



Babe Ruth League, Inc.



A Non-Profit Tax-Exempt Organization for 4 to 18 Year Old Players

Website: www.baberuthleague.org

International Headquarters: 1670 Whitehorse-Mercerville Road, Hamilton, NJ 08619

Phone: 609-695-1434 Fax: 609-695-2505

TO: Babe Ruth Softball League Presidents
FROM: Steven M. Tellefsen, President/CEO
DATE: November 30, 2016
RE: 2017 Softball Rule Changes and Clarifications

On behalf of Babe Ruth League, Inc., I want to thank you for the extra efforts you put forth in helping make 2016 a successful and enjoyable season for our participants.

The International Board of Directors has approved the following rule changes beginning with the 2017 season. These changes will be reflected in the 2017 Babe Ruth League, Inc. Rules and Regulations.

- **Team Composition** - Beginning with the 2017 season, an official softball team roster (local league and tournament play) may consist of one (1) manager and three (3) coaches. *This rule change increases the number of coaches permitted from two (2) to three (3).*
- **Chrome Batting Helmets** - Chrome batting helmets are not permitted in Babe Ruth Softball local league and tournament play. The batting helmet shall not have a chrome or mirror-like surface. The chrome or mirror-like surface of the batting helmet is illegal due to its distracting nature which may be dangerous to other players.

Shown below are **clarifications** to existing rules:

- **Rule 0.01 - Requirement for Charter - Paragraph 6 - For Leagues that use a Third Party Insurance Provider (not Babe Ruth/K&K Insurance) for your League's Liability Insurance**
 1. You must have a minimum of \$1,000,000 per occurrence limit of liability insurance coverage.
 2. Your league should be named insured or referenced in the description of operations to show they are covered.
 3. The certificate should show evidence there is coverage under the General Liability for claims of negligence brought by athletic participants against the insured league. This can be reflected in a variety of ways. Please use one of the following three acceptable methods to reflect this:
 - a. A Legal Liability to Participant limit of \$1,000,000 shown on the certificate.
 - b. Under the Type of Insurance General Liability sections putting "Athletic Participants" with an "X" indicating coverage next to it.
 - c. A Statement in the Description of Operations box that claims brought by athletic participants are covered or not excluded.

4. "Babe Ruth League, Inc." must be named as additional insured. Also required is the wording "The Certificate Holder is an additional insured with respect to the operations of the named insured. Our new address is: 1670 Whitehorse-Mercerville Road, Hamilton, New Jersey 08619.

For a sample certificate with the suggested, contact your Headquarters Service Representative. The certificate can be emailed to our office, faxed to 609-695-2505 or sent via email.

An item of concern is coverage for "sexual abuse/molestation". It is recommended that there is coverage for this with a \$1,000,000 per occurrence/\$2,000,000 aggregate. This is not required to meet the current Babe Ruth League rules.

- **Rule 0.04 - Paragraph 3**

A team roster and league schedule shall be filed with the SI-Play system for Babe Ruth League, Inc.

- **Rule 11.06 -Note**

The eligibility of teams to compete, seeding and format are under the jurisdiction of the District, State, and Regional Commissioners and the National Commissioner.

- **Rule 1.1 (h) (1)**

A shirt in the same colors as the team's uniform.

2017 Tournament Trail Schedule:

- District Competition - June 22 - 25 (All Ages)
 - State Competition - June 29 - July 2 (All Ages)
 - Regional Competition - July 6 - 9 (All Ages)
 - *Softball 14U/16U - World Series - July 19 - 27
 - *Softball 8U/10U/12U World Series - July 28 - August 5
- *All Softball World Series hosted by Treasure Coast, Florida

As a chartered league of Babe Ruth Softball with teams signed up to compete in the tournament trail, **your team(s) are permitted to participate in all levels of the Softball Tournament Trail. However, you must compete in all levels of tournament play that are offered in your area to advance to a higher level. For example, in order to compete in the regional tournament, your league must compete in District and State competition first, if such competition is offered in your area.** Please contact your District, State and Regional Commissioners for the dates, locations and reporting times for each tournament event.

In closing, thank you for the time you invest for the benefit of our young athletes. Babe Ruth League, Inc. has always been a volunteer driven organization. The phenomenal success we enjoy is a direct reflection of your ever-increasing dedication and enthusiasm.

ST/tc

cc: Softball Commissioners