

# **OFFICIAL BABE RUTH LEAGUE, INC., DOCUMENTATION**

## **Important information for current and prospective leagues...**

### **Because of our Leagues:**

- BECAUSE OUR LEAGUES HAVE A NEED, WE HAVE A JOB TO DO!
- BECAUSE OUR LEAGUES HAVE A CHOICE, WE EXIST!!!

### **Surveys:**

When Babe Ruth League sends out a survey-State, District and League Presidents, please respond. Babe Ruth League does not make any rule changes without your input. Let Headquarters know what you think.

### **National Umpires Association:**

League Presidents are responsible to appoint an Umpire-in-Chief to coordinate the league umpires. It is highly recommended this individual be a member of the Babe Ruth Umpires Association. The renewal fee is \$30 for baseball or softball. If you wish to become a member of both, the total price is \$50. Have the umpires of your leagues know the Babe Ruth Rulebook. Babe Ruth League uses the Official Playing Rules, not High School Federation Rules. We have 5,000+ Babe Ruth Baseball and Softball NUA members. High quality officials are essential, especially at tournament time. You can have an outstanding tournament, but poor officiating can taint the tournament. Any umpire who wishes to submit an application to officiate at a Babe Ruth World Series must be a member in good standing of our National Umpires Association.

### **Support and Promote Programs and Products Offered by Babe Ruth League, Inc. -- HERSHEY FOOD CORPORATION -- Official Candy Company of BRL:**

- Each team that sells a minimum of 16 individual carriers (4 cases of 40 bars) will be given their choice of A Ripken Way CD-ROM, Hershey's bat bag or Margie Wright Coaches Video.
- Each league that participates will be entered into a drawing for a Grand Prize of \$5,000 toward the purchase of league equipment.
- Eight Jugs Junior pitching machines will be awarded. One to each Region.
- Grand Finale, for 2004, the Hershey All-Star Team will be created for the Cal Ripken Division.
- Nine players from throughout the nation, along with 2 guests each, will be in attendance at the Cal Ripken World Series.
- These players will be recognized at the World Series as the Hershey All-Star Team.

### **Website:**

Our website address is [www.baberuthleague.org](http://www.baberuthleague.org). There is a lot of information on the website – history of the program, catalog merchandise, league membership information, World Series information, league resources, etc. It is also a good recruitment tool for potential new leagues.

### **T-Shirt Fund Raiser:**

Adidas T-Shirt Fund Raiser Program provides Babe Ruth League an opportunity to raise funds to benefit their local league.

These high-quality t-shirts feature an Adidas logo centered on the back and the Babe Ruth Baseball design on the left front chest.

T-Shirts can be customized with your league's name or logo.

12-100 t-shirts - \$5.50; 101-200 t-shirts - \$5.25; 200+ t-shirts - \$5.00

### **Marriott Corporation:**

- Named the "Official" Hotel of BRL
- Will negotiate the best rate available when hosting tournaments.
- Hosting league or organization will receive a royalty for the revenue generated from selecting a Marriott property when hosting a tournament or meeting.
- Marriott requires no financial commitment
- Marriott properties include: Fairfield Inn, Marriott Courtyard, Marriott Hotel, Renaissance Hotel, Residence Inn, Spring Hill Suites and Towne Place Suites.

Melissa Sutton is the Babe Ruth League customer service rep. Contact her at 1-732-302-5269 or email [Melissa.Sutton@Marriott.com](mailto:Melissa.Sutton@Marriott.com) to discuss your needs.

### **The Babe Ruth Network:**

Leagues and Teams have the ability to create FREE customized League and Team pages, which your volunteers and players will be able to instantly access to receive news and view the season's schedule and standings. These online services are being provided by Macroplay at no cost to you. Leagues will be able to register players online, create team rosters, plan league and team events, complete with online invitations. Players will be encouraged to create their own personal fan club page. To take advantage of this, send an email to [setup@BabeRuthNetwork.com](mailto:setup@BabeRuthNetwork.com) or call Demetri toll free at 1-866-622-7675 with any questions.

### **Musco Lighting:**

Musco Lighting is the Official Lighting Company of Babe Ruth League, Inc. We have been asked many times what is the proper lighting or candlepower to use at a Cal Ripken or Babe Ruth Field. Now through Musco, we can provide our leagues with the correct information. Babe Ruth League along with Musco, have published a Facility Planning Guide to help our leagues develop facilities that are safe, affordable and fun to play on. This guide is available on line. Babe Ruth Headquarters will be issuing four (4) \$15,000 grants to leagues requesting financial assistance for new lights. You can call Musco's Babe Ruth liaison Dan Allman at 1-800-825-6030 or email Dan at [dan.allman@musco.com](mailto:dan.allman@musco.com) for more information on the Musco lighting system.

