

**South Colonie Babe Ruth Baseball League, Inc.**  
**Standing Rules**

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## **ARTICLE I. STANDING RULES ADMINISTRATION**

### **Section 1. Duty Roster**

Each parent of a player will be assigned game duty on as nearly equal basis as scheduling will allow. Scheduling of game duty will be coordinated with scheduling of concession stand duty to insure that there are no conflicts. All League Officers will be exempt from parental game duty assignments. League Officers (one per game) will be assigned supervisory duties, as determined by the Executive Board, on as nearly equal basis, as scheduling will allow.

### **Section 2. Requirement for Play**

Unless exempted by vote of the League Officers, all players shall have fulfilled the following requirements prior to playing in a League game:

- Participated in League tryout. (13 yr. old)
- Paid League registration fees. The registration fees are as follows:
  - Registration fee, determined by E-board at annual budget meeting, is paid at time of registration, prior to tryouts (13 yr. old). The remaining registrations (14-15 yr. olds) must be paid prior to the draft. If not paid, the player will not be eligible to begin the season.

All changes of Section 2 must be voted on according to the Bylaws, Article X.

### **Section 3. Major Team Draft**

#### **Section 3a. 13 Year-Old Player Draft**

Unless exempted by vote of the League Officers, all potential players must partake in League tryouts to be eligible for the draft. At the player draft each team will be represented by the team manager or coach designated by the manager.

- Each team shall have thirty thousand (30,000) points with which to bid.
- Each team shall submit a list of eight (8) players on which that team will bid in the first round of bidding.
- Prior to the beginning of the bidding, there will be stated intent to exercise or waive the option(s) to draft the child of a team manager or the sibling of a player currently on a team roster for five hundred (500) points each.
- Bidding will then commence by a random draw of players' names. Bidding will start at five hundred (500) points and increase in increments of five hundred (500) points.
- Names of players who were not bid upon in the first round will be drawn in a second round of bidding. Bidding in the second and subsequent rounds will start at and continue in increments of 100 points.
- All teams will use their allotted points until rosters are filled.
- After all points have been used, teams still needing to fill their rosters will choose players remaining from the bidding, beginning in a rotation basis starting in reverse order of the just-completed season's League standings.

The number of 13-year-old players each team will draft as well as the minimum number of players needed to field a team will be determined by a consensus of the Major Team managers annually based on registration. The League President must approve these determinations. The minimum number of 13-year-old players that will play with the majors (13-14-15 year old) team is the minimum number needed to field a team. A team manager can rotate or stay with the same 13-year-old players; it is the manager's choice. If a 13-year-old vacancy occurs prior to the team's last game, the manager must select from the players who have not been drafted from the 13-year-old list.

Should the Major Team managers be unable to reach a consensus on the number of 13-year-old players to draft and the minimum number of players needed to field a team, the following shall apply. The number of 13-year-old players each team will draft will be five (5) and the minimum number of players needed to field a team will be 12.

A manager should, in the best interest of the league and his players, play with the agreed-upon number of minimum players. The duty Officer will be responsible to verify each of the team's rosters before each game. All players will be accounted for.

If found that a manager violates the minimum team roster, the League President will be notified. The League President will talk to the manager and if he deems necessary, assess the following penalties:

- First offense - 2 game suspension
- Second - 3 game suspension
- Third - 4 game suspension
- After the third violation, Article VII of the Colonie Babe Ruth Bylaws will apply.

### **Section 3b. 14/15 Year-Old Player Draft**

The draft date will be the weekend after the final registration is due.

Each returning team will choose three (3) players to protect. The remaining players from all of the teams will go back into the draft. The draft will be accomplished by randomly choosing a number from a hat. The order to choose from the hat will be based on the previous year's regular season standings. The first place team will choose from the hat first, the second place team will choose from the hat second and so on. Once this has been decided, it will go from one (1) until the highest number, and then from the highest number back to one.

Based on the number of registered players, each Major team will have an equal (or as close to equal as possible) number of 15 year olds and an equal (or as close to equal as possible) number of 14 year olds. This number will be announced by the Player Agent prior to the draft beginning. Each Major manager is to be aware of these two numbers and consider it carefully as they draft players. At three (3) rounds of the draft (3 to protect, 3 drafted) the teams must be balanced, meaning that there are an equal number of 14 and 15 year olds on each team.

