitch to their own team.
- Up to five (5) pitches are allowed to each player.
 - If a batter does not make contact after five pitches, the batter will hit off a Tee.
 - If the batter continues to foul off the last pitch, they will continue to receive additional pitches until they hit the ball in fair territory.
- All players should be allowed to hit the ball at this age. This helps teach fielding and making decisions on where to go with the ball in the field.
- Either the Head Coach or Assistant Coach may pitch.

Equipment

- No metal cleats are allowed.
- Catchers must wear a helmet, facemask, shin guards, chest protector and protective cup to play. If needed, borrow from the other team. Safety is the goal.
- Helmets (cage optional) are to be worn by all batters, base runners, and on-deck players.
- All other players are to remain on/in the bench area or behind the fence. Coaches shall monitor and remind players as needed. Safety is the goal.
- Bats will only be USA stamped bats.

Fielding

- All teams will play the field on defense, with a pitcher, catcher, 1st, 2nd, 3rd baseman, shortstop and four outfielders (10 players on the field).
- Outfielders must be approximately 15' into the grass in their respective positions (LF, LC, RC, RF)
- Shifting outfielders to the dirt (creating additional infielders) or creating an imbalance of players from one side of second base to the other is prohibited.
- The fielding positions must rotate every two innings.
 - During the season, every player must be provided a chance to play at every position on defense.
- Coaches will determine if a child can play certain positions due to safety concerns, and their ability, for their own protection.
- In each game, all players are required to sit once before any player can sit twice.
- No players may play the same position more than two (2) innings in a single game.
 - Coaches are encouraged to also split field time of players between infield and outfield as much as practical.
- Fielders should not fake a tag on a runner.
 - A fielder who fakes a tag is considered an obstruction and the runner shall be awarded the base attempted, plus one base.

Batting

- Only the current and on-deck batters can practice swinging during the game. Both players must be on the playing field and the on-deck batter must be standing in the on-deck circle.
 - THE ON-DECK BATTER SHOULD BE FACING THE BACK OF THE BATTER THAT IS UP. THUS, WHEN THERE IS A LEFT-HANDED BATTER, THE ON DECK BATTER SHOULD BE ON THE FIRST BASE SIDE. RIGHT-HANDED BATTER, THE ON DECK BATTER SHOULD BE ON THE THIRD BASE SIDE.
 - No other player can swing a bat during the game, including outside of the playing field.
- The batting team will run their batting order in a consecutive and continuous fashion.
 - Every player must bat every time through the order.
- Bunting is NOT allowed.
- There are no walks or strikeouts.
- Infield fly rule will be called.
 - Foul tip on a strike must be above shoulders of the batter to be out, if caught.

Base Running

- No deliberate contact will be allowed. Any deliberate contact, a coach will need to talk to the player to make sure this won't happen again.
- Players are required to slide on close plays, except for first base. This is a safety issue and coaching point.
- Balls hit to the infield will remain live until the ball is fielded and the ball is in control of an infielder.
- Ball will be dead, and play stopped, when a ball hit to the outfield is thrown to a player in the infield and has control of the ball. All runners must stop running at the base they are attempting to take when the ball is deemed a dead ball.
- Runners can advance on an overthrow at any base.

Coaching

- Additional "helpers/coaches" will be allowed to help prepare catchers between innings, or assist players in the dugout, if needed. Parents should refrain from entering the dugout during the game.
- Two coaches are encouraged in the outfield throughout the entire game and season. Any person under the age of 18 that is coaching a base is required to wear a helmet.
- Each inning is limited to **3 runs or 3 outs**.
 - Each team can only score a maximum of 3 runs each inning, even if they are behind by more than 3 runs.
- Games are timed for 1 hour and 15 minutes. The goal is to play as many innings as possible.
- No foul language by players, spectators, or coaches, will be allowed. The coach will warn as needed.
 - Spectators or coaches will be required to leave area with a report made to the League coordinator(s).

- Coaches should have players defensive positions and batting line-up planned and completed prior to the game for the entire game. Coaches are not allowed on the playing field when their team is on defense throughout the entire game and season.

Team Responsibilities

- Help clean out dug out and field after the game.
- Have kids be responsible for helmets & bat organization. Have kids place balls and helmets back into bag for coaches at the end of the game.
- Have parents and players help with garbage clean up at the end of the game.

Concessions

- Obligations: It is a requirement that all baseball and softball league players partake in the WRYSA Concession Stand volunteer program. The requirement is that at least one concession stand shift be completed on behalf of each player registered for WRYSA league ball.
 - Families can opt-out of working a concession shift during registration and their opt-out fee will be donated to a volunteer concession worker on their behalf.
- A parent concession schedule will be made available to all WRYSA participants via email and posted online.
- Parents who opt-in to work their concession shift will be assigned their shift and responsible for covering their assigned shift.
- A list of eligible volunteer concession workers will be made available to coaches and WRYSA families as the regular league season nears.
- Parents who fail to fulfill their concession requirements will be invoiced \$100 at the end of the season and their player will not be allowed to register for tournament or league play for the following year until the invoice is paid in full.

The rules for this league will be the Official regulations and playing rules of Babe Ruth Baseball. Any rules not specifically stated or modified above will be governed by the Babe Ruth League rules.

2025 Baseball League Coordinators:

Justin Allen - 715-213-5417