

North Mecklenburg Babe Ruth League (NMBRL)

Rules for Community Interlock Play

North Mecklenburg Interlock Babe Ruth General Guidelines

NMBRL Member communities follow published BR 15U & BR 18U Baseball Rules with the following local exceptions for community interlock play.

1. “BR 15U” in this document will refer to the 13 – 15 age group
2. “BR 18U” in this document will refer to the 16 – 18 age group
3. Game nights for the calendar Year
 - a. Spring Season
 - i. Season starts April 20th due to 6-week schedule
 - ii. 15U = Monday & Thursday nights
 - iii. 18U = Tuesday & Friday nights
 - b. Fall Season
 - i. Season starts after Labor Day
 - ii. 15U = Monday & Wednesday nights
 - iii. 18U = Tuesday & Thursday nights
 - iv. **Tournament will conclude by Nov. 7th**
4. Each organization is responsible for securing the fields to accommodate the homes games for the number of teams participating.
5. Leagues will multiple teams will play against each during the season.
6. Home team furnishes 2 balls min but would prefer 3 balls to keep the game moving along.
7. 10 Games plus with 5 homes and 5 away games.
8. Tournament is a Single game format.
9. Rosters are due to the Commissioner 7 days prior to the start of the Spring / Fall Season
10. For a player to be eligible for the post season tournament, the player must have played in half (5 games) of the regular season schedule.

Field Locations:

Davidson McEver Field = 626 South Street, Davidson, NC 28036

ELOC Optimist Field = 8086 Optimist Club Road, Denver, NC 28037

Huntersville – Bradford Park = 17005 Davidson Concord Road, Huntersville, NC 28078

Huntersville HAP Fields = 11720 Verhoeff Drive, Huntersville, NC 28078

MCOC BBQ Field = 11400 Mallard Creek Road, Charlotte, NC 28262

North Mecklenburg Babe Ruth League (NMBRL)

Rules for Community Interlock Play

2017 BABE RUTH INTERLEAGUE CONTACTS

ELOC Organization

Commissioner: Kevin Helms (Coach K)
M: 980-429-0736
E: coachkhelms@charter.net

MCOC Organization

Level Commissioner: Lance Altschuler
M: 954.632.4264
E: mcoibaseball@gmail.com

HYAA Organization

Commissioner: Brandon Edwards
M: 980-429-0736
E: brandonhyaa@gmail.com

Davidson Organization

Level Commissioner: Kevin Bringewatt
M: 704-896.1747
E: Kevin@bringewattsoverlaw.com

SOTG – Organization

President – Casey Fitzsimons
M: 704-763-0301
E: casey@playstewards.com

Game Start Times:

- Teams have 15 minutes from the published game start time to field a complete team. The fifteen minutes will not be added to the allotted game time and the official clock will not be changed.

Game Length & Time Limits:

- Games are 7 innings at BR 15U & BR 18U
- A regulation game is 3.5 innings if the home team is leading or 4 innings if tied or the home team is behind.
- No new inning starts after **1 hour and 45 minutes**. **A new inning starts when the third out is recorded.** Any inning started prior to the “no new inning” rule will be played in its entirety if necessary and conditions permit.
 - The timer should be paused during a weather delay.
 - Playoff Games are still subject to the “No New Inning after 1:45 rule,” except in the case of a tie.
 - The Championship Game will have no time limit and play a full seven innings.

Rain Process:

- If home team doesn't complete the 1st inning, the make-up game will start in the top of the 1st inning.
- If game is between 1 complete inning and the official regulation length, mentioned above, the game will resume, where it was stopped. Both teams and umpires will document the game situation in the “Home” teams book.
- *If a game is rained out, the lowest game # will be assigned the 1st Rain Out Date. Both teams will be assigned that evening and if one of the teams can't field a team, it's a forfeit – no options to rearrange the game.*
- *If the rain outs continue, the next Rain Out Date will be filled with no options to rearrange the game.*

Between Inning Length:

- To help speed up play, there will be a **maximum of 60 seconds between innings**.
 - If the defensive team is stalling the umpire can start calling “balls” on the batter with 20-second intervals.
 - If the offensive team is stalling the umpire can start calling “strikes” with 20-second intervals
- With the exception of the first inning (5 warm up pitches)

North Mecklenburg Babe Ruth League (NMBRL)

Rules for Community Interlock Play

- It's recommended the catchers will have a courtesy runner with 2 outs to allow them to get dressed and ready to warm up the pitcher. The courtesy runner is the last out.

Number of Players:

- A complete team is considered 8 or more players. Teams not fielding 8 players will forfeit the game. In the event a team plays with 8 players the 9th position in the lineup will be an automatic out throughout the game. The 9th empty position out is mandatory in both the BR 15U and BR 18U divisions for the entire season.