**Spikes Trophies:**

Spikes Trophies is the official supplier of trophies and plaques for Babe Ruth League. You can contact your Service Representative or Spikes directly by calling 1-800-333-2927. The contact person at Spikes is Reginald Boatwright. He will be more than happy to help you with any questions you might have.

**Anaconda Sports:**

Anaconda Sports is the Official Sports Supplier of Babe Ruth League. They offer the lowest prices, and most important, they have all of your league's needs covered, whether it is uniforms, bats, hats, jackets, catcher's equipment, pitching machines. Anaconda Sports offers our leagues special payment plan. No down payment is necessary when you place your order. You can go on line to order products for your leagues at [baberuthstore.com](http://baberuthstore.com) for 2004 EARLY BUY SPECIALS. To receive a catalog, please contact your Service Representative or call Bill Carey at Anaconda at 1-800-327-0074, extension 145.

**Sports Section:**

The Sports Section is the Official Photography Company of Babe Ruth league. They now have on-site action photography service. This allows the parents to review the proofs immediately following the game. Parents can look at the proofs, order the photo with a customized border and logo, and take them home with them that day. To locate a Sports Section Franchise near you, call 1-800-321-9127, extension 151.

**Bullpen:**

If you are not on the mailing list to receive the BULLPEN, please call your Service Representative. There is a lot of good information on what is going on in the world of Babe Ruth League. Also, be on the lookout for good stories to publish in the BULLPEN. A league or player having great success or doing something different for their players, please let us know. The BULLPEN publication, advertising rates and insertion forms are available to be downloaded from our site. The BULLPEN takes approximately 10 minutes to download on most computers.

**Who's Who In Youth League Baseball:**

Babe Ruth League, Inc., in conjunction with Chancellor Publications, publishes a book that features players from your league who have demonstrated the level of skill to be selected for the league's tournament team. The only way that we can get the players into the book is by having each league submit a copy of each of its tournament rosters to Babe Ruth Headquarters. There is no financial obligation. It is a good way to get the players of your league recognized. For more information, call Joe Smiegocki at 1-800-880-3142.

**BRL Insurance Programs Insurance:**

All teams must be covered by group accident and commercial general liability insurance before they will be permitted to participate in ANY Babe Ruth League competition. Commercial General Liability Insurance must provide coverage for all participants and all league volunteers, as well as have a minimum limit of \$1,000,000.

## **Outstanding Advantages of Babe Ruth League Insurance Group Accident Insurance:**

- Provides primary coverage.
- Coverage provided for all league personnel, managers, coaches, umpires, Board Members, etc.
- Coverage is effective the day after the premium is mailed to Babe Ruth League, Inc.
- Can be "bound to be effective" without premium for a short period by calling Babe Ruth Headquarters.
- Allows you to play teams other than Babe Ruth teams.
- Coverage for participation in non-Babe Ruth tournaments provided if it is sanctioned by Babe Ruth League, Inc.
- Provides coverage for fall programs at no additional cost.
- Provides coverage for players while traveling directly to and from Babe Ruth league activities, practices and games.
- Provides coverage for injuries up to one full year from the date of the injury.
- Provides dental coverage to natural teeth.
- After a deductible of \$100, reimburses all covered expenses up to \$250,000.
- Provides up to \$10,000 for accidental death or dismemberment.
- Policy period is February 1, 2004 to February 1, 2005 (provided coverage is obtained by February 1st).

Note: Accident insurance is mandatory for all chartered/franchised leagues. See Rule 0.01, paragraph 6 and Note.

## **League Liability Insurance - OUTSTANDING FEATURES:**

- Provides a choice of either a \$1 Million or \$2 Million plan.
- Coverage is effective the day after the premium is mailed to Babe Ruth Headquarters.
- Has no deductible.
- Provides participant legal liability.
- Participant vs. participant is not excluded.
- Provides legal protection for all league personnel while they are acting within the scope of their duties.
- Written on an "occurrence" form as opposed to a "claims made" form.

- Limits of coverage chosen (\$1 or \$2 Million) are provided for each incident (has no general aggregate).
- Covers hosting of Babe Ruth tournaments.
- Provides \$1 Million of hired and non-owned automobile insurance coverage (in excess of personal automobile insurance).
- Covers additional insureds at no additional cost.
- Policy period is from February 1, 2004 to February 1, 2005 (provided coverage is obtained by February 1st).