Any player registered after the 14/15 year-old draft date will be placed on a waiting list until opening day. Space permitting on the Major teams, these players will be drafted based on the need of the Major teams, up to a maximum of eleven (11) 14/15 year old players per Major team. The remaining players will be left on the waiting list until a vacancy occurs on a Major team.

#### **Section 4. Resignation of a Player**

If a player resigns from a team to which assignment has been made, that player may not be selected to play for another team in the League in that season. If in a subsequent year a player who had quit the League wishes to play again, the team for which the player originally played has first option to add that player to its roster if there is a space available for a player of that age.

#### **Section 5. League Awards (add: 8/2006)**

All League Officers may submit nominations for awards. All Officers will then select three for the final vote. From that group, team managers will vote for the awards. The League President may vote to break a tie unless already having voted as a manager. If that occurs, then the First Vice President shall cast the tie-breaking vote, etc.

##### **League awards include:**

- Most Valuable Player
- John “Pesky” Poletto Award
- John Gulliver Memorial Award
- Outstanding 14-Year-Old
- Outstanding 13-Year-Old
- Homerun Title
- Highest Batting Average
- Pitching Award
- Thomas Faughnan Memorial Sportsmanship Award
- PREP Team Sportsmanship Awards
- PREP Team MVP Awards.

##### **League Awards Criteria:**

- **Most Valuable Player**—The player who is determined to be the most outstanding individual in baseball ability in the league for that season. Voted on by League Managers as prescribed above.
- **John “Pesky” Poletto Memorial Award**—This award memorializes John Poletto who was the ambassador for Colonie youth baseball over the span of 5 decades. As a manager/coach, he taught the ideals of sportsmanship, competition, work ethic and self-pride. As a fan, he was the first person to extend a hand, greet people, and always had a good word to say about the players and the program. This award, selected annually by the League President, is presented to the player who most exemplifies the ideals of Babe Ruth Baseball. *Inscribe “Play the game, love the game, respect the game”*
- **John Gulliver Memorial Award**—The award memorializes John Gulliver who became a U.S. Marine and was the first Colonie Babe Ruth player to die in the Vietnam War. He played on the 1962 Colonie Babe Ruth State Championship

team and contributed to its success with his ability as a pitcher, at the plate and in the field. The award, selected annually by the League President, is presented to a player who most exemplifies those traits.

- **Outstanding 14-Year-Old**—The 14-year old player who is determined to be the most outstanding individual in baseball ability for that age group for that season. Voted on by League Managers as prescribed above.
- **Outstanding 13-Year-Old**—The 13-year old player who is determined to be the most outstanding individual in baseball ability for that age group for that season. Voted on by League Managers as prescribed above.
- **Home Run and Batting Average Awards** are achievement awards based on that season's play in the field.
- **Pitching Award**- The player who is determined to be the most outstanding individual in pitching ability in the league for that season. Voted on by League Managers as prescribed above.
- **Thomas Faughnan Memorial Sportsmanship Award**—This award memorializes Thomas Faughnan, a Colonie Babe Ruth player that died in a car crash in 1998 and is presented to the player who most epitomizes the true ideals of sportsmanship, good conduct, attitude and fair play for that season. Voted on by League Managers as prescribed above.
- **PREP Team Sportsmanship Awards**—This award is presented to the player who most epitomizes the true ideals of sportsmanship, good conduct, attitude and fair play for that individual PREP team for the season. Selected by the team manager.
- **PREP Team Most Valuable Players**—The player who is determined to be the most outstanding individual in baseball ability in the league for that individual PREP team for the season. Selected by the team manager.

