2026 CLARIFICATIONS

8U-

- No new inning after 90 minutes.
- 5 run max per inning with exception of last (6th). Mercy rule is in effect 15 runs after 2.5 or 3 innings and 10 runs after 3½ or 4 innings
- Team composition of 9 players. Team may elect to use "EH" which will be 10 players in batting order. If a team starts with 10 must end with 10.
- Defensive pitcher must be in line with or behind the rubber with at least 1 foot inside circle. NO charging until the ball is hit or crosses the plate.
- NO DEFENS IVE COACH'S ON THE FIELD
- No stealing & runners must maintain contact until ball reaches home plate.
- An in-bounded ball is DEAD once ball is " in control " inside the pitching circle, by the Pitcher. OR if the lead runner is stopped or gives herself up. Preceding runners will be set back when dead ball is call unless they have already reached the next base.
- No infield fly.
- No dropped 3rd .
- Bunting is allowed
- No Huddling between innings.

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1.0 The Blue Flame Spring-Loaded Pitching Machine , Official Pitching Machine of Babe Ruth League, Inc. shall be used for all tournament games and operated by the "The Coach Pitcher" designated by opponent team managers.

1.1 The pitching machine shall be positioned on the mound a distance of 35' with a speed setting of 32 mph (established when ball crosses home plate).

11.07-8U [g] Revised to Read

Even though a pitching machine will be utilized for pitching, the player fielding the pitching position must take a defensive position in line with, but preferably slightly behind the pitching machine within the pitching circle. NO charging towardsbatter until ball is hit or crosses the plate.

BATTED BALL HITTING PITCHING MACHINE (NEW GROUND RULE – BABE RUTH LEAGUE, INC)

If a batted fair ball hits any part of the pitching machine without touching a defensive player first, it is immediately dead. The batter will be awarded 1st base. All other runners.

Return to the base they occupied before the ball was put in play unless they are forced to advance because of the batter being awarded 1st base.

If a batted fair ball is first touched or THROWN by a defensive player, and then hits any part of the pitching machine, IT IS A LIVE BALL RULE 2.0 - INFIELD - FLY - DOES NOT APPLY

RULE 2.0 - COURTESY RUNNERS

a. MANDATORY FOR THE CATCHER WITH TWO (2) OUTS. OPTIONAL WITH LESS THAN TWO OUTS.
b. THE COURTESY RUNNER MUST BE A PLAYER WHO IS NOT CURRENTLY IN THE GAME AND MAY ONLY PINCH RUN ONCE PER INNING.
c. ARE NOT PERMITTED FOR THE PITCHER

RULE 3.03 [NOTE] – RE-ENTRY OF STARTING PLAYERS - Any of the nine starting players may withdraw and re-enter once provided such player occupies the same batting positions whenever in the line-up……

RULE 11.05 [5] – RE-ENTRY OF ALREADY USED PLAYERS is permitted if all substitutes have been used and an injury occurs

NEW 2024 Babe Ruth Softball Division – Rule 11.07(h) – 8U COACH PITCH OR PITCHING MACHINE SECTION – Each batter will have three (3) swinging strikes or a maximum of four (4) pitches.