

## BYBA Minor League Rules

### Minor Age - 9-10

Purpose: Provide a safe, fast paced baseball program with focus on sound fundamentals. This league will focus on throwing mechanics, fielding mechanics for infield and outfield. Focus on pitching mechanics, catcher positional skills, and safe play. Athletes will begin to have plays, and focus on sound game execution. Our primary focus in this league is defensive skills.

- Pitchers may not pitch more than two innings per game.
- Teams must bat their entire roster.
- Each team will have four outfielders.
- There is free substitution but each child must play at least 2 innings in the field.
- Players may return to any position on the field except for the pitcher who may not return to the mound under any circumstance.
- Regulation games are six innings and limited to 2 hours. No new inning can begin after 1 hour and 45 minutes. If tied after 6 innings or at 1 hour 45 minutes the game is judged a Tie Game.
- Run Rules: 15 runs after four innings and a 10 run rule after 5 innings.
- If a team only has 9 players any time during the game there is NOT an automatic out applied. If a team gets down to 8 players or starts a game with 8 players 1 automatic out will be charged where coach deems in batting order.
- On a walk, batter must only take first base. Batter may not steal second. If there is a base runner on 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> they may steal an additional base – except home – if the ball is in play. During Allstars or tournament play home may be stolen.
- Base runners may not steal home, unless played upon or an over throw occurs in the in-field.
- Runners on third may score from third when a runner at first steals second. The catcher or in-fielder must make a play toward second or an overthrow to the pitcher for the runner on 3rd to advance.
- Runners may not lead off bases until a pitched ball has crossed home plate. Team will get 1 warning then an automatic out will be issued.
- No coaches or assistant coaches will be allowed behind the backstop during their games.
- There is no infield fly rule. Players are encouraged to play the ball. The umpire may call the ball dead and the batter out if a safety issue arises.
- Runners must slide on all bases when played upon. It will be up to the umpire's discretion to call the runner out.
- Head first slides are allowed to recover a base, but to be used at coach's discretion. Please ensure your players are competent in this form of sliding prior to allowing.
- If the batter squares up to bunt as the pitcher begins his delivery, and the pitcher stops before he releases the pitch, this will constitute a dead ball and the pitcher will be charge a ball.
- Batters may not throw the bat. First time will be a warning. Second time will result in an out and the child removed from the game.
- No fake bunting. (square, then swing away).

- We play by Babe Ruth rules except for the in-house rules listed above.
- The umpires will not tolerate any arguing on the field by the coaches, you will be ejected from the game without any warning.
- Last team named on the schedule is the home team, has the third base dug-out and is responsible for raking the diamond and Chalking the lines for home plate and 1st, 3rd field lines. Visiting team will have first base dugout and should try to assist with field prep as identified by home team.

Tournament team eligibility:

- You must play exclusively for BYBA in order to be able to play tournament (All-stars) ball
- Player must play the entire Minor season to be eligible for tournament (All-stars) Team

Policy for the coaches:

- Head Coaches must provide BYBA with continuing education or Babe Ruth approved course.
- Head Coaches choose their assistant coaches from the parents of the children they draft or from parents whose children are already on the team. Head Coach must turn in Assistant Coach information within 1 week of getting team roster.
- Coaches moving to the next level or quitting can't choose the next coach. All head coaching positions are filled by the board.
- Coaches must attend the mandatory pre-season Coaches Meeting.
- BYBA will complete a draft of available players trying to make teams of approximate number and player ability levels.