## **Section 6. All-Star and Travel Teams**

### **Section 6a. Selection of All-Star and Travel Managers**

- **15 Year Old All-Stars** — The team manager will be selected by nominations by League Officers who then will vote by secret ballot. To be eligible to manage the All-Star team, that person must be a manager or coach of a team or League Officer in Good Standing. The manager will then select two (2) field coaches in Good Standing in accordance with Babe Ruth tournament rule, Section 11.02(b).
- **14 Year Old All-Stars** -- The team manager will be selected by nominations by League Officers who then will vote by secret ballot. To be eligible to manage the All-Star team, that person must be a manager or coach of a team or League Officer in Good Standing. The manager will then select two (2) field coaches in Good Standing in accordance with Babe Ruth tournament rule, Section 11.02(b).
- **13 Year Old All-Stars** - The team manager will be selected by nominations by League Officers who then will vote by secret ballot. To be eligible to manage the All-Star team, that person must be a manager or coach of a team or League Officer in Good Standing. The manager will then select two (2) field coaches in Good Standing in accordance with Babe Ruth tournament rule, Section 11.02(b).
- **Travel** - The number of Travel managers will be determined by the number of travel teams established by the draft (see Section 6c. below). The team manager(s) will be selected by nominations by League Officers who then will vote by secret ballot. To be eligible to manage a Travel team, that person must be

a manager or coach of a team or League Officer in Good Standing. The manager will then select two (2) field coaches in Good Standing in accordance with Babe Ruth tournament rule, Section 11.02(b).

### **Section 6b. Affirmation of All-Star and Travel Managers**

The League President shall affirm each All-Star and Travel Manager selected, which affirmation shall not be unreasonably withheld. The President's determination is final.

### **Section 6c. All-Star and Travel Tryouts**

**All-Star Tryouts:** On a day determined by the League President and Umpire in Chief, the League will run a tryout for each All Star team. The tryout is mandatory to make the team and shall be open to every eligible player in the League. A Player can only be excused from that tryout by the League President.

**Travel Tryouts:** On a day determined by the League President and Umpire in Chief, the League will run a tryout for the travel team. A team will be picked and if there are enough players that tried out, there may be a second team formed for the same age level. The tryout is mandatory to make the team and shall be open to every eligible player in the League. A player can only be excused by the League President.

The Executive Board, by majority vote, must approve any player wishing to try out and play for an older division (either Travel or All-Stars).

### **Section 7. Concession Stand Duty**

Each parent of a player shall be scheduled to work in the concession stand, as stated on the Application to Play. If that requirement is not met at game time, that player may not play. If the parent does not reschedule and complete the duty(ies) the player is not eligible to play in the League. If a replacement takes the place of the player's parent, he/she must be at least sixteen (16) years of age. It will be the responsibility of the Booster Club representative on duty to notify the League Duty Officer in charge of the absent parent.

### **Section 8. Booster Club**

The President of the Booster Club shall be a League Officer in Good Standing and a member of the Executive Board and will be invited to attend all meetings of the League Officers, especially when it involves the financial status of the concession stand.

### **Section 9. Game Lineups (passed 3/5/06)**

In order to start a game on time, the batting order of each team shall be submitted as close as possible to 15 minutes prior to the start of the game, at the discretion of the Duty Officer(s). All players must be on the list and accounted for. A tenth hitter will be added to the batting order during Babe Ruth League games. This player will be indicated in the line-up as the "EH" (extra hitter). The EH will be treated as any other starter. The EH may appear in any position in the batting order. The EH may be inserted defensively without taking that defensive player out of the lineup.

## **Section 9a. Field Preparation and Cleanup**

The Home Team is responsible for all preparation and cleanup of the field.

Preparation includes: Grooming with infield machine

Placing bases on field

Repairing mound & batters box

Cleanup includes: Grooming with infield machine

Returning bases to building and plugging

Repairing mound & batters box (covering if rain in forecast)

Each manager is responsible for cleanup of their respective dugout. In the event of no League Duty Officer, The Home Team Manager will be responsible to complete all duties described on the Officer Duty List posted in clubhouse.

## **Section 10. Fields**

### **Section 10a. Use**

Fields are to be used only for regularly scheduled games and posted practice schedules. The use of the fields by anyone other than registered South Colonie Babe Ruth players must be approved by the League President.

### **Section 10b. Lights**

The lights are to be used only for regularly scheduled games unless approved by the League President.

## **ARTICLE II. RULES OF PLAY**

### **Section 1. School Baseball (passed 3/5/06)**

Players participating in school baseball may take part in Babe Ruth play provided there is no conflict of scheduled game. While school ball is in session, players who are considered pitchers are eligible to pitch a maximum of three (3) innings per week in Colonie Babe Ruth League play. As soon as school ball ends, regular league rules apply.