Mercy Rules:

- 15 Runs after 4 innings
- 10 Runs after 5 innings
- 8 Runs after 6 innings
- It's an official game after the mercy rule is applied.

Tied Games:

- If the game remains tied after the completion of 7 innings or after the 1 hr. 45 minute "no new inning" rule, the games move into an International Tie Breaker.
 - The visiting team player who made the last out of the inning, will be placed on 2nd base with "No" outs to begin the inning.
 - At the completion of the visiting team at bat, the home team player who made the last out of the inning will be placed on 2nd base with "No" out to begin the inning.
 - This will continue until there is a winner or both coaches agree to end the game in a tie.
- NMBRL community pitching rules apply throughout the entire game and tiebreaker innings.

Batting Lineup:

- Teams will bat the total number of players on the roster at any given game. For example, if a team has 11 players all 11 players will bat as the Batting lineup from 1 thru 11. Substitutions will be unlimited and not restricted.
- The exception will be for pitchers who once removed from the position cannot return to that position during the game.

Fielding Substitutions:

- **BR 15U** teams will not allow a player to "sit out" in consecutive innings. For example, if a player is not in a fielding position during the first inning they must be inserted into a fielding position in the second inning. (Coaches should make an effort to have all players sit at least once, when possible, in a game.)
- **BR 18U** baseball will use a *2-inning minimum fielding rule*. This means every player must play a minimum of two innings in the field during a game. Teams should consider complete games to be 6 innings when planning substitutions to ensure players meet the 2-inning minimum. NMBRL expects each coach will distribute time fairly and give each player an opportunity to exceed the 2-inning minimum for BR 18U fielding play in each game, especially games exceeding 5 innings.

Courtesy Runners:

- As outlined in "**Between Inning Length**" section above, a courtesy runner is recommended for a catcher during the game to help expedite play. The Courtesy runner can be used at any point during an inning. The last recorded out for the team requesting the courtesy runner is the only player allowed to pinch run in this situation.

North Mecklenburg Babe Ruth League (NMBRL)

Rules for Community Interlock Play

Team Rosters

- Teams must submit **Official Team Rosters** to their commissioners containing a maximum of 15 players at the beginning of the season, prior to the first game. Commissioners are to make sure their head coaches have copies of these rosters. Head coaches/scorekeepers must have a copy of their official roster on hand at each game if an opposing coach or umpire questions a line up.

Substitute Players:

- Substitute players are allowed during the **REGULAR** season in the event that a team cannot field 8 players. A maximum of 8 players are allowed in the line-up if substitutions are used.
- Substitutes will only be allowed if original rostered team is down to 7 or 8 players.
- Substitutes must come from within your league.
- Substitute players can **ONLY** play outfield positions and must be placed at bottom of batting line up. They may not pitch.
- Substitutes will be allowed only if head coaches have reached out to the opposing team 12 hours prior to game time. Again, substitutes **WILL NOT** be allowed during post season play.

Players Leaving Early

- If a player has to leave the game due to injury or illness, during the game, and is not able to bat when their turn comes up, you may skip to the next batter **without penalty**. The player retains the position in the batting order and may bat enter later in the game if the player recovers. Any coach found manipulating this to gain an advantage when one of the weaker batters is due up, will be suspended 2 games.
- Any player who vacates the batting order for another reason (i.e. ejection, or non-illness/injury), will incur an out when the player is scheduled to bat.

Players Arriving Late

- If a player arrives late to a game after his spot in the lineup has occurred, there is no penalty unless the following situations occur...
 - if a team has only 8 players at the start of the game, the 9th position would be an automatic out as stated above. Once the player arrives the player may enter the line up in the 9th spot.
 - if a team has 9 players present to start and the EH is not there for the second at bat, at this point the player would be scratched from the lineup.

(Coaches have the flexibility to discuss and modify the above player participation rules prior to the start of the game. Please make sure umpires are aware of what is agreed upon prior to the first pitch. Whatever is decided prior to play will be official for that particular game. A losing coach cannot revert back to the above rules after agreeing to something different and then does not like the outcome of the game. If coaches cannot come to agreement prior to the first pitch, then the above rules will be fully enforced.)

Equipment:

Cleats: Metal cleats **are** permitted in all Babe Ruth age divisions

Bats:

BR 15U BASEBALL DIVISION

- The bat may not exceed 34" in length, and the bat barrel may not exceed 2 5/8" in diameter. All aluminum/alloy barrel bats and all composite handle (only) aluminum/alloy barrels are allowed. Only

North Mecklenburg Babe Ruth League (NMBRL)

Rules for Community Interlock Play

composite barrel bats certified and marked BBCOR .50 will be allowed. Wood barrel bats conforming to the specifications of Official Baseball Rule 1.10 are allowed.

