



DIVISIONS

Majors: The most experienced level of Cal Ripken Baseball, recommended for 11 and 12 year old players. Cal Ripken Baseball is played under the Official Baseball Rules, but implements some special rules as necessary for the development and welfare of this young age group. The game is played on a 60-foot diamond with a pitching distance of 46 feet. In order to encourage the league to train more pitchers, there are rules that set the maximum number of innings a pitcher may pitch in a calendar week. Regulation games consist of six innings or four innings if a game is called. Special base running rules are also in effect. While 10 yr olds may be drafted to the Majors, only 2 per team are permitted. Each team plays a game during the week and a game on Sunday. All games for Majors are played at Lions Field.

Minor Division: Recommended for the 10 and 11 yr old players who have not reached the skill level needed to play in the Majors. This division has only player pitching and incorporates all the same rules as in Majors except some special base running rules. This is the first division that players must tryout before coaches to earn a spot on a team. This division can also include the stronger skilled 9yr olds and an occasional very strong 8yr old.

Minor Division: Recommended for 8, 9 and 10 year olds. Among teammates of their own age and experience level, players continue building and refining their fundamental skills while they begin to understand game strategy. The season begins with the pitching being done by pitching machines with the players beginning to pitch as the season progresses.

Rookie Division: Designed primarily for 7 year olds. This new division has been made to give the 7 year old players a more challenging baseball experience than many have had in the past in T-Ball. This change has come as a result of the league's desire to bring the 5yr old players into T-Ball. Rookie Ball will be a pure pitching machine league. By controlling the pitches with a pitching machine, there is more action at the plate and in the field. Fear of being hit by a pitched ball is diminished. It makes the game safer and improves the playing confidence and ability of all participants. It removes the boredom - which is often the result of either overpowering or inadequate pitching - by throwing only strikes. Fewer errors and greater throwing accuracy are the result of increase in activity. The rookie league is an excellent way to continue teaching the fundamentals of the game and building player confidence

T-Ball: Our program is designed for 5 and 6 year olds to teach the fundamentals of hitting and fielding. All batters will hit the ball from a batting tee which is adjusted to a height that allows the batter to swing level. All rostered players present for the game bat in order, whether playing defensively or not. Each player plays a minimum of two innings defensively. Adult coaches are stationed beyond the infielders in order to provide instruction to all defensive players. The primary goal is to begin to instruct young players in the fundamentals of baseball in a supportive team environment