

Tennessee Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken
East Tennessee State Tournament for 10 year-olds
June 28 – 30, 2024
Important Information for Coaches

Park Address→All games will be played at the Edwin Warner Baseball Fields. The address is 2547 Old Hickory Blvd., Nashville, TN. 37221. The entrance to the fields is from Vaughn Road and is directly across the street from 50 Vaughn Road.

Coach Check-in→Each team must present your official Cal Ripken notebook upon arrival at the Main Gate. You will then be given your coaches credentials and team cooler tag (see below for details). Coaches **MUST** display and wear your Coaches Badge upon entry to the park and at all times. Each team will be issued four badges. Additional team personnel beyond those four will need to purchase tickets.

Batting Cage Rules→There are three batting cages near the Warner Park Concession stand. Cages are on a first-come/first-served basis, but cooperation among the teams is encouraged. Each team should limit activity to one cage and should not monopolize a cage if another team is waiting. In addition, Fields 1 and 2 are available for additional team warm-up/practice/hitting.

One Team Cooler Per Team→Each team can bring-in one appropriately-sized cooler of water, sports drinks, cooling towels, etc. for the use of the team and coaches only. This cooler must be kept inside the dugout during the game. The coach will be issued one cooler tag to be attached to the cooler.

No Outside Food or Drink→As is the case with most ballparks, the host league relies on proceeds from the concession stand to help keep the fields nice. The concession stand will be open approximately an hour prior to the first game and will remain open until all games are completed each day. This concession stand receives high marks for both the hot and cold food and a variety of beverages. Coaches are asked to notify your team parents about this policy.

Pets → No Dogs are allowed inside the park except for service animals.

Daily Admission→Due to the way the tournament is formatted, Friday and Saturday admission will be \$10 each day for adults, \$5 each day for students 6-18, Senior Adults 65 and over, and active-duty military personnel. For Sunday, admission will be \$5 for Adults, \$3 for students 6-18, Senior Adults 65 and over, and active-duty military personnel. Under 6 is free. Wristbands for each day will be issued and must be worn at all times.

Team Readiness to Play→Other than the first game of the day, teams should be ready to play 30 minutes prior to the scheduled starting time. Teams playing back-to-back will be granted up to 15 minutes between games, if needed. Should a game run late, the umpires will consult with the tournament management and adjusted start time will be announced.

Time Limits→In accordance with Tennessee Babe Ruth League rules for this age group, all games (with the exception of the championship game) will be played with no new inning starting after 105 minutes (1 hour, 45 minutes).The new inning begins once the third out of the previous inning is completed. In addition, Run Rules of 20 runs after 2 innings, 15 runs after 3 innings and 10 runs after 4 innings will be in effect.

Courtesy Runner→Courtesy Runner is allowed for the catcher (depending on the heat index, it is possible that the State Commissioner will add the pitcher for this). Courtesy runners must come from substitutes who have not yet entered the game. Once all substitutes have entered the game (taken a spot in the batting order), the team has no more courtesy runners.

Game Balls→Provided by the tournament.

Pitch Count→The official pitch count will be kept for each game by the base umpire. That umpire will confirm number of pitches with both teams and have the said number of pitches recorded on the pitch summary sheet for each game. The tournament management will keep a pitching log for each team and will confer with each manager/coach before each game concerning who is/is not eligible to pitch in that game. The Cal Ripken Tournament pitching rules (page 26 in the 2023 Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken Rule Book) will be in effect.

Home Team→For games in Pool Play, home team will be determined by a coin toss. If possible, coaches should find each other 15-30 minutes prior to their game, asking a member of the tournament staff to conduct the flip. Unless a team is playing consecutive games on the same field, visiting team should take the first-base dugout and home team should take the third-base dugout.

Possible Mis-Application of a Rule →In the event that a manager/head coach feels that a rule has been mis-applied, a protest must be lodged prior to the next pitch being made or runner being retired. Play will be stopped and the protest will be settled before play (and time clock) resumes.

Proper Uniforms for Coaches → Coaches must be properly attired either in full uniform or in accordance with the Cal Ripken pilot program.

Official Scorebook→Home team will be responsible for keeping the official scorebook for the game. Each team is encouraged to keep scorebook (for both teams) and scorers should check with each other each half-inning. All substitutions should go thru the Plate Umpire, who will notify the score keepers.

Scoreboard Operator→Game management will ask for a volunteer from one of the teams to be the electronic scoreboard operator. That person is asked to return the controller to the side door of the concessions stand (grill side) immediately following the game.

Dugout Cleanliness→Each team is asked to quickly and fully clean-up their dugout following each game. Vacating the dugout quickly will also help us keep games running smoothly and on-time. Warner Park has to adhere to the Metro Parks “lights out” curfew of 10 p.m., so cooperation by teams to keep the games on-schedule is appreciated.

Walk Up Music → In the event that any team-initiated walk-up music or other amplified sound, is a distraction for any field adjacent field, game management will ask that the volume be turned-down. If that does not correct the problem, game management has the authority to have such amplified sound silenced for the remainder of any game.

Tie Breakers During Pool Play→If the score is tied and the time limit has expired, pool play games will end in a tie, with each team being credited with a half-win and a half-loss.

Tournament Director→Scott Tygard, League President of the West Nashville Sports League, will serve as Tournament Director. Roger Maness, Assistant State Commissioner, will be the Tennessee Babe Ruth representative assigned to this tournament. Doug Strong, Tennessee Babe Ruth Commissioner, will be on-site some of the time and will be in consultation with tournament management, as needed.