



General Rules

All rules outlined below pertain to every division of Riverside Bradford Baseball unless otherwise stated

1. Profanity is not allowed by coaches, umpires, players, or spectators. Arguing between opposing coaches, players, or spectators may result in removal from the game. The head coach is responsible for their assistant coaches, parents, and players. Any conduct deemed unsportsmanlike by the umpire will result in a warning or ejection at the discretion of the umpire.
2. All Riverside Bradford Baseball activities are tobacco-free. There is no smoking on the field at any time, and spectators and umpires are strongly discouraged from smoking at all RB events. Violation may result in the offender's removal from the premises.
3. Eating is not allowed on the bench or on the playing field at any time.
4. At the conclusion of games and practices teams are responsible for ensuring that the fields and spectator areas are clean and not littered with debris.
5. At the conclusion of games, the home team coaches are responsible for ensuring that all bases and RB equipment is returned to its respective shed or equipment bin, unless another game immediately follows. The home coach is responsible for ensuring that the equipment bin and shed is locked upon leaving the field.
6. The home team will use the first base bench/dugout, visitors will use the third base bench/dugout.
7. The visiting team will be allotted 10 minutes for infield practice beginning 20 minutes before the start of the game. The home team will be allotted 10 minutes for infield practice following the visitors and will remain on the field to start the game.
8. Players are required to wear only RB-issued uniforms, including socks and hat if applicable.
9. All batters and baserunners must wear a helmet when entering the field of play.
10. Catchers are required to wear a protective cup, regardless of gender, and RB recommends that all players wear a cup during games and practices.
11. Any player warming up a pitcher must wear a mask.
12. On-deck batters are not permitted to hold a bat at all fields that do not have a designated on-deck area (RB 1 is the only field with such an area). This holds true for all divisions.
13. A head coach and two assistant coaches are permitted in the dugout area during games. A scorekeeper may sit on the bench or outside the playing area.

14. Base coaches must be adults and are required to always stay in the coach's box.
15. Base coaches are not permitted to touch runners when the ball is in play. If a base coach physically influences a runner (pushing forward or holding back) that runner will be ruled out.
16. A player injury will result in an automatic time-out. Base runners will be placed at the umpire's discretion.
17. Intentional walks are not allowed at any level.
18. A "Steal" is defined as any advancement of a base without a batted ball. This definition applies unless otherwise noted in specific division rules. If a ball is batted into play, then the runner can advance to bases without it being considered a 'steal', until the pitcher has the ball while standing within 10' of the mound.
19. Steals are unlimited per inning for each team, with the exception of AA South, which has a limit of 2 steals per inning. Steals of home are limited to one successful steal home per inning, for each team.
20. For the safety of RB players, a batter who has squared to bunt is not permitted to pull the bat back and swing at a pitch. In the event that this occurs, the batter shall be called out and the ball will be ruled dead. All runners will be returned to the base at which they occupied prior to the pitch. A second offense by the same player in a game will result in the ejection of that player, and he or she may be subject to additional discipline at the discretion of the league.
21. All runners must slide into a base, feet first in the event of a close play, or make every effort to avoid a collision with the fielder. A slide is not mandatory if the runner does not make contact with the fielder. Any baserunner who fails to slide and makes contact with the fielder shall be called out.
22. Head-first slides are prohibited into all bases (including home plate). Any runner sliding head-first into a base will be called out. However, runners returning to a base may slide head-first.
 - a) Example: The runner on third base attempts to advance to home on a passed ball, but decides to return to third base. The runner may slide head-first in this case to avoid a tag by the fielder.
23. Lighted Field Rules
 - a) No inning will start after 7:15pm if a second game is scheduled to be played immediately following.
 - b) The second game shall begin 15-minutes after the conclusion of the first game.
 - c) All games must be completed by 9:45pm
24. For all games played at non-lighted fields, no new inning shall start after 1 hour and 45 minutes from first pitch. The umpire will have sole discretion to call games due to darkness, for safety reasons. All games will be deemed official at the completion of four innings. Should a game be stopped before the completion of an inning the score will revert to what it was at the end of the previous inning.
25. Mound visits: Coaches are permitted two (2) mound visits in one half inning without penalty. Upon the third trip to the mound the pitcher must be replaced. Coaches have a total of three (3) mound visits per pitcher, per game.

