

FERN CREEK BABE RUTH LEAGUE RULES

11U/12U BASEBALL

1. The time allowed after conclusion of previous game is (15) minutes.
2. One (1) hour and 45 minutes or (6) innings, whichever comes first. Exception: Regardless of time, an official game must complete (4) innings (3 ½ if home team is winning).
3. No player shall sit the bench (2) consecutive innings.
4. The entire team, ready for play at game time, will bat in continuous rotation late arrivals, if optioned to play by the manager, must be added to the end of the official rotation.
5. A player may re-enter defensively for any player.
6. League standings will be based on won/loss records.
7. Interleague Tournament will be 6 innings unless run rule comes into play.
8. 11 – 12 Year Old Pitchers must adhere to the following rest requirements:

Pitch Count Max: 11-12 Year Old Division 75 Pitches

(Revised 3/2015)

- If a player pitches 61 or more pitches in a day, three (3) calendar days of rest must be observed.
- If a player pitches 41 - 60 pitches in a day, two (2) calendar days of rest must be observed.
- If a player pitches 21 - 40 pitches in a day, one (1) calendar day of rest must be observed.
- If a player pitches 1-20 pitches in a day, no calendar day of rest is required before pitching again.

Why has FCBR changed the pitching regulation for all baseball divisions?

Recently, researchers and medical professionals in the field of sports medicine have determined that the actual number of pitches thrown (i.e., pitch count) is a safer way to regulate pitching in youth baseball.

How will FCBR determine who is responsible for counting the pitches?

This responsibility will rest with the game's official scorekeeper. The scorekeeper must keep track of the balls and strikes on each batter. Additionally, the scorekeeper will need to keep track of the number of foul batted balls that are hit with two strikes. Each pitcher's pitch count is computed by adding the number of balls and strikes, the number of foul balls hit with two strikes, and the number of fair batted balls.

Other alternatives:

Assign a separate person who simply keeps track of every pitch on a piece of paper within the press box.

Assign the task to one or both of the managers, or to one of the base umpires.

What is meant by "calendar days" in the regulation?

The principle of "calendar days" remains the same. A calendar day is one full day as it is seen on a calendar. A calendar day begins at midnight and ends at midnight the following evening.

Example: If a pitcher in the 11-12 year old Division throws 70 pitches in a game on Monday night, that pitcher cannot pitch again until Friday, when he/she has had three calendar days of rest (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday). It makes no difference what time of day the pitcher pitched on Monday, as the rest period does not begin until midnight that night.

Can the same pitcher throw in consecutive games?

Yes, depending on the number of pitches thrown and the days of rest, the same pitcher could pitch in consecutive games (regular season).

If a pitcher is pitching a perfect game or no hitter and reaches his or her maximum pitch count, does he or she have to be removed as a pitcher, or can he/she continue until the perfect game or no hitter is lost?

Any pitcher, without regard to his/her effectiveness, must be removed when he or she reaches the limit prescribed in the regulation. Remember, no game is more important than protecting pitchers' arms.

Is the pitch count regulation mandatory in all divisions of baseball? What about softball?

The regulation applies to all baseball divisions at FCBR. It does not apply to and cannot be used in softball.

Are warm up pitches calculated in the pitch count for a pitcher?

No. As always, however, umpires should be mindful that the rules permit a returning pitcher to have eight preparatory pitches, or one minute, whichever comes first.

If a Major Division pitcher has completed six innings in a game, and the game is tied, will that pitcher be permitted to pitch in the seventh inning if he/she has not reached the limit?

Yes. There is no limit to the number of innings a pitcher can pitch in a day. A limit is placed on the number of pitches only.

Does this mean a pitcher could pitch in two games in a "calendar week?"

Yes, but the concept of the calendar week is no longer in use. Here's why...

A pitcher under the previous regulation could have pitched six innings (potentially 150 or more pitches) on a Saturday, and after three days of rest, could have pitched on Wednesday for six more innings (and potentially more than 150 pitches). That's a potential total of 300 or more pitches in a five-day period.

Under the new regulation, the same pitcher could pitch on Tuesday (but no more than 80 pitches), and, after three days of rest, could pitch on Saturday (again, no more than 80 pitches). That's a potential of no more than 160 pitches in a five-day period.