**2019 Augusta Babe Ruth Softball Season Rules**

The Augusta Babe Ruth Softball Board has voted and approved the rules for play for the 2019 season. All age groups will follow rules listed in the most recent copy of the Babe Ruth Rulebook unless specifically noted below. In all age groups, if a player becomes injured or sick and is removed from the game, she will NOT be counted out when her time to bat. The team will simply notify the other team and skip over her spot in the batting line up.

**8U**

TIME LIMIT:

No new inning will begin after the 1 hour and 25 minute time mark of the game. The official time begins at the first pitch.

Rules:

The only rules that will be used during play are the approved rules. No local league rules will be allowed during play. If used that team will forfeit the game. Teams will bat a continuous line up, meaning all players are in the batting line up.

1. Run Limit- 7 run limit for the first 2 innings only. After the 2nd inning, unlimited runs are allowed until 3 outs have been made.
2. No new inning after 1 hour and 25 minutes. Drop dead time is 1 hour and 45 minutes. If game is played to drop dead time, the score reverts to the last **completed** inning.
3. Umpire- no umpire is required, however an umpire can be provided at the home teams discretion.
4. Coach pitch will be used. Coaches must remain in the circle while pitching. Batters will be allowed a maximum of 5 pitches, but 3 swinging strikes equates an out.
5. No stealing.
6. Base runners must be in contact with the base until the ball contacts the bat.
7. Overthrows- Runners are permitted to attempt to advance, at their own risk, a maximum of one base on an overthrow. If an attempt is made to throw out the advancing runner and a second overthrow occurs, runners may not advance.
8. A MINIMUM of 5 girls will be required in order to play a game. If a team is limited to only 5 players, they may elect to play without a catcher and have a coach catch.

**10U**

TIME LIMIT:

No new inning will begin after the 1 hour and 25 minute time mark of the game. The official time begins at the first pitch.

Rules:

The only rules that will be used during play are the approved rules. No local league rules will be allowed during play. If used that team will forfeit the game. Teams will bat a continuous line up, meaning all players are in the batting line up.

1. Pitching- Players will pitch unless 5 batters are walked, OR 5 batters are hit by a pitch in **one inning,** at which time the batting team’s coach will pitch to finish the inning. (This is not 5 batters per pitcher, it is 5 batters per inning.) Coaches will remain in the circle while pitching. Coaches are limited to 5 pitches per batter. If necessary, the umpire may declare no pitch for unhittable pitches. Umpires are still to call strikes, but there will be no walks during coach pitch. Pitchers may re-enter the following inning following coaches discretion.
2. Run limits- 7 runs per inning for the first two innings. After the 2nd inning, unlimited runs will be allowed until 3 outs have been made.
3. Coaches may play with 10 defensive players.
4. Steals- Base runners must be in contact with the base until release of the pitch.
5. There will be no stealing during coach pitch.
6. Overthrows- Runners may attempt to advance at their own risk on overthrows. If an attempt is made to throw out the advancing runner and a second overthrow occurs, runners MAY advance at their own risk. Play will not be dead until the lead runner is stopped and/or the umpire calls time.
7. Pitchers are allowed to pitch a maximum of 10 innings in one week. The week will run from Sunday to Saturday.

**12U**

TIME LIMIT:

No new inning will begin after the 1 hour and 40 minute time mark of the game. The official time begins at the first pitch.

Rules:

The only rules that will be used during play are the approved rules. No local league rules will be allowed during play. If used that team will forfeit the game. Teams will bat a continuous line up, meaning all players are in the batting line up.

1. Time Limit- no new inning will begin after 1 hour and 40 minutes. Drop dead time is 2 hours. The score will then revert to the last completed inning.
2. Slaughter rule- 15 runs after 2 ½ innings, 10 after 3 ½ innings.
3. Innings pitched- Pitchers are allowed to pitch a maximum of 10 innings per week. The week will run from Sunday to Saturday.

**14U**

TIME LIMIT:

No new inning will begin after the 1 hour and 40 minute time mark of the game. The official time begins at the first pitch.

Rules:

The only rules that will be used during play are the approved rules. No local league rules will be allowed during play. If used that team will forfeit the game. Teams will bat a continuous line up, meaning all players are in the batting line up.

1. Time Limit- no new inning will begin after 1 hour and 40 minutes. Drop dead time is 2 hours. The score will then revert to the last completed inning.
2. Slaughter rule- 15 runs after 2 ½ innings, 10 after 3 ½ innings.
3. Innings pitched- Pitchers are allowed to pitch a maximum of 10 innings per week. The week will run from Sunday to Saturday.

**Rules not covered in the interlocking league rules will be governed by the most recent copy of the Babe Ruth League Softball Rulebook.**