

CAL RIPKEN 8U MACHINE PITCH MD STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT GENERAL INFORMATION

The Cal Ripken Maryland State 8U Machine Pitch Tournament will be hosted by the Elkridge Youth Organization (EYO). The tournaments will be played at:

Fields 1-4
Rockburn Branch Park
5400 Landing Road
Elkridge, Maryland 21075

Fields 7-8
Rockburn Branch Park
6105 Rockburn Branch Park Rd
Elkridge, MD 21075

Games will be played on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. Only local teams will be asked to play on Friday evening.

The specific Tournament Rules for the 8U Machine Pitch Tournament is available on our web site, www.eyosports.org. These rules may be updated prior to the start of the tournament.

This year there are two 8U Tournaments – an “A” bracket and a “B” bracket. Both tournaments are 8U Machine pitch tournaments. Teams participating in the “A” bracket are competing for the Cal Ripken Maryland State 8U Machine Pitch Championship. Teams in the “B” bracket are competing for an 8U Machine Pitch Championship. Both tournaments are affiliated with Cal Ripken Baseball.

Please see the Cal Ripken 8U Machine Pitch Rule Supplement for eligibility information.

TOURNAMENT PAYMENT POLICY

Each team is required to pay the tournament participation fee of \$400 per team, as set by the Maryland Cal Ripken State Commissioner.

REGISTRATION

In order to register your team, make sure your league representative attends the Cal Ripken State Meeting in Annapolis, MD scheduled in June.

If you are unable to attend the meeting, please contact Chris Jakubek at chris.jakubek@verizon.net, or 410-340-3480.

For those organizations that wish to pay by check, make the check payable to the Elkridge Youth Organization (EYO).

There is a \$300 penalty for teams that either do not show or do not complete the tournament. This penalty will be billed to the league that drops out, and paid to the host league. If the league elects not to pay the penalty their Cal Ripken charter will be withheld the upcoming year.

TOURNAMENT EVENTS

The annual parade of teams will be held on Saturday at 9am. The Oriole Bird will be in attendance for the parade! All teams are invited to participate. In the past the teams have created special banners for

their team to walk behind. We would like to encourage the same creativity and fun that we have seen in the past for this year's parade!

The parade ends with the players being introduced one-by-one as they run out onto the field. It's wonderful to see the smiles of the players as their name is called out during these introductions.

The parade should last about one hour. First games start immediately following the parade at 10:30am.

MANAGERS' MEETING

There will be a mandatory managers' meeting on the Thursday prior to the start of the tournament at the Concession Stand at Rockburn Branch Park. All team managers or a designated representative are required to attend this meeting. Assistant coaches are welcome as well. The purpose of this meeting is turn in credential notebooks, verify participants' birth certificates, explain tournament rules and format, review the tournament bracket draws, and answer any questions.

CREDENTIAL NOTEBOOK

Managers must bring the team credential book to the Manager's Meeting, which will be compiled in accordance with the rules outlined in the Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth Baseball Rules & Regulations. The credential book will be returned to each team after their final game. The required content of the books include:

- Tournament Team Roster signed by the League President
- Copy of players' birth record or document
- Certificate of Coverage of Group Accident Insurance
- Babe Ruth League Inc, Tournament Letter of Eligibility
- Two 5 x 7 or 8 x 10 color team photographs, identifying each player (One for tournament host, one remains with team)
- Consent for Treatment Forms
- Regular Season Team Rosters, Schedules and Scorebooks

1) Rosters

Teams must submit a Tournament Team Roster with no more than 15 players and three coaches (one manager, two coaches). Teams must ensure to submit a copy of the roster to Babe Ruth League Headquarters, prior to the start of the tournament. Roster forms are located on the Babe Ruth Baseball web site, www.baberuthonline.com.

2) Birth Record

Each player is required to have a copy of a valid Birth Certificate. They will be returned to each team upon completion of the tournament. Those leagues with Babe Ruth Headquarters approved, laminated identification cards can present those in place of the Birth Certificates.

3) Insurance

Each team is required to carry its own insurance and submit a Certificate of Group Accident Insurance and Certificate of General Liability Insurance Policies prior to the beginning of the tournament. No team will be allowed to play until we have the information. Insured must include all activities involved in Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken Baseball operations and activities.

4) Letter of Eligibility Form

Each team must provide a copy of their Letter of Eligibility signed by the Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken State Baseball Commissioner for the season.

5) Pictures

Each team is required to have a color team picture with them and a copy in the notebook. Players must be wearing matching uniforms. Players in the picture must be identified by last name and uniform number.

6) Consent for Treatment

Each player is required to complete a Consent for Treatment Form. All four copies of the form (1 sheet) must be completed and signed. The form is available on the Babe Ruth Baseball web site, at www.baberuthbaseball.org.

7) Regular Season Team Rosters, Schedules & Scorebooks

Each team is required to include the regular season team rosters and scorebooks, with the tournament players highlighted. Each team is also required to include the regular season game schedule showing all league games in which tournament players have participated. These scorebooks will be used to verify player eligibility.

