

# WESTERN MASS CAL RIPKEN

**The following is a brief outline of the Cal Ripken Tournament Rules and Requirements.**

**Documents:** The tournament team manager must place in custody of the tournament officials the following documents prior to the start of competition pg24

- a. Letter of eligibility properly signed off
- b. Proof of insurance
- c. Team photograph
- d. Team Roster
- e. Consent for treatment
- f. Certificate of completion of coaching education and abuse prevention training for all managers and coaches

**Contact information:** Tournament director: \_\_\_\_\_

Tournament Co-Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_

**Change to Schedule:** The schedule will play as written. Only the tournament director has the authority to change the schedule. In case of inclement weather, a decision will be made 2 hours prior to the start of the game based on field conditions and the forecast.

**Awards:** Any award to be given out must be approved by the Tournament Director. Western Mass Cal Ripken shall provide a Team Plaque for the winner. The tournament host league will provide the following:

- a. Individual trophies (medals) to the tournament winners
- b. Individual trophies (medals) to the tournament runner - ups.
- c. Two player of the game pins for each game (plus homerun pins)

**Baseballs:** The tournament host league will provide official game balls (pg17) for all tournament games. Foul balls are to be returned to umpires.

**Official Lineup Cards:** Provided by tournament host will be used complete with players first and last name, uniform number along with manager/coaches, bat boy/girl, ect. A copy of your official line up card must be given to the official score keeper 20 minutes prior to game time. Another copy must be given to plate umpire at pre-game meeting.

**Practice Fields:** Arrangements will be made to allow ample practice time. Host league will provide practice schedules. No practice on Tournament Fields.

**Team Composition:** Each team shall consist of no less than 12 players and no more than 15 players, a manager and 3 coaches. Pg 10

**Bat boy/girl:** The use of a bat boy/girl is allowed. They must have helmet on at all times while on playing field pg17

**Uniforms:** Only properly uniformed personnel are allowed on field

- a. All managers and coaches need to be in full uniform - regional only - district and states must dress similar (same color pants/shorts, league shirts, ect)
- b. The proper Ripken shoulder/cap emblem must be properly displayed pg19
- c. No metal cleats

**Jewelry:** Jewelry is prohibited. Players shall not wear jewelry. Medical Alert and religious bracelets are not considered jewelry. If worn they must be taped to body so as to remain invisible. Pg 18

**Catcher's Mask:** Anyone warming up a pitcher on or off the field must wear a mask. This includes players, managers, and coaches. There shall be a throat protected attached to mask, unless it is a hockey style mask. Pg 18

**Bat Rule:** All non-wood bats must have the USA bat markings. Barrell Maximum no greater than 2 5/8 . No BBCOR Bats are permitted in the Cal Ripken division. Pg 17

**Official Scorekeeper:** The host shall provide an official scorekeeper for each game. This scorekeeper shall also be the official scorekeeper and keep track of all pitching. Each manager is also responsible to check his opposing teams pitching eligibility before each game.

**Determining Home Team:** The first round tournament pairing and seeding are selected at the district/state meetings, from that point forward the team at the top of the

bracket is considered the home team. The official tournament brackets issued by Babe Ruth League Inc. for Double elimination or Pool Play must be used. Pg 25

**Home Team:** The home team shall occupy the first base dugout

**Visiting Team:** The visiting team shall occupy the third base dugout

**Pre-Game Time:** The game actually begin 30 minutes prior to posted start time and shall be divided as such:

- a. 30 minutes prior to game time the home team has field for 10 min warm up
- b. 20 minutes prior to game the visiting team has field for 10 min warm up
- c. 10 minutes prior to game time ground rules, player intros and National Anthem

If time is shorter between games the time leading up to game time will be divided into 3 equal time slots.

**Game Length:** All tournament games shall be 6 innings in length, except when shortened by mercy rule or extended by extra innings. Pg27 In the event a game is called before completion, it shall be completed from the point of discontinuance. If a game fail to reach the regulation minimum limit it must be replayed. Pg55 The Tournament Director along with The Tournament Chairperson will make the decision as to when the game will be completed.

