



EAST BOISE YOUTH SOFTBALL LOCAL PLAYING RULES 12U MAJORS DIVISION

v1.2

The following local league rules and options have been adopted by the East Boise Youth Baseball and Softball Executive Board for the East Boise Babe Ruth youth softball programs.

The following items will apply to all playing rules, ground rules, and field conditions, superseding all other rules. In all instances not covered by these rules, the Official Babe Ruth, Rules and Regulations will apply.

Reviewed *January 2017*



EBYBS 12U Majors Softball Division

Recommended for ages 10 to 12. Among teammates of their own age and experience level, players continue building and refining their fundamental skills and begin to play in a more competitive environment.

Mandatory Playing Time

Every player at the game must play a minimum of six consecutive outs on defense and get one at bat during each game. Any player not meeting the mandatory minimum playing time during a game, shall start the next game, and must complete the remaining mandatory play from the previous game **and** meet the mandatory minimum playing time for the current game before being removed from the game. Managers are strongly encouraged to exceed the mandatory minimum playing time requirement at every opportunity. Repeatedly playing the same player(s) the mandatory minimum without a legitimate reason (i.e. player missing practices, player messing around at practice rather than working with the rest of the team, etc.) will not be tolerated and may result in sanctions against the manager and or coaching staff, up to and including removal as manager and/or coach.

Teams may play with a minimum of eight (8) players. A team with fewer than eight (8) players must forfeit the game.

- Borrowing a player from another team or the opposing team is encouraged to create a full roster.
 - During **Regular Season**, the manager must first receive approval from the opposing manager or the Vice President of 12U Majors or VP of Softball of the proposed replacement player.
 - During the **Post Season**, The manager must first receive approval from the Vice President of 12U Majors (*before the day of the game*). The VP will evaluate the replacement player to ensure that the skill level is equivalent to the player that is being replaced. If the VP is not available then approval from either the VP of Softball or the League President will be needed.
 - *The replacement player will not be allowed to assume the following positions during the course of the game; a pitcher or a catcher.*

Pitching

A pitcher may not exceed ten (10) innings per calendar week (Start of Sunday to end of Saturday).

All other pitching regulations will be in accordance with 2017 Babe Ruth League Softball Rules and Regulations.

Innings/Scoring

Maximum Runs per Inning: By mutual agreement between managers prior to the game, a five (5) run rule may be in effect. If so, no team may score more than five (5) runs during **any** inning. At the completion of the play, when five (5) or more runs have scored during that inning, the umpire will end the at bat regardless of the number of outs and five (5) runs will be recorded on the scorecard for that inning. The ten run mercy rule still applies.

Batting Order

A continuous batting order will be used with all players in the line-up. Players who arrive late to a game will be added at the end of the established batting order. If a player has to leave during a game, the corresponding spot in the order will be skipped without penalty to the team.

- A player who is removed from the batting order for any reason may only be reinserted in the same batting position. A player may be removed because of injury, illness or at the request of a parent or guardian with the approval of the umpire and an out will not be recorded in the batting order occupied by the injured, ill, or excused player.

Fake Bunt – Slash Bunt

Slash bunts are legal.



Approved Bats

The bat may not exceed 33" in length, and the bat barrel may not exceed 2-1/4" in diameter. Only 2-1/4" barrel non-wood bats marked BPF 1.15 will be allowed. Wood 2-1/4" barrel bats are allowed. If any bat cannot be clearly identified for its make and model to determine the barrel composition, then the bat should be removed from the game.

NOTE: Click on the link for more information on approved bats.

- (<https://www.baberuthleague.org/bat-rules.aspx>).

PENALTY

- If the illegal bat is discovered prior to a batter completing her "at bat", then bat is simply removed from play and the "at bat" continues.
- A player who uses an illegal bat or non-conforming barrel dimension and hits a fair ball will be ruled out. No advancement on the bases will be allowed, and any outs during the play shall stand. This is an appeal play. The "at bat" will be considered legal once a pitch is thrown to the next batter.
- Any bat discovered prior to the game that does not conform to the above rule shall be directed to be removed immediately and not be allowed for use during the game.

Defense

Teams may freely rotate players in and out of the line-up on defense throughout the game without incurring a penalty for illegal substitution. A team may not have more than ten (10) players on defense at any one time during the game.

Base Running

Base runners may steal once the pitcher has released the ball. Leaving the base before the pitch is released will result in an out. All other base running regulations will be in accordance with the 2017 Babe Ruth League Rules and Regulations and Official Playing Rules.

Time Limit

Games are to be no more than six (6) innings long. No new inning may be started after one (1) hour and thirty (30) minutes of play have been completed from the start of a game.

- A start of an inning is defined as the legal completion of the third out in the bottom of the previous inning.

NOTE: The Plate Umpire shall be responsible for the official start time and shall notify the Manager/Coach of each team of the official start time. If the game ends in a tie after the time limit (extra innings are to be played if within the time limit) then a tie will be declared for each team and will be recorded for the purpose of the official standings.

Run Rule

A ten (10) run rule will be in effect after the completion of a minimum of 3-1/2 innings. The home team will be given an opportunity to bat in the bottom of any inning should the visiting team's advantage become ten (10) or more runs in the top half of the inning.

Infield Fly Rule

The infield fly rule will be in effect during games.



Season Length

The 12U Majors division shall have each team play a 14 game season followed by a single-elimination tournament. Rain-outs will only be made up if time and field availability exists before the end-of-season tournament.

Seeding Criteria for End-of Season Tournament (to be used by the division VP)

1. Winning Percentage (wins divided by number of games played, half-win for each tie)
2. Overall Record
3. Head to Head Competition
4. Coin Flip

Umpires

The home team (home plate) umpire will be considered the Head Umpire for each game and will make the final decision regarding any discrepancies in playing rules.

Additional Items

- Pitching distance is to be 43'.
- 12" softballs are to be used.
- Chrome helmets are prohibited.
- Home team provides a new softball to the umpire for the game and good quality used balls will be used in case of lost balls.
- Home team takes 3rd base dugout and away team takes 1st base dugout.
- Home team shall take infield first, from 25 minutes to 15 minutes prior to the game.
- Visiting team shall take infield from 15 minutes to 5 minutes prior to game.
- Home team shall prepare the field (bases, chalk, etc.) prior to the game and the Visiting team (unless the visiting team is not a part of EBYBS) puts it to bed.
- Home team shall provide the plate umpire and the visiting team shall provide the field umpire UNLESS otherwise agreed to by the managers.
- The home team shall keep the official book.
- Prior to any game, the teams playing on fields 1 and 2 have priority for the North batting cages.