TOURNAMENT FORMAT

The tournament will be conducted in a pool play format and no team will be permitted to play more than three (3) preliminary round games in a calendar day. The blind draw at the State Meeting will determine team pool assignment. At the end of pool play, the top two teams from each pool will compete in single-elimination games. The following tiebreakers will be used, if necessary, to determine order of finish following pool play rounds:

1. Win-Loss record
2. Results of head-to-head competition
3. Fewest runs allowed *
4. Run differential, with a maximum of 10 per game *
5. Coin flip

* #3 and #4 include all pool play games played, not just games played between teams tied

Note: In the event of a three-way tie, all three teams shall complete criterion #3 to determine seeding. If, after completing criterion #3, the three-way tie has been broken and a two-way tie still remains (i.e., two teams gave up the same number of runs) the two teams remaining tied will revert back to criterion #2 to break the two-way tie. If all three teams gave up a different number of runs, no tie exists and all teams shall be seeded at criterion #3. If all three teams gave up the same number of runs, proceed to criterion #4.

DRESS CODE

Players are required to wear matching uniforms and hats for game play, with shirts tucked in. The Official Cal Ripken Baseball Shoulder Emblem is required on the uniform's left sleeve. Players are not permitted to wear any items on either arm when pitching. Players must wear rubber cleats. All managers and coaches must be in matching colored shorts and polo shirt or jersey (Matching color of player's jersey) with patches.

Players are not allowed to wear jewelry during games. This is a safety issue. The only exception will be made for jewelry worn for medical reasons. In those cases, the item must be taped to the body before the player will be allowed to play. The team will receive a warning if a player wears jewelry during the game. Any players found wearing jewelry after the warning will be ejected from the game.

PHOTOGRAPHERS

There will be professional photographers on site during the event to take pictures and sell prints on the premises.

BENCHES AND DUGOUTS

The home team will be decided at the State Meeting draw and will occupy the bench on the first base side. The dugouts at Rockburn Branch Park are not covered. Teams are permitted to bring portable tents or may secure tarps over the dugouts to provide shade during their games. Everything brought to the dugout must be removed at the completion of each game, including trash, tents, and tarps.

COACHES IN THE DUGOUT

Each team is permitted a total of three (3) coaches in the dugout area. While we are aware that there may be more than three coaches that prepare your team for tournament play, only three coaches will be allowed to be involved in the games.

AWARDS

Individual trophies will be awarded to the championship and runner-up teams' players. All other teams will receive individual participation awards. Awards will be presented at the completion of each team's final tournament game. Both competing teams from each game are requested to stay and view the presentation.

CONCESSIONS

The concession stand will be open and offers a nice variety of food and beverages. We ask for your patronage throughout each tournament as the proceeds help offset the costs of hosting the tournaments.

ADMISSION

Admission and parking to Rockburn Branch Park for all games is free.

ALCOHOL OR TOBACCO PRODUCTS

No alcohol is permitted inside the park. No tobacco products are permitted in any public areas of the park, including fields, bathrooms, concession areas, and play grounds. Smoking is only permitted in the parking lot and butts must be disposed of properly. Failure to comply with these rules will result in immediate ejection from the park for the duration of the tournament.

MERCHANDISE

Souvenir t-shirt orders were submitted prior to the tournament and distribution will be made to each team by your first game. A small quantity may be available at the tournament until supply runs out.

PETS

For safety reasons, it would be preferred that pets not be brought to the tournament. Pets are permitted, but must be kept on leashes and owners must control and clean up after their pets.

RAIN OR INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

In the event of rain or inclement weather, call 410-313-4455 for field conditions or game cancellations. We will try our best to maintain the game schedule and keep the fields playable, however, our first priority is the safety of the players. Lightning or thunder observed at Rockburn Branch Park will result in suspending the game and immediate removal of the players from the field until inclement conditions are not observed over a 30-minute time period.

SPORTSMANSHIP

Team managers are responsible for their own conduct, as well as the conduct of their assistant coaches, players, parents and related spectators. The umpire may award the game by forfeit to the opposing team for behavior not adequately controlled following sufficient warning. While we expect exceptionally competitive games, please remember this is youth baseball. Arguing with umpires on balls/strikes and judgment calls, or any display of inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated. Any player, manager or coach ejected from a game will be required to leave the premises immediately and will not be permitted to attend the following game. Any parent or related family member exhibiting inappropriate behavior will be asked to leave the premises immediately. If after 5 minutes, the offending person(s) have not left, your team will forfeit the game in progress.

DIRECTIONS TO ROCKBURN BRANCH PARK

The park is conveniently located, near I-95, U.S. Route 1, MD 29 and MD 100. Directions to the park can be found at: <http://countyofhowardmd.us/rockburnbranchpark.htm>

ACTIVITIES

Rockburn Park is the home of the Rockburn Branch Skills Park, numerous bike and walking trails, and a Frisbee golf course. For more information on what's available at Rockburn Park, visit <http://countyofhowardmd.us/rockburnbranchpark.htm>.

TOURNAMENT UPDATES

Tournament updates will be posted at the park and as soon as possible to our web site, www.eyosports.org (baseball home page). You may also contact our tournament director, Jim Clark at 443-694-6444 or jclark@dbaco.com.

HOTELS

Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites Columbia East - Elkridge

6064 Marshalee Drive Elkridge, MD 21075
(410) 579-8888

Comfort Suites Columbia Gateway

7146 Old Waterloo Road Elkridge, MD 21075
(410) 799-9525

BEST WESTERN PLUS Baltimore Washington Airport

6755 Dorsey Rd Elkridge, MD 21075
(410) 796-3300

Homewood Suites by Hilton Columbia

8320 Benson Dr Columbia, MD 21045
(410) 872-9200

Hampton Inn

8880 Columbia 100 Pkwy Columbia, MD 21045
(410) 850-0600