

**Babe Ruth League, Inc.
Southeast Region**

**BASEBALL & SOFTBALL
EXPLANATION OF POOL-PLAY CRITERIA**

Single-elimination championships only apply to a pool-play bracket where there are divisions, i.e., where a pool-play bracket has two or more divisions (a part of the whole). Typically, divisional pool brackets are prepared to accommodate total team participations of 6, 8, 10, and 16 teams. Small and odd number total teams (less than 4, 5, 7, and 9 teams) participate in a straight pool bracket only.

When competition begins with a pool-play format, each team will play a pool-play schedule determined by the Commissioner under whose jurisdiction the tournament falls.

At the end of the pool-play schedule, if the bracket includes divisions, a predetermined number of teams from each division will advance to a single-elimination championship.

Participating teams will be advised in writing, prior to the start of tournament competition, of how many teams will advance to the single-elimination championship.

Teams will be seeded at the beginning of the single-elimination championship according to the position that they finished in a pool-play division.

**Babe Ruth League, Inc.
Southeast Region**

**OFFICIAL DETERMINATION OF POOL-PLAY STANDINGS
(Tiebreaker Rules*)**

1) WIN - LOSS RECORD

The tiebreakers are used in order to advance or seed ONE or more teams at a time. Each time that a tie is broken to advance one team, leaving a tie between two or more teams, the situation reverts to criterion #2 (head-to-head results).

If tied:

2) RESULTS OF HEAD-TO-HEAD COMPETITION

Example: Three teams are tied with identical records for the first place at the end of pool play. Teams A, B, and C played against each other once in pool play. Team A won all of its games against Team B and Team C during pool play. Result – Team A advances, which then creates a two-way tie between Team B and Team C. That tie then is broken by reverting to criterion #2.

If still tied:

3) FEWEST RUNS GIVEN UP

If the results of the head-to-head match-up(s) of the teams that are involved in the tie cannot break the tie (because no team defeated each of the other teams in the tie each time that they played, or because no team has defeated all of the other teams involved in the tie, or because the teams involved in the tie did not play one another during pool play), then the tie is broken using criterion #3. The remaining teams' tie is broken by reverting to criterion #2.

If still tied:

4) RUN DIFFERENTIAL WITH A MAXIMUM OF 10 PER GAME

In the event that a tie is created by virtue of a forfeited game, and the tie cannot be broken by criterion #2, the order of Criteria #3 and #4 will be reversed and applied to the tie. Since the number of runs which might have been scored during the game may have affected the fewest-runs-given-up standing (and the awarding of the forfeit gives the "winning team" no additional runs given up), this order will better adjust for that situation.

NOTE: Where tournaments are non-divisional, tiebreakers will apply to common opponents only.

* These tiebreakers must be used when to determine the standings in a Babe Ruth pool-play format tournament.

**Babe Ruth League, Inc.
Official Pool-Play Format Bracket**

**3-TEAM POOL PLAY NO-DIVISIONS FORMAT
2-Game Guarantee ~ Home Team***

Game 1	1 vs. 2*
Game 2	2 vs. 3*
Game 3	3 vs. 1*

The team with the best overall record in accordance with the Official Babe Ruth Pool-Play Standings Determination Rules is the Champion; there is no single-elimination championship bracket for a non-divisional tournament.

**Babe Ruth League, Inc.
Official Pool-Play Format Bracket**

**5-TEAM POOL PLAY NO-DIVISIONS FORMAT
4-Game Guarantee ~ Home Team***

Game 1	1 vs. 2*
Game 2	3 vs. 4*
Game 3	5 vs. 1*
Game 4	3 vs. 2*
Game 5	4 vs. 5*
Game 6	1 vs. 3*
Game 7	2 vs. 5*
Game 8	4 vs. 1*
Game 9	5 vs. 3*
Game 10	2 vs. 4*

The team with the best overall record in accordance with the Official Babe Ruth Pool-Play Standings Determination Rules is the Champion; there is no single-elimination championship bracket for a non-divisional tournament.

**Babe Ruth League, Inc.
Official Pool-Play Format Bracket**

**5-TEAM POOL PLAY NO-DIVISIONS FORMAT
4-Game Guarantee ~ Home Team***

Game 1	1 vs. 2*
Game 2	3 vs. 4*
Game 3	5 vs. 1*
Game 4	3 vs. 2*
Game 5	4 vs. 5*
Game 6	1 vs. 3*
Game 7	2 vs. 5*
Game 8	4 vs. 1*
Game 9	5 vs. 3*
Game 10	2 vs. 4*

The team with the best overall record in accordance with the Official Babe Ruth Pool-Play Standings Determination Rules is the Champion; there is no single-elimination championship bracket for a non-divisional tournament.

