JCB Major Division Rules Spring 2004

JUA RECAP

Our park is affiliated with Babe Ruth, Inc., and for the most part the Cal Ripken rules are enforced. There are a few modifications that coaches are aware of and JUA should enforce.

Weather Issues: In the event of bad weather, the managers of **both teams** shall agree on the fitness of the playing field before the game starts. If the managers cannot agree, the President or duly appointed representative shall make a determination. Once a game begins, the Plate Umpire shall be the sole judge as to whether and when play shall continue. If suspended by the umpire, the teams will wait at least 30 minutes before game will be called.

Field Decorum: Only managers, coaches, league officials, umpires and uniformed players are allowed in dugout during games. No bat boys/bat girls. There must be one adult coach/manager in the dugout at all times. No coach or manager may leave the dugout during the game without the permission of the umpire.

Game Length: Full game is 6 innings. No inning may begin after 1 hour 50 minutes. Games called because of time are considered "regulation" regardless of the number of innings played. Remember: The next inning always begins the moment the visiting team secures the third out. No inning may begin after 10:00 PM

Game Rules: A game may not start with less then 9 players on **each** team. No game may continue with less than 9 players on **each** team. No player with a cast may participate in the game in any capacity. (Uniformed players with cast may sit in dugout.) No metal spikes or cleats are permitted. "Free substitution" is allowed on defense.

Pitchers: Coaches are aware of pitching limitations. JUA is **not responsible** for enforcing these limitations. JUA should ask each coach in pre-game conference if there are any pitching limitations they wish to disclose to each other. A manager/coach may come out twice in one inning to visit the pitcher. On the second trip in that inning - a pitching change must be made. Additionally: A manager/coach may only visit the same pitcher 3 times in a single game. On a fourth visit during the same game - a pitching change must be made. A player once removed, as a pitcher may not pitch again in the same game. Not more than 5 pitchers may be used in a single game.

Batters: All players included in the lineup will bat in order "continuously" regardless of defensive involvement. There is no "on deck" position in the Majors. Only the first batter of each half inning is permitted outside the dugout between innings. Painted helmets will not be allowed. Bats may not exceed 33 inches in length and not more than 2 1/4 inches in diameter. (No "big barrel" bats allowed.) No batting donuts allowed during games.

Batting Out of Turn: Batter shall be called out, on appeal, when failing to bat in his/her proper turn and another batter completes a time at bat.

Offensive Time Outs: Only one offensive time out, for the purpose of a visit or conference will be permitted each inning.

Runners: There is no "must slide" rule in Cal Ripken. However, a runner can be called out if the runner does not slide or attempt to get around a fielder who has the ball and is waiting to make the tag. (Ex: Runner must slide going into home if play is eminent. This is a judgment call by the umpire.) There is, however, a **no head first slide** rule. Unless returning to a base previously acquired, any runner sliding head first will be called out.
Runners may not leave their bases until the ball has been delivered and has reached the batter. Leaving the base early - by any runner will result in player(s) being returned to base(s) previously occupied. If, however, the runner is tagged out while guilty of leaving the base early, the out will stand. In the event a batter hits the ball on occasion where the runner(s) leave the base early, runners will be granted base, which they would have normally achieved, based on result of hit. Umpire will determine where runners will be placed.

If other issues arise during game, make "best call" based on experience and have the coaches make a note in scorebook of the conditions at the time of conflict for resolution at a later date by Umpire in Chief and JCB Board.