Note: Liability insurance is mandatory for all chartered/franchised leagues. See Rule 0.01, paragraph 6 and Note.

**Directors & Officers Insurance - \$500.00 DEDUCTIBLE PER BOARD:**

Note – D&O insurance is optional coverage. The Directors & Officers insurance plan, is available only to those leagues which have purchased both the accident and liability insurance plans. The D&O policy has these outstanding features:

- Coverage is provided for Boards of Directors rather than individual chartered leagues.
- \$1,000,000 aggregate.
- No deductible.

**Coverage is provided for “Wrongful Acts” or “Errors and Omissions” that result in lawsuits as a result of (Some examples):**

- Discrimination (age, race, sex, handicap).
- Wrongful dismissal, rejection or suspension of league personnel or players.
- Acts beyond authority granted in bylaws.
- Failure to enforce rules or bylaws.
- Violation of State and Federal Laws (Anti-Trust), IRS, EEOC).
- Suppression of First Amendment Rights (speech, expression).
- Failure to properly manage league financial affairs.

The coverage offered through Babe Ruth League, Inc. for the chartered leagues is superior in that it is all-inclusive and allows for more freedom of activities while covering everyone involved with the league, not just the teams. Above all, the cost is extremely reasonable. When you take into consideration all the other people covered under the plan, the price per person gets even lower. If you decide to purchase the \$2 Million Liability Plan over the \$1 Million Plan, the increase in cost is only minimal per player – it’s well worth the investment!

For specific questions concerning the insurance plans offered through Babe Ruth League, Inc. to their chartered member teams, please contact Cheryl Pettibone at K&K Insurance Group. She can be reached toll free at 1-800-736-7358. For more information about how to obtain the insurance plans, please contact your Service Representative at Babe Ruth Headquarters.

#### **Headquarters:**

At headquarters, we have 15 full-time employees, including the Executive staff. Among these employees, we have five Service Representatives.

#### **Southeast Region Baseball Contacts:**

Grace Paglione – 1-800-552-6780 - [grace@baberruthleague.org](mailto:grace@baberruthleague.org)

Jessica Paul – 1-800-552-6780 – [Jessica@baberruthleague.org](mailto:Jessica@baberruthleague.org)

Any request for inquiry kits or promotional materials should be directed to your Service Representative. She can also answer questions on where a league stands with insurance and registration.

#### **Database:**

Service Representatives can also access any data base information that your Commissioners might need. Any changes in the League President, please notify us at Headquarters so we can enter the updated information in our database. Ron sends a message from the President each Monday via email. If you are not receiving this message, contact your Service Rep. We need your email address.

RULES: It is the basic intent of Babe Ruth League, Inc. that every candidate be given the opportunity to play in the program. Each league must advertise registrations, conduct try-outs and draft players. Each team should not be permitted to recruit its own players.

#### **Geographical Boundaries:**

- State Commissioners shall approve geographical boundaries established by each league, in conjunction with the District Commissioner in whose district that league exists and operates. A player must play within the leagues geographical boundaries in which he resides. This is determined according to the legal residence of his parents or legal guardian.
- Geographical boundaries are established to eliminate competition of an undesirable nature, but shall not be established to prevent healthy expansion of teams and leagues within any given area.

#### **Waivers:**

It is the obligation of local league Cal Ripken and Babe Ruth Presidents for all waiver requests to originate with their District Commissioner. All waiver requests must be submitted in writing and must include the approval and signature of the local league President, the District Commissioner, State Commissioner and Regional Commissioner before it may be considered for approval by Babe Ruth League, Inc. Headquarters.

### **Birth Documents:**

Players enrolled on a Cal Ripken, 13-15 or 16-18 roster must present to their respective League President, before the first local league scheduled game, an original record of birth or a CERTIFIED COPY of original record of birth or an Official Babe Ruth League laminated ID Card. Babe Ruth League does not accept notarized copies of birth records.

### **Certified vs. Notarized:**

- A notarized copy of a Birth Certificate is not acceptable in Babe Ruth League.
- A Notary Public does not have the authority to verify the authenticity of documents from the Bureau of Vital Statistics.
- A Notary Public only has the authority to authenticate signatures.