**Playing Time:** There is no Mandatory Playing Rule in Cal Ripken Baseball

**Protest Committee:** A protest committee shall be in place before each game. One person from each team is designated to serve on the protest committee. They must attend the pre-game meeting with managers, team captains, and umpires. Recommended they sit with the official scorekeeper and not in their respective stands. The decision of the protest committee is final.

**Protests:** Will be addressed immediately by Cal Ripken officials and or Host Umpire in Chief

**Umpire judgement calls:** Are final and no protest is allowed on any judgement call

**Addressing the Umpire:** Only the manager is allowed to speak to the umpire. All communication must be in a respectful and professional manner. Be sure to keep your emotions in check and simply ask for time and in a calm manner talk to the umpire.

Remember we are here not only to teach the game to the youngsters but also set an example for them.

**Coaches:** Must remain in the dugout during play unless coaching a base

**Mercy Rule:** 10 run mercy after 3 ½ or 4 innings  
15 run mercy after 2 ½ or 3 innings (no expectations)

**Re-Entry Rule:** A starter may re-enter the game once. A substitute can never re-enter the game. (except in case of injury or ejection). The starter may only re-enter for the substitute that entered the game for that particular starter. If a team has no more legal substitutes and an injury or ejection occurs the opposing manager may choose which player may re-enter. pg11/12

**Substitutions:** Must be given to the umpire-in-chief pg49 - 3.06. The umpire-in-chief after having been notified shall immediately announce, or cause to be announced, each substitution. Pg49 - 3.06

**Extra Player:** An extra player may be used and treated like any other starter. Each team must determine prior to each game which option you elect. You must end the game with the same number of players. Penalty is forfeit.

**Contact Rule:** There is no mandatory slide in Cal Ripken Baseball, it is a contact rule. If a runner attempting to reach a base intentionally and maliciously runs into a defensive player he shall be called out on the play and ejected from the game. The object of this is to penalize the offensive team for deliberate unwarranted, unsportsmanlike action by the runner for the obvious purpose of crashing into the defensive player, rather than trying to reach base. Obviously, this is an umpire's judgement call. Pg 19 and 63

**Infield Fly Rule:** Is in effect for all games pg45

**Drop third strike:** Is in effect for all ages 11U and above and considered live

**Leading - Stealing:** 60ft diamond: Base runners may not leave the bag until the ball has reached home plate pg12

**Intentional walk:** An intentional base on balls may be given by the defensive team by having its catcher or coach request the umpire to award the batter first base. This may

be done before pitching to the batter or at any ball or strike count. Time is called and the ball shall be declared dead before making the award.

**Pitching:** pg26

AGE	DAILY MAX (PER DAY)	REST PERIOD		
		0 DAYS	1 DAY	2 DAYS
9 - 10	75	1-40	41-65	66+
11 - 12	85	1-40	41-65	66+

A league age 7 - 8: No pitcher is allowed to pitch in more than two innings per game, with a pitcher not being permitted to pitch in more than three (3) consecutive games (including double headers if applicable). If a pitcher pitches in 3 consecutive games (6 innings max), the pitcher is required a day's rest. The two innings per game would reset after days rest.

A starting pitcher may re-enter game as pitcher provided they have not been removed by rule.

Trips to the mound: The second trip to the mound in the same inning for the same pitcher shall automatically result in removal of that pitcher for the game AS A PITCHER ONLY pg 27 and 82

All signs must come from the catcher and the pitcher must be on the rubber

8/5 Rule: 8 warm-up pitches 1st inning then 5 thereafter. New pitcher gets 8 warm-up pitches

**Ejections:** If a player/coach/manager is ejected they must leave the field. The Tournament Director along with the Tournament Chairperson and in their judgement may levy additional game suspensions up to removal for the entire tournament based on the severity of the actions of the ejected person

**Zero Tolerance:** Misbehavior by a teams's parents or fans will result in the person or people being removed from the field for the remainder of the Tournament. A repeated offense by the same team's fans can result in forfeit by that team. Please stress to your players that their job is to cheer on the players!!