### **Section 1a. Pitching Limitations**

A South Colonie Babe Ruth 13-15 pitcher, regardless of age, may pitch nine (9) innings per calendar week in all levels of play during the regular season. The pitcher may pitch seven (7) innings of the nine (9) in the South Colonie Babe Ruth in-house League.

- Rule 1a. applies to all games and all teams (Prep, Babe Ruth League, and all Travel teams). This includes rescheduled and make-up games.
- If a pitcher delivers one (1) pitch in an inning he shall be charged for one (1) inning pitched.
- The calendar week of South Colonie Babe Ruth and all levels of play (Prep, Babe Ruth and all Travel teams) is Monday through, and including, Sunday.
- A South Colonie Babe Ruth Pitcher, including all levels of play (Prep, Babe Ruth, and all Travel Teams) must have two (2) calendar days rest between pitching

assignments if he pitches in more than three (3) innings in any one game. Each game in which a pitcher pitches is considered an assignment.

- Failure to comply with these rules and/or use of an ineligible pitcher will be reviewed by the Executive Committee with the possibility of a forfeit of that game if found to be negligent
- All other parts of the pitcher rules and limitations in the Babe Ruth League, Inc. Baseball Rules and Regulations and Official Playing Rules shall apply.

## **Section 2. Other Organizations**

A South Colonie Babe Ruth player shall not participate in any other baseball organization not under the South Colonie Babe Ruth umbrella, with the exception of school baseball. Registered League players shall only play on League-sanctioned teams. Only registered South Colonie Babe Ruth players shall be on a South Colonie Travel Team roster. There are no exceptions. Failure to comply with this rule will be reviewed by the Executive Committee with the possibility of the player being expelled from the Colonie Babe Ruth League for one (1) year.

### **Section 2a. In-House Absence**

Those players that do not have an approved absence from an in-house game are ineligible to play in their next played Travel Game. The absence must be approved by the League President (or voted on by the executive board in the President's absence) prior to the player being eligible for the travel game.

## **Section 3. Minimum Play (updated 1/31/12)**

For all Babe Ruth League Games:

- All 13 year old players must play a minimum of three (3) defensive innings and have one (1) turn at bat in each game attended.
- All 14 year old players must play a minimum of three (3) defensive innings and have one (1) turn at bat in each game attended.
- All 15-year old players must play a minimum of four (4) defensive innings and have one (1) turn at bat in each game attended.
- If this requirement is not met in a completed full game, that player shall play the entire subsequent game (up to 7 innings). The only exception to this rule is if a game is shortened because of darkness, rain or the ten (10) run mercy rule. Failure to comply with this rule will be reviewed by the Executive Committee with the possibility of a forfeit of that game if found to be negligent.

## **Section 4. Duration of Games**

No new inning shall start and a game shall end when after four and one-half innings (4 1/2) or two and one-half (2 1/2) hours of play, one team is ahead by ten (10) runs. If the team that is ahead is the visiting team and it is at bat, the home team must be allowed to have its at bat before the game can be ended.

## **Section 5. Ejected Player/Manager/Coach**

A player/manager/coach ejected from a game will sit out the following game. He/she must be present in the stands for the game he/she is sitting out. If not, the

player/manager/coach will be suspended for the ensuing game. Any further ejections will be brought before the League Officers in accordance with Article VIII of the Bylaws.

## **Section 6. Replacement of an Injured Player**

A player may be removed from the game for reason of injury at any time. If the injury prohibits that player from returning to play in that game and two (2) defensive innings and one (1) time at bat have not been met, then the minimum play rule shall be waived. An injury report must be filed for the injury before the player returns to play in a game.

The replacement for the injured player shall be designated by the manager in the following order of eligibility:

- a player who has not yet entered the game
- a starting player who has been removed once from the game

## **Section 7. Starter Re-Entry**

Once a substitute has entered the game, the player must stay in the game until he/she has completed six (6) consecutive defensive outs and has batted once. The starter may re-enter the game in any spot in the batting order once the substitute has qualified. The official scorer will notify the Duty Officer concerning the matters of possible substitution violation. The Duty Officer will bring it to the manager's attention while it is still correctable. The official scorer and Duty Officer will be silent if it is not correctable.