**Babe Ruth League, Inc.
Official Pool-Play Format Bracket**

**6-TEAM POOL PLAY DIVISIONAL FORMAT
2-Game Guarantee ~ Home Team***

American Division

Team A1
Team A2
Team A3

National Division

Team N1
Team N2
Team N3

Pool-Play:

Game 1	American Division	A1 vs. A3*
Game 2	National Division	N1 vs. N3*
Game 3	American Division	A2 vs. A1*
Game 4	National Division	N2 vs. N1*
Game 5	American Division	A3 vs. A2*
Game 6	National Division	N3 vs. N2*

Single-elimination Championship:

Game 7 American Seed 2 vs. National Seed 1*
Game 8 National Seed 2 vs. American Seed 1*

(Highest seed is home; otherwise a toss of a coin if tied)

Game 9 Winner Game 7 vs. Winner Game 8 for Championship

**Babe Ruth League, Inc.
Official Pool-Play Format Bracket**

**7-TEAM POOL PLAY NO-DIVISIONS FORMAT
4-Game Guarantee ~ Home Team***

Game 1	1 vs. 2*
Game 2	6 vs. 5*
Game 3	3 vs. 4*
Game 4	5 vs. 7*
Game 5	2 vs. 6*
Game 6	4 vs. 1*
Game 7	7 vs. 3*
Game 8	2 vs. 5*
Game 9	3 vs. 6*
Game 10	4 vs. 7*
Game 11	5 vs. 1*
Game 12	7 vs. 2*
Game 13	6 vs. 4*
Game 14	1 vs. 3*

The team with the best overall record in accordance with the Official Babe Ruth Pool-Play Standings Determination Rules is the Champion; in the case of a tie, tiebreakers will apply to common opponents; there is no single-elimination championship bracket for a non-divisional tournament.

**Babe Ruth League, Inc.
Official Pool-Play Format Bracket**

**8-TEAM POOL PLAY DIVISIONAL FORMAT
3-Game Guarantee ~ Home Team***

American Division

Team A1
Team A2
Team A3
Team A4

National Division

Team N1
Team N2
Team N3
Team N4

Pool-Play:

Game 1	American Division	A1 vs. A3*
Game 2	National Division	N1 vs. N3*
Game 3	American Division	A2 vs. A4*
Game 4	National Division	N2 vs. N4*
Game 5	American Division	A4 vs. A1*
Game 6	National Division	N4 vs. N1*
Game 7	American Division	A3 vs. A2*
Game 8	National Division	N3 vs. N2*
Game 9	American Division	A1 vs. A2*
Game 10	National Division	N1 vs. N2*
Game 11	American Division	A3 vs. A4*
Game 12	National Division	N3 vs. N4*

Single-elimination Championship:

Game 13 American Seed 2 vs. National Seed 1*
Game 14 National Seed 2 vs. American Seed 1*

(Highest seed is home; otherwise a toss of a coin if tied)

Game 15 Winner Game 13 vs. Winner Game 14 for Championship

**Babe Ruth League, Inc.
Official Pool-Play Format Bracket**

**9-TEAM POOL PLAY NO-DIVISIONS FORMAT
4-Game Guarantee ~ Home Team***

Game 1	2 vs. 1*
Game 2	3 vs. 6*
Game 3	7 vs. 4*
Game 4	8 vs. 5*
Game 5	6 vs. 9*
Game 6	4 vs. 5*
Game 7	1 vs. 3*
Game 8	7 vs. 9*
Game 9	8 vs. 2*
Game 10	9 vs. 4*
Game 11	5 vs. 2*
Game 12	3 vs. 8*
Game 13	1 vs. 6*
Game 14	2 vs. 7*
Game 15	9 vs. 3*
Game 16	5 vs. 7*
Game 17	4 vs. 1*
Game 18	6 vs. 8*

The team with the best overall record in accordance with the Official Babe Ruth Pool-Play Standings Determination Rules is the Champion; in the case of a tie, tiebreakers will apply to common opponents; there is no single-elimination championship bracket for a non-divisional tournament.

Babe Ruth League, Inc.
Official Pool-Play Format Bracket

10-TEAM POOL PLAY FORMAT (DIVISIONS)
4-Game Guarantee ~ Home Team*

American Division

Team A1
Team A2
Team A3
Team A4
Team A5

National Division

Team N1
Team N2
Team N3
Team N4
Team N5

Pool-Play:

Game 1	American Division	A1 vs. A3*
Game 2	National Division	N1 vs. N3*
Game 3	American Division	A4 vs. A5*
Game 4	National Division	N4 vs. N5*
Game 5	American Division	A4 vs. A1*
Game 6	National Division	N1 vs. N4*
Game 7	American Division	A2 vs. A5*
Game 8	National Division	N5 vs. N2*
Game 9	American Division	A1 vs. A2*
Game 10	National Division	N2 vs. N1*
Game 11	National Division	N3 vs. N4*
Game 12	American Division	A3 vs. A4*
Game 13	National Division	N4 vs. N2*
Game 14	American Division	A2 vs. A4*
Game 15	American Division	A5 vs. A3*
Game 16	National Division	N3 vs. N5*
Game 17	American Division	A3 vs. A2*
Game 18	National Division	N2 vs. N3*
Game 19	American Division	A5 vs. A1*
Game 20	National Division	N5 vs. N1*

Single-elimination Championship:

Game 21 American Seed 2 vs. National Seed 1*
Game 22 National Seed 2 vs. American Seed 1*

(Highest seed is home; otherwise a toss of a coin if tied)

Game 23 Winner Game 21 vs. Winner Game 22 for Championship