



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 League Softball Commissioners and League Presidents

From: Jess Cusimano, National Softball Commissioner

Date: January 28, 2020

Re: 2020 Softball Pitcher Rule Change

The International Board of Directors has approved the following rule changes/clarifications beginning with the 2020 season. (This change is not reflected in the 2020 Babe Ruth League, Inc. Softball Rules and Regulations Rule Book.)

Current Pitching Rule:

8.01: "The pitcher shall take a position with both feet firmly on the ground and with both feet in contact with, but not off to the side of the pitcher's plate."

8.02: "In the act of delivering the ball, the pitcher shall not take more than one step, which must be forward, toward the batter, and simultaneous with the delivery of the ball to the batter—The pivot foot must remain in contact with, or push off and drag away from, the pitcher's plate prior to the front foot touching the ground, as long as the pivot foot maintains contact with the ground."

Addition to the current pitching rules for the 2020 Season:

Pitcher's Foot Placement:

The new addition will eliminate the requirement that a pitcher must have part of her pivot foot on top of the pitchers plate. Now, the pivot foot must only start in contact with the plate. This addition will also allow the pitcher to start with the non-pivot "stride" foot in contact with or behind the plate, and allows the pitcher to step back with the stride foot off of the plate; provided the stepback begins prior to the official start of the pitch, the separating of the hands.

With the new rule addition, Pitchers will have the choice to either continue with the current rule or to comply with the new addition. Both will be accepted as legal play and will not result in an illegal pitch scenario.

In closing, we again thank you for the time you invest for the benefit of your 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.



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To: Babe Ruth League Commissioners
From: Steven M. Tellefsen, President/CEO
Date: December 10, 2019
Re: 2020 Rule Changes

On behalf of Babe Ruth League, Inc., we want to thank you for the extra effort you put forth in helping make 2019 a successful and enjoyable season for our participants.

The International Board of Directors has approved the following rule changes/clarifications beginning with the 2020 season. These changes will be reflected in the 2020 Babe Ruth League, Inc. Rules and Regulations for the baseball and softball divisions.

Rules changes/clarifications for the 2020 Season.

1. **Rule 11.04 Documents – Paragraph 1(g)** – Certification of completion for Coaching Education and Abuse Prevention Training for all rostered coaches as required in Rule 0.04 #4. (Cal Ripken Baseball, Babe Ruth Baseball, Babe Ruth Softball)
2. **Rule 0.05 Team Composition – Note Eliminated:** If a team registers with Babe Ruth League, Inc. a minimum of four teams is required to register a 13 Prep League. 13-year-old players listed on 13-15 team roster may also participate in the 13 Prep League as the local league option. (Babe Ruth Baseball)
3. **Rule 0.05 Team Composition – Note Eliminated:** - If a team registers with Babe Ruth League, Inc. a minimum of four teams is required to register a 16 Prep League. 16-year-old players listed on 16-18 team roster may also participate in the Prep League as the local league option. (Babe Ruth Baseball)
4. **Clarification** – Wireless communication devices are not allowed; however, electronic scoring devices are permitted. No device on the field or in the

dugout may be used as a means of communication. **(Cal Ripken Baseball, Babe Ruth Baseball, Babe Ruth Softball)**

We value the opinion of our membership and base our future actions and any rule/policy changes on a group consensus. Our goal has always been, and will continue to be, to keep as many players as possible in the great games of baseball and softball, and to make it a fun and memorable experience for all.

In closing, we again 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.



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