



# SNJ Babe Ruth Softball

[snjbaberuthsoftball.org](http://snjbaberuthsoftball.org)



## **SNJ Babe Ruth Softball District 1 Tournaments June 7 – 9 at New Egypt, NJ**

The top 3 finishers will advance to State Tournament Play. The top 2 finishers are required to play in the state tournament per your Reinstatement form in your credentials.

Upon completion of district play, managers must register for the SNJ State Tournament by using the Managers Check-In form on the SNJ State web site, [snjbaberuthsoftball.org](http://snjbaberuthsoftball.org). All managers are required to attend the State Tournament Credential Night. All teams are required to attend the State Tournament Opening Ceremonies.

## **SNJ Babe Ruth Softball State Tournament June 26 – 30 at Egg Harbor Township, NJ**

Credential Night and Opening Ceremonies Wednesday June 26.

Play Starts Friday June 28. Double Elimination Tournament.

Top 2 Advance to MAR Regionals.



## **Middle Atlantic Regional July 5 – 7 at Vineland, NJ**

MAR is also an invitational tournament. Must register by June 27.

Register at: [marbaberuthsoftball.org](http://marbaberuthsoftball.org)

## **Please note Rule Changes for 2024**

### **1-Automatic Runner, Extra Innings(pilot program).**

All half-innings after the conclusion of the sixth inning (for the 12U/10U/8U Divisions) or after the conclusion of the seventh inning (for the 14U/16U/18U Divisions), **begin with an automatic runner on second base.** The runner placed on second base at the start of each half-inning in extras is the player in the batting order immediately preceding that half-inning's leadoff hitter, or a pinch-runner. So, if the No. 7 hitter in the order is due to lead off, the No. 6 hitter (or a pinch-runner for the No. 6 hitter) would be placed on second base."

### **2-NEW 2024 Babe Ruth Softball Division - Rule 11.07(h)**

**8U PITCHING MACHINE SECTION** - Each batter will have three (3) swinging strikes or a maximum of four (4) pitches.

## **SNJ Tournament Rules**

All SNJ Babe Ruth Softball Tournaments follow the 2024 Babe Ruth Softball Official Playing Rules Book.

**In the 8U Division ONLY**, there is a companion Clarifications/Exceptions page posted on the SNJ web site and attached here. The clarifications and exceptions are used in all SNJ Tournaments. All 8U coaches should be familiar with the Clarifications/Exceptions in the 8U Division..



## 2024 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 DEFENSIVE 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.

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 towards batter 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.