BR 18U BASEBALL DIVISION

- The bat may not exceed 34" in length and the bat barrel may not exceed 2 5/8" in diameter or be greater than a -3 length to weight ratio. Only metal/composite bats certified and marked BBCOR .50 are allowed. Wood barrel bats conforming to the specifications of Official Baseball Rule 1.10 are allowed.

Pitching Rules:

A "hard" pitch count rule has been established for all age groups and will be enforced.

Rules impacting all age divisions:

- Once a pitcher delivers one pitch to a batter, the pitcher is deemed to have pitched in one inning.
- If a team is challenged on pitch count violation and refuses to make a change. The opposing team can protest the use of that pitcher as use of an ineligible player. Subsequently, if the NMBRL Director of baseball deems a challenge to be legitimate a forfeit will be posted for the offending team.

Pitch Count / Days Rest Guidelines

- The NMBRL is committed to making sure that we develop our pitchers in a way that will allow them to pitch for as long as they possibly can throughout their baseball careers. Therefore, we will take pitch count rules very seriously and expect coaches and parents to hold each other accountable in this area.
- **Weekly Limit:** A pitcher may not pitch more than 10 innings during a seven-day period beginning at 12:01AM Monday ending 11:59PM Sunday.
- **40 Hour Rest Rule:** If pitcher pitches four innings in a game – the pitcher must rest 40 hours from the conclusion of their pitching appearance until the start of their next pitching appearance.
- Warm up pitches are excluded from the pitch count process.
- Pitcher cannot return to pitch – any pitcher removed from the line up or the substituted to a different position, may not return to pitch in the same game.
- Home Team will keep the official pitch count and record the total pitches thrown for all pitchers (home and visitor) who enter the game in this position. It is the responsibility of the coaches to monitor the counts at the end of each inning.

BR 15U:

- **Same Day Limit:** A pitcher cannot start another inning once he has thrown 75 pitches. The pitcher is allowed to finish the current batter only once they exceeded the pitching limit.

BR 18U:

- **Same Day Limit:** A pitcher cannot start another inning once he has thrown 85 pitches. The pitcher is allowed to finish the current batter only once they exceeded the pitching limit.

Tournament Guidelines:

- During the Spring season, each age division will organize a team to participate in the tournaments and advance into the World Series. The following guidelines is the selection process for the team:
 1. Head Coach
 - The season ending tournament winning team "Head Coach" will have first option to coach the team in the tournaments.

North Mecklenburg Babe Ruth League (NMBRL) Rules for Community Interlock Play

- If the “Head Coach” doesn’t want the position, the 2nd place “Head Coach” will be given the option and so on down the ranking.
 - The “Head Coach” will select 2 additional coaches to assist with the team.
2. Players Selection process
- Players skills evaluation will take place a complete of days after the Championship game.
Notes: There is not a limit per team or min requirement per team.
 - 4 independent evaluators will be selected by the Commissioners to evaluate the players.
 - The individual rating will be averaged summarized and reviewed by the Commissioners.
 - If Commissioners approve, the “Head Coach” will be provided his team.

ELOC Organization

Babe Ruth 15U - Green

Coach Kevin Helms

M: 980-429-0736

E: coachkhelms@charter.net

Babe Ruth 15U -

Coach: Mike Brenneman

M: 719.238.0860

E: mebrenne@gmail.com

Babe Ruth 15U

Coach: Lang Bradford

M: 704.400.7768

E: mountaincreekcom@aol.com

Babe Ruth 18U -

Coach: Ramsey Denson

M: 980.319.5540

E: ramsey.denson@gmail.com

MCOG Organization

Babe Ruth (15U) - Green

Coach: Jim Howard

M: 704.287.4270

E: jimhoward80@yahoo.com

Babe Ruth (15U) - Silver

Coach: David Fisher

M: 704.564.9111

E: David.j.fisher@wellsfargo.com

HYAA Organization

Davidson Organization

Babe Ruth 15U

Coach:

M:

E:

Babe Ruth 18U

Coach:

M:

E:

SOTG - Organization

Babe Ruth 15U - Orange

Coach: Josh Settle

M: 704-574-1786

E: josh.settle1786@gmail.com

Babe Ruth 15U - Black

Coach: Mark Chaiken

M: 954.347.2046

E: markchaiken@gmail.com

Babe Ruth 15U - Grey

Coach: Jason McConnell

M: 980.239.4127

E: jasonmcconnell81175@yahoo.com

Babe Ruth 18U -

Coach: Kevin Hatley

M: 704.439.7430

E: kevin.hatley1@yahoo.com