

8U Coach Pitch

All Babe Ruth Softball 8 & Under postseason tournament rules and regulations shall comply with applicable Babe Ruth 12U Division rules and regulations AND the 10U tournament rules, as approved the clarification/addition of the following:

- a. **Time limit 1hr 30min.** Game will be played to completion or when the 10 run rule is applicable.**
- b. There will be five (5) runs per inning with an open 6th inning.**
- c. Team composition shall consist of nine (9) players as follows: Pitcher, Catcher, 1st Baseman, 2nd Baseman, 3rd Baseman, Shortstop, Leftfielder, Centerfielder, and Rightfielder. The team may select to use an extra player (EP). (See extra player rule explanation 11.05 #10 on page 53.)**
- d. If the extra player option is used, there may be ten (10) batters listed in the batting order for tournament games.**
- e. Tournament teams who use Coach Pitch. The Coach pitcher shall remain silent while on the mound, and may not give hand signals nor make body movements that may be considered a coaching signal. The Coach pitcher must start with both feet on the 35ft. rubber. The Coach pitcher must make an attempt to get out of the defensive player's way when fielding or throwing.**
- f. If the Coach pitcher, by standing straight up or not moving out of the field of play, forces a player to throw over the coach or intentionally hinders the player fielding or throwing the ball, interference may be called and a penalty applied.**
- g. Even though the team will utilize Coach pitch, the player fielding the pitching position must take a defensive position in line with, or slightly behind the pitching rubber and within the pitching circle.**
- h. Each batter will have three (3) swinging strikes or a maximum of six (6) pitches. There are no called balls or strikes on the batter. (An out will be recorded if the batter fails to put the ball in play after six (6) pitches.) If the 6th pitch is hit foul (or successive pitch(es) fouled off), the batter will receive another pitch.**

- i. Although the tournament team composition recommended a minimum of 12 or a maximum of 15 players, Manager and three (3) Coaches, the team's scorekeeper may set up at the outside of the dug-out and assist with control of the team players while the Coach pitcher is on the mound and the other two in the coaching boxes.**
- j. There is no "Stealing" at the 8U level, therefore, the baserunner(s) must maintain contact with the base until the pitched ball reaches the plate.**
- k. The playing field shall be as described in Rule 1.04 with the following exception: the pitching rubber will be set at thirty five (35) feet.**
- l. Rawlings 11" softballs, properly stamped "Official Babe Ruth Softball" must be used for all tournament competitions.**
- m. No infield fly rule.**