

GATEWAY BABE RUTH 2011

Local Minor League Playing Rules for Regular Season Games

- ✓ The primary focus of our Minor League is to indoctrinate players to the 90-foot diamond. The league is operated as an instructional division. Records of wins and losses during the regular season will be kept for playoff seedings. A coach or manager is allowed to have instructional conferences during the game as long as they do not interfere with the normal flow of the game.
- ✓ There will be no forfeits! If a team can not field 9 players, then players from the opposing team may play for them, or fill the vacant defensive positions.
- ✓ A continuous batting order is to be used. All players that come to the game must play. Any player arriving late is to be placed last in the order.
- ✓ Free and continuous substitution will be used. No defensive subs, except for pitcher, will be allowed after the defense takes the field. The only exception is in the event of a player injury or ejection. All players in the batting order must play at least three innings on defense per game in the field.
- ✓ The game MUST be scored in the team's official scorebook. First and last names of players must appear in the lineup. Please keep scorebooks neat and accurate. They will be collected at the conclusion of the regular season.
- ✓ If a pitcher balks, the umpire will make the call, and will then explain to the pitcher what he did incorrectly. Base runners will not advance on the first balk call per pitcher. From a pitcher's 2nd balk forward, base runners will advance. This will be the case for every pitcher.
- ✓ No pitcher may pitch more than 7 innings per week. A pitcher may have up to 8 warm up pitches.
- ✓ A courtesy runner may only be used for catchers when there are 2 outs, to help expedite the game. The courtesy runner can only be the last batter of the previous inning.
- ✓ Games will consist of seven innings - or a 2 1/2 hour time limit. Rain-outs MUST be rescheduled within 2 weeks. Coaches are strongly urged to get their players in and off the field as quickly as possible.
- ✓ 10 Run slaughter rule will be in effect after the 5th inning.
- ✓ The home team is to supply two new baseballs at the start of each game.
- ✓ There are no protest rules for this league.
- ✓ The league will provide one umpire per game. Unless there are extenuating circumstances, the umpire will call from behind the plate.
- ✓ At the conclusion of the game, the home team MUST rake the infield, home plate area and pitcher's mound. Both teams are responsible for rubbish pick up.
- ✓ Good sportsmanship, fair play and exemplary conduct will be mandatory for all players, coaches, managers, umpires and fans. The umpire will have sole discretionary judgment on continuance of play if a disruption of any kind occurs; i.e., rain, weather, fan disruption, etc. Remember this is an instructional league and that the teaching of skills is the most important aspect of the game.