26. In competitive divisions (9-10, 11-12) teams are permitted to play a game with a minimum of 8 players. A coach may "borrow" a player from the opposing team to facilitate a game, but that game shall be recorded as a forfeit by the borrowing team. All forfeits are to be recorded as 10-0 results.
- a) In the event that a coach is aware that they will not have enough players to field a team prior to the day of the game that coach should contact the Division Commissioner and Player Agent to determine if there are players from a lower level that could be "called up" for the game(s) in question.
27. In non-competitive divisions coaches are encouraged to borrow players from the opposing team if they do not have enough players to field a full lineup.
28. In the event of a game cancellation due to weather or other factors the opposing head coaches must make every effort to reschedule the game within a week. Games aren't scheduled on Fridays, in order to accommodate rescheduled games from that week.
- a) Rescheduled games should be made-up on Friday of the week the game was canceled.
 - b) Rescheduled games can be made-up during the home team's scheduled practice time (if coaches agree, visitor practice time may be used).
 - c) The home team coach will initiate the rescheduling process by contacting the Division Commissioner to confirm the makeup date and time.
 - d) In the event that coaches are unable to come to an agreement for a make-up date, the Division Commissioner shall be consulted for a resolution.
 - e) In the event that the game cannot be made up both teams will record a loss for the purpose of league standings. Should a coach prove to be uncooperative in rescheduling a postponed game as determined by the Division Commissioner, the game shall be recorded as a loss for that team and the other team shall receive a win.
29. No player will remain out of the lineup for more than two (2) innings per game.
30. Breaking balls (curveballs, sliders, etc.) will be allowed.
31. In the event that the umpire(s) do not show up to a scheduled regular season game, contact the Umpire-in-Chief and Division Commissioner immediately. If alternate umpiring arrangements cannot be made the coaches should agree to umpire the game from behind the mound, alternating calling balls and strikes when their team is up to bat.
- a) In the event that the umpire(s) fail to show for a postseason game, that game shall be rescheduled to a later date if no alternate umpires are available.
32. Any regular season game that is tied after six complete innings shall be recorded as a tie for the purpose of league standings. Extra innings are only permitted during playoffs. In the event of a playoff game called due to darkness with a tie score, the Division Commissioner will schedule the continuation of that game at the earliest possible date. All pitch counts accrued prior to the stoppage will remain in effect and pitchers

appearing prior to postponement cannot re-enter the game as a pitcher, regardless of number of days of rest.

33. Pitch Limits Rules

- a) Major 70 - Maximum of 85 pitches per game, per pitcher
- b) AA North/South - Maximum of 75 pitches per game, per pitcher
- c) Pitchers that are 8 years and younger are limited to a maximum of 60 pitches

34. A coach must remove a pitcher when they reach the maximum pitch limit for their division, as per below. If the pitch limit is reached during an at-bat, the pitcher is permitted to finish the batter (batter reaches base or is put out).

35. Coaches are expected to keep pitch counts for both teams and agree on pitch totals between innings. Pitch count disputes should be handled respectfully and resolved by splitting the difference between the two counts, E.g., If Coach A has the pitcher at 16 pitches and Coach B has the pitcher at 20 pitches, the pitch count should be agreed upon at 18. In the event of an odd number the pitch count will be rounded up.

- a) If a coach is not keeping track of opposing pitcher pitch counts they lose the right to question pitch counts.
- b) Coaches and scorekeepers must provide the current pitch count for any pitcher when requested by an opposing coach or the umpire.
- c) The manager and/or scorekeeper should inform the umpire when a pitcher has delivered their maximum allowed pitches for a game. Failure to notify the umpire does not relieve the manager of their responsibility to remove a pitcher when the maximum has been reached.

36. Players removed from the pitcher position may not re-enter as the pitcher later in the same game.

37. A player may not pitch in more than one game per day, regardless of pitch counts.

38. Any pitcher who exceeds 35 pitches in a game may not play the position of catcher for the remainder of the day.

39. Any catcher who plays catcher for 4 or more innings cannot pitch that day.

40. It is the responsibility of the winning team's coach to report the final score and pitch counts for both teams to the league within 24 hours. Coaches should confirm both pitchers and pitch counts at the conclusion of a game to avoid disputes once results have been posted.

41. Pitchers must adhere to the rest requirements below:

- a) 1-20 pitches in a day, zero (0) calendar days of rest required
- b) 21-40 pitches in a day, one (1) calendar days of rest required
- c) 41-60 pitches in a day, two (2) calendar days of rest required
- d) 61+ pitches in a day, three (3) calendar days of rest required

Pitcher Rest Table

Day Pitched	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1-20	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
21-40	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue
41-60	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
61+	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu

42. Violation of any Pitch Limit rules (31-35) outlined herein may result in the protest of the game in which it occurs. All protests shall be made in accordance with Babe Ruth Playing Rule 4.19.

43. Bat Rules: As of January 1, 2018, Babe Ruth Baseball and thereby Riverside Bradford Baseball has adopted the USA Baseball Bat Standard (USABat). All bats used during league or tournament play must be marked with the USA Baseball marking as pictured below. The maximum barrel diameter of any bat may not exceed 2 5/8 inches.

- a) BBCOR and USSSA bats are strictly prohibited by Riverside Bradford Baseball
- b) All wood bats are approved for use in RB Baseball

Approved USA Bat Markings



Penalties:

- c) If an illegal bat is discovered prior to a pitch being thrown to the batter, then the bat shall be removed from play and the "at bat" continues without penalty.
- d) A player who uses an illegal bat or non-conforming barrel dimension and has a pitch thrown while 'at bat' 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.
- e) Any bat discovered prior to the game that does not conform to the above rule shall be removed immediately and not be allowed for use during the game.