### **ID Cards:**

The use of the Babe Ruth ID Cards is strongly recommended. It is so much easier and less responsibility than carrying around the original birth document. Cost is only a \$1.25 per card. The ID Card is valid from the first day it is issued through the end of the player's career in Babe Ruth. Only officially laminated cards by Headquarters are acceptable.

### **League:**

A league shall be composed of not less than four, nor more than ten, teams to become a chartered/franchised Babe Ruth League. A chartered/franchised league may contain more than ten teams provided the league is divided into separate divisions. Each division is to be composed of not less than four, nor more than ten teams per division. The teams of one division may play the teams of another division in a straight schedule, or an interlocking league schedule with other Cal Ripken, 13-15 or 16-18 leagues, at the discretion of the League President.

### **Team Rosters and Schedules:**

A team roster and league schedule shall be filed with Babe Ruth league, Inc. as well as with the District and State Commissioners independent of each other on or before the league's first regularly scheduled game. Those leagues which do not start regular season play until after June 30th must file rosters by that date. League Presidents will certify as to the authenticity of the information submitted and certify as to possession of group accident insurance and league liability insurance. Computer generated rosters, providing all the information as required on the Official Rosters Forms and signed by the League President will be accepted. FAXED AND/OR EMAILED ROSTERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

### **Filing Charters and Franchises:**

- Leagues chartered/franchised by Babe Ruth League shall thereby become subject to the powers and jurisdiction of District, State and Regional Commissioners within whose limits such leagues operate.
- All league must apply for charter on or before May 15th.
- All chartered/franchised leagues may add teams after registration merely by filing team registration fees with Babe Ruth Headquarters. Players, managers and coaches on teams added after June 30th are not eligible for tournament play.

**Emblems:**

Every player, not just those playing tournaments, deserves to wear an official shoulder emblem. The reason the rules require every player to have an emblem is because every player deserves the feeling of belonging, not just the tournament players.

**Pitching Limitations:**

- A Cal Ripken baseball pitcher, regardless of age, may pitch six (6) innings per calendar week. A Babe Ruth 13-15 pitcher, regardless of age, may pitch seven (7) innings per calendar week. This applies to all games regardless of when played. This includes re-scheduled and make-up games. If a pitcher delivers one pitch in an inning, he shall be charged for one inning pitched.
- A Cal Ripken baseball pitcher must have two calendar days rest between pitching assignments if he pitches in more than two innings in any one game. A Babe Ruth 13-15 pitcher must have two calendar days rest between pitching assignments if he pitches in more than three innings in any one game. Each game in which a pitcher pitches is considered an assignment. If a game is called before it has become a regulation game and the umpire declares it "no game", the pitching eligibility is the same as it was prior to the beginning of the "no game" situation. This is for local league play.

**Re-Entry Rule:**

Any of the nine starting players may be withdrawn and re-enter once, provided such player occupies the same batting position whenever he is in the line-up. A substitute who is withdrawn may not re-enter.

**Re-Entry of Used Player:**

Babe Ruth League, Inc. will allow re-entry of already used players if all substitutes have been used and an injury or ejection occurs. Selection of this substitute must be made by the opposing manager. This type of re-entry can only take place when an injury prevents a player from continuing in the game. The injured player or ejected player, once removed from the game, cannot re-enter. (Local league and tournament play).

**The Bat:**

Cal Ripken Division - Barrel not in excess of 2 ¼ inches;  
Babe Ruth Baseball (13-18) - Barrel not in excess of 2 ¾ inches;  
Please note: We do not have a minus to weight restriction.

**Dual Participation:**

Any registered Cal Ripken, 13-15 or 16-18 league may adopt a local league rule, prior to the beginning of the league's season, prohibiting any player in that league from also participating on a team or in a league of any other baseball program. This option cannot be adopted by any other Babe Ruth Baseball organization higher than the league level.

### **Protests and Rules Interpretations:**

- Each league shall adopt rules governing procedures for protesting a game. All disputes and protests shall be decided by the local League President or by his appointed committee.
- Clarifications and interpretations of rules by Babe Ruth League, Inc. will be given only in writing, and then only upon WRITTEN REQUEST.

### **Tournament Baseball:**

- Rawlings is the Only Official Tournament Baseball to be used for all District, State, Regional and World Series competition. The Rawlings baseballs marked BRO or RBRO are to be used for all 13-18 tournament competition. The Rawlings baseballs marked CAL or RCAL are to be used for all Cal Ripken Baseball tournament competition.
- Tournament Play League Eligibility Requirements:
  - All leagues must apply for charter on or before May 15th.
  - All players are in the geographical boundary of the league they are participating in.
  - Accident and Liability Insurance.
  - A team roster and league schedule filed with Babe Ruth Headquarters, as well as the District and State Commissioners on or before the league's first regularly scheduled game.
  - Each league will maintain an official scorebook to be completed in detail covering all league games. These scorebooks will be needed by the League President to sign the tournament team roster verifying that each player has met the local league season participation requirement.

