

## Latest Rule Changes for 2011

Updated 10/26/10

### Local League and Tournament Play Special Rules and Regulations

The International Board of Directors has approved the following rule changes beginning with the 2011 season. These changes will be reflected in the 2011 Babe Ruth League, Inc. Rules and Regulations.

- Babe Ruth League, Inc. will no longer provide our Host Family Program at the World Series level for the Cal Ripken Division and the Softball 12U Division.
- A clarification of Babe Ruth League Rule 11.02 will be made to indicate that once a team enters the Cal Ripken Major/70 Division tournament trail, they cannot compete in the Cal Ripken Major/60 tournament trail and once a team enters the Cal Ripken Major/60 tournament trail, they cannot compete in the Cal Ripken Major/70 tournament trail.
- For the Babe Ruth Softball 14U, 16U and 18U divisions, the pitcher's distance has been increased from 40' to 43' for local league and tournament play.
- World Series Competition - The 10-run rule will be in effect for all pool play and single and double elimination games. (This is under Headquarters' jurisdiction)

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### Composite Bats

The International Board of Directors of Babe Ruth League, Inc. has approved a moratorium on the use of composite bats in the Babe Ruth Baseball 13-15 and 16-18 Divisions, effective immediately. The moratorium shall be in effect until further notice by Babe Ruth Headquarters.

The moratorium will follow the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), based on a recommendation from its Baseball Rules Committee. The NFHS Board enacted a rule to prohibit the use of composite bats until they can produce compliance with the standards through the life of the bat. If a composite bat is legal/approved under the NFHS rule for the 2011 season, it is legal for use in the Babe Ruth Baseball 13-15 and 16-18 Divisions for local league play and tournament competition.

Composite bats that are certified by an approved independent testing laboratory as meeting the current Ball Exit Speed Ration (BESR) and the Accelerated Break-In (ABI) procedure will be eligible. For a list of composite bats approved for the 2011 Babe Ruth Baseball 13-15 and 16-18 Divisions, please [click here](#).

At present, the moratorium on composite bats does not apply to the Cal Ripken Major, Minor, Rookie and T-Ball Divisions, nor does it apply to any division of Softball.

Our goal is to provide our local leagues clear direction regarding the 2¼" barrel composite bats, and which ones meet the standards for the Cal Ripken Divisions, if any, as soon as possible. We hope to have information in the very near future.