

**Babe Ruth League Inc.**  
**Baseball Rules and Regulations**  
**&**  
**Official Playing Rules**

**CAL RIPKEN MAJOR 60 FT. BASEBALL DIVISION**  
**SPECIAL BASE FUNNING RULE**

**RULE:** When a pitcher is in contact with the pitcher's plate and in possession of the ball and the catcher is in the catcher's box ready to receive delivery of the ball, base runners shall not leave their bases until the ball has been delivered and has reached home plate. Once the catcher has secured the ball and the runner has stopped his forward progress, the runner must immediately return to the base.

- a. When a base runner leaves the base before the pitched ball has reached home plate and the batter does not hit the ball, the runner is permitted to continue. If a play is made on the runner and the runner is out, the out stands. If said runner reaches safely the base to which he is advancing, all runners must be returned to the base occupied before the pitch was made, and no out results.
- b. When a base runner leaves the base before the pitched ball has reached home plate and the batter hits the ball, the base runner or runners are permitted to continue. If a play is made and the runner or runners are put out, the out or outs will stand. If not put out, the runner or runners must return to the original base or bases or to the unoccupied base nearest the one left. In no event shall the batter advance beyond first base on a single or error, second base on a double or third base on a triple. The umpire-in chief shall determine the base value of the hit ball.
- c. When any base runner leaves the base before the pitched ball has reached home plate and the batter bunts or hits a ball within the infield, no run shall be allowed to score. If three runners were on the bases and the batter reaches first base safely each runner shall advance to the base beyond the one they occupied at the start of the play except the runner who occupied third base, which runner shall be removed from the base without a run being scored. **NOTE:** See exception following this rule.

**Note:** When there is a base running violation, the umpire should signal such infraction by indicating a delayed dead ball. **EXCEPTION:** If at the conclusion of the play there is an open base, paragraphs (a) and (b) will apply.