### **Documents:**

The tournament team manager must place in the custody of the officials the following documents prior to the start of competition:

- BIRTH DOCUMENTS FOR EACH TOURNAMENT PLAYER (BABE RUTH I.D. CARDS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED)
- CERTIFICATE OF COVERAGE OF GROUP ACCIDENT INSURANCE POLICY
- CERTIFICATE OF COVERAGE OF LEAGUE'S COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE POLICY
- TOURNAMENT TEAM ROSTER CERTIFIED AND SIGNED BY LEAGUE PRESIDENT
- BABE RUTH LEAGUE, INC. LETTER OF TOURNAMENT ELIGIBILITY FORM
- CONSENT FOR TREATMENT FORM (STARTING AT STATE LEVEL OF PLAY)

- FOUR 5X7 OR 8X10 COLOR TEAM PHOTOGRAPHS WITH IDENTIFICATION. (SEND PHOTO TO STATE TOURNAMENT HOST, REGIONAL TOURNAMENT HOST, BABE RUTH HEADQUARTERS AND ONE REMAINS WITH TEAM.)

### **Team Composition:**

- Each Cal Ripken and 13-15 tournament team shall consist of no less than 12 players and no more than 15 players, one manager and two coaches.
- Each 16-18 tournament team shall consist of no less than 12 players and no more than 18 players and one manager and two coaches.
- Managers and coaches must be selected from registered team rosters from the league or division in which they manage or coach.
- At NO time is it permissible for a player, manager or coach to appear on more than one tournament team roster in the same year.

### **Player Eligibility:**

- To be eligible to compete in tournament play, a player, manager or coach must be listed on league and tournament rosters.
- To be eligible for tournament play in any division of Babe Ruth League, Inc., a player must have played in at least one-half of his team's scheduled league games played prior to the start of tournament play.
- Due to injury or if a player, manager or coach leaves on his own accord, they may be replaced upon presentation of written approval from Babe Ruth League, Inc. to the Tournament Director. The replacement player, manager or coach is eligible beginning at the next level of tournament competition. The player, manager or coach replaced is not eligible for further tournament competition and replacements must meet all tournament eligibility requirements. Proof of inability of a player, manager or coach to continue must be presented in writing by the League President to Babe Ruth League, Inc.

### **Tournament Play:**

- Each tournament game that means District, must be played in the presence of the Tournament Director and Protest Committee. No tournament team shall start play in the absence of said Director and Committee.
- Host team can now compete prior to the tournament it is hosting.
- District, State and Regional tournament competition shall be decided by using double elimination or round robin format.
- World Series competition, with the exception of the 10-year-old World Series, will use a round robin format with the teams advancing to a single elimination bracket to determine the World Series Champion.
- No pitcher in Cal Ripken tournament play shall be allowed to pitch more than six innings in any two successive tournament games within the game tournament level.

- No pitcher in 13-15 tournament play shall be allowed to pitch in more than seven innings in any two successive tournament games within the same tournament level.
- In 16-18 tournament play, although there are no written restrictions as to the use of pitchers, Babe Ruth League, Inc. strongly cautions extreme care be used so an individual player is not overextended. Protect the player's arm.
- The second trip in the same inning to the same pitcher shall automatically result in the removal of that pitcher from the game as a pitcher ONLY.
- All Cal Ripken tournament games shall be six completed innings of 5½ if the home team is leading. In the event a game is called before completion, it shall be completed from the point of discontinuance.
- All 13-15 and 16-18 tournament games shall be seven complete innings, unless the home team is leading at the end of 6½ innings of play. In the event a game is called before completion, it shall be completed from the point of discontinuance.
- Any Cal Ripken District, State or Regional tournament game must be terminated once becoming regulation (3½ or 4 innings) if one team is ahead by ten or more runs and each team has had equal times at bat, or the home team is leading.
- Any 13-15 or 16-18 District, State or Regional tournament game must be terminated once becoming regulation (4½ or 5 innings) if one team is ahead by ten runs.
- No tournament team shall play in more than two tournament games per day without written permission from Babe Ruth League, Inc.