## **Section 8. Playoff Schedules and Pitching (passed 3/06)**

The first playoff game will be scheduled as soon as one (1) day and no later than five (5) days after the final game of the South Colonie Babe Ruth season. This date will be decided by a vote of the League Officers immediately following the final season's game. No pitcher in the 13-15 playoffs shall be allowed to pitch in more than seven innings in any two (2) successive tournament games. If a pitcher delivers one (1) pitch in an inning he shall be charged for one (1) inning pitched. All other Babe Ruth League pitching rules apply.

## **Section 9. Non-Regulation Games and Tie Regulation Games**

This rule will be governed by Section 4.12 suspended games of the current season's Babe Ruth League, Inc. Baseball Rules and Regulations.

## **Section 10. Season**

### **Section 10a. Division and Teams**

The League shall consist of one division. The number of teams shall be decided by the number of registered players. These players shall be divided as equal as possible with each team consisting of no more than sixteen total players made up with up to and no more than eleven 14/15 year olds. The number of 13-year-olds each team will draft will be determined annually in accordance with Article I. Section 3a of these Standing Rules.

### **Section 10b. Playoffs**

All teams will qualify for the League Championship play. This championship play will be a Standard Double Elimination Tournament with placement based on regular season standings. Ties in the regular season standings will be broken by the best head-to-head

record between the tied teams. If there is still a tie, it will be broken by a coin toss. Home team will be decided by the highest seed throughout the tournament, until the final round in which a coin toss will decide the 2<sup>nd</sup> game if necessary.

To ensure that the managers, coaches, and teams play in a fair, competitive, well thought out and structured fashion, “*Article II Rules of Play, Section 10B Playoffs*” shall be excluded from the Article X By-law. Once the number of teams has been decided, and the first player has been drafted, the number of teams to make the playoffs, and the playoff format can not be amended until the following season of play.

### **Section 11. Appeal Board**

The Colonie Babe Ruth League appeal board will be made up of the Executive Officers of the League. A minimum of three (3) members must rule on an appeal. The President shall establish the time for the appeal and notify the two managers and the Duty Officer(s) of the game involved in the appeal of the date and time of the appeal meeting. An appeal must be made within 48 hours of the start of the game being appealed to the League President. Statements can be presented by the managers, the Duty Officer(s) and one coach from each team. The ruling of the appeal board shall be final and included in the minutes of the next scheduled meeting.

### **Section 12. Cancellation of Games**

After the season schedule has been approved by the League Officers, the only reason a League game may be canceled is because of inclement weather conditions which affect the field of play and safety of the League players. Although it is the intent of the League to avoid game forfeits, any team failing to field nine (9) players for a League game shall forfeit that game to the opposing team.

### **Section 13. Code of Conduct**

No Officer of the League, manager, coach or player shall at any time, whether from the bench, playing field or elsewhere, use language or display actions which will in any manner refer to or reflect upon their colleagues, teammates, opposing players, managers, coaches, umpires or spectators. If the incident occurs on the playing field, the violator will be automatically ejected and suffer consequences as spelled out in the League's Standing Rules Article II Section 5 or Article VIII of the League's Bylaws. If the incident occurs on practice fields or anywhere else a Babe Ruth activity is being conducted, the matter will be referred to the Board of League Officers in accordance with the aforementioned sections of the League's Bylaws and/or Standing Rules.

### **Section 14. Prep League Program**

The League will provide for all 13-year-old boys and girls an instructional and competitive baseball program, hereafter referred to as the Prep League, serving as a transition from a Little League Baseball program to 13-15 year old Babe Ruth and other baseball programs. All registered 13-year-old players are required to participate in the Prep League. The season and schedule for the Prep League shall coincide but not conflict with the 13-15-year-old League. The team with the best record will be declared League champion and players on that team shall be presented with a remembrance signifying their accomplishment.

# **South Colonie Babe Ruth Baseball League Inc.**

## **Standing Rules**

### **Change Control History:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Recording Secretary</b>	<b>Summary</b>
10/2008	Ed Walsh	Updates
1/31/2012	Amy Patentreger	Updated Min Play for 13 YO
1/26/2013	Amy Patentreger	Corrections & typos
2/2013	Colleen Salvagni	Corrections & clarifications
4/2014	Colleen Salvagni	Modified Article I. Section 3a, Article 1. Section 6c and Article II. Section 10a.