

GF Cal Ripken 2018 Rules 11 & 12 yrs

2018 Babe Ruth Bat Rules – Only USA approved bats are authorized to be used for Cal Ripken and the barrel diameter cannot exceed 2 5/8". **No BBCOR Bats are permitted in the Cal Ripken Division.**

Pitch count will be utilized this year and we will follow the Cal Ripken guidelines. Each coach is responsible for keeping track of pitch counts and both coaches must agree on pitch count after each inning.

Pitch Count (11-12 yrs.):

1-40: No days rest

41-65: 1 day rest

65-85: 2 days rest

Note: If the pitcher reaches the maximum pitch count limit (85 pitches) while facing a batter, he may continue to pitch until the batter reaches base safely or is put out.

Games start May 9th, with games starting at 5:30.

- 1) **Monday's Practices:** Practice with your league team and it is encouraged to have practices on the other days you don't play
- 2) **Wednesday's Games May 2-30th:** One 6 inning game with an 1:45 minute time limit.
 - a. New inning will not start after the 1:40 minute mark (6 inning games)
- 3) **Starting double hitters June 6th.** Games will be 5 innings; first game will be from 5:30-7:00 and second game from 7:20-8:50. **June 13th games will start at 6:00, first game with 1:25 time limit and the second game innings will be dictated by day light.**
 - a. Teams will rotate fields and with enough teams, all of them should play twice
 - b. First game will not start new inning after 1:20 mark (5 inning games)
 - c. Second game will end at 9:00 or if it is too dark to play (Safety)
- 4) **End of Year Tournament will be July 24-26.**
- 5) Weather cancellations will be posted on www.gfbaseballsoftball.com and Facebook - Search [@grandforksyouthbaseball](https://www.facebook.com/grandforksyouthbaseball).
- 6) **May 9 - 30th** - Maximum runs in one inning will be 5. (except for the last inning)
- 7) **June 6th** - We will be playing regular baseball with no run limit per inning. **Coaches do not try to run up scores.**
- 8) 10 run rule is in effect after 4 innings.
- 9) No Trick Plays (including stealing home on a pitch).
- 10) Bat **ALL** players each game, or at least the number of players on the opposing team. Once a batting order is set a player cannot bat out of order unless an injury has occurred whereby a player is unable to bat, and his spot must be skipped. We will not count the injured player as an automatic out.
- 11) Free substitution for any position in the field. Allow players to play defense at multiple positions – especially during the first half of the year (through May)
- 12) Runner can steal on pitcher's first movement, and base runners can lead off. However, please use sparingly as we want runners to advance on hits and not just have a runner end up on 3rd by stealing.

- 13) Base runner on third base may score on any baseball play except passed balls **through May 30. Starting June 6th**, runners can score from third on passed balls as well.
- a. **Sliding:** No head-first slides unless you are sliding back to a bag.
*Additionally, all players are **REQUIRED** to slide (feet first) when there is a **play** at home plate or will be called out for not sliding. At second and third bases, any baserunner who in the judgment of the umpire runs into or interferes with a fielder instead of sliding will be called out for interference.
 - b. **Drop Third Strike:** A catcher must catch the third strike to complete the out. Regardless if a batter swings or not; if the catcher does not catch the third strike and first base is **NOT** occupied, the batter can run to first base. The catcher can tag out the batter or throw to first and to record an out. The batter can run to first and be called safe if the out is not recorded as mentioned. This same rule applies whenever there are two outs, regardless of if first base is occupied or not. This is a live ball situation meaning the base runners are not forced to advance but they can run at their own risk. If they do choose to run, a tag is required since this is not a force play.
- 14) Bunting is allowed. However, please use sparingly as we want kids to be aggressive and confident hitters.
- 15) If a team is short a player or two the opposing team player that made the last out will play defense for the team that is short players.

General Guidelines:

- 1) We want kids to learn baseball fundamentals and have FUN doing so. Make practices fun and informative. Focus on the fundamentals but keep everyone moving throughout a practice.
- 2) Try not to run up scores on your opponent as we are trying to keep kids motivated and interested in the game.
- 3) Treat everyone (especially umpires) with respect. If you need to ask a question or if there is something you can help the umpire with – please do so discretely and in a calm manner.
- 4) Please focus on positive communication with your players (no swearing or derogatory comments). Try to put players in positions to succeed so that they can gain confidence (especially, early in the year). Have FUN!