

# NBIAA

Northern Burlington Instructional Athletic Association  
P.O. Box 334, Columbus, New Jersey 08022

## **2012 Minor Baseball Rules (9 & 11 years old)**

### **Northern Burlington Cal Ripken Jr. Baseball League**

**GOAL:** To instruct the fundamentals of the game of baseball to nine through eleven year old children, while providing time for them to recreate and have fun.

**PLAYING RULES:** As adopted by the BabeRuth/Cal Ripken Jr. Baseball rules and amended by agreement of participating NBIAA community representatives.

#### **Amendments/Exceptions/Clarifications of Cal Ripken Rules:**

1. **Comprised of boys who will be 9 or 10 years old (11 year olds with lower skill level) on April 30<sup>th</sup> in the calendar year.**
2. An optional 10 run mercy rule, with a mandatory 15 run provision will be applied after 3.5-4 innings.
3. All games will be played with a two-hour time limit in place, or to the completion of the inning in progress.
4. An inning is over when three outs are recorded or the offensive team scores five or more runs. (A maximum of five runs an inning is scored in the book.)
5. No slash bunting. (Example... When batter squares to bunt, he/she MUST bunt and not pull back and swing away.)  
Note: Pulling back when bunting is okay as long as the hitter does not swing away.  
1<sup>st</sup> time – Warning. 2<sup>nd</sup> time – The batter is out.
6. **Base stealing will be allowed during the entire season.**
  - **Three successful steals will be permitted per inning - Any advance of a base due to a passed ball, wild pitch, or delayed steal (catcher to pitcher exchange) will be considered a steal.**
  - **Only one successful steal of home can be included in the inning limit**
  - **Coaches will be responsible for keeping track of the number of steals and should have them recorded in their scorebook.**
7. Overthrows to a base are live balls and runners may advance at their own risk and are not steals. This includes pick off attempts by the catcher to a base.
8. Every player must play at least three innings defensively and bat at least once in a game. The rule does not apply if the game is shortened due to Rule 1 above.
  - Defensive free-substitution is allowed and encouraged throughout the game, without regard for the offensive batting order. ***Players should not sit more than consecutive innings.***
  - The batting order for both teams will include all players up to the lesser number of players present on opposing team rosters. For example, if one team has thirteen available players, and the other team has twelve, both teams will include at least twelve players in their respective batting orders. **Any remaining players must pinch hit prior to the end of the game.** “Batting the entire roster” is allowed by either team at any time and is always encouraged.
  - Coaches are encouraged to rotate starters and substitutes from game to game to equalize playing time among rostered players on a given team.
9. Minor division pitchers shall throw no more than 3-innings per game **twice** per week during regular season and playoffs.
  - a. Two (2) days of rest will be required after three (3) innings are pitched.
  - b. One (1) day of rest will be required for two (2) innings or less pitched
  - c. One pitch in an inning constitutes a full inning pitched. The “3 innings per game” do not have to be consecutive innings.

- d. No pitcher shall exceed 6 innings per week.
- e. A pitcher may be removed from the game as a pitcher and return to pitch one time in the game.

**f. Pitch count restrictions**

- **3 inning game (65 pitches) – No more than 35 in any one inning; 50 in two.**
  - **2 inning game (50 pitches) – No more than 35 in any one inning**
  - **1 inning game (35 pitches)**
  - **If a pitcher reaches the pitch count limit in the middle of an at bat, he will be allowed to complete that at bat before being removed.**
- g. Pitcher's must be removed from pitching after either four (4) walks or two (2) hit batsmen in one inning.
10. The Infield Fly Rule is in effect for all Minor League games.
11. NO headfirst sliding is allowed at any base, except while returning back to a base to avoid a pick-off attempt. If a runner slides headfirst into a base at any time other than returning from a pick off, the runner is out
12. Official score must be kept, along with innings pitched and pitch counts by each pitcher verified with the opposing coach's signature.
13. Team rosters, w/player numbers, must be submitted for distribution to all teams prior to the beginning of the season.
14. On an as-needed basis—in cases of potential forfeitures—players rostered on Minor League teams may play games at the Major League level. This rule is not intended to take playing time away from Major League players, and must not be used to “gain an advantage.” **Substituting players should only play the minimum number of innings needed.**
15. Manager/Coaches: There should be one Manager, two Coaches, and one score keeper on the bench. Managers and Coaches should wear a uniform or shirt that represents their township and identifies them as a manager or coach.