

**East Orange Babe Ruth:**  
**General League Rules**  
**Updated & Approved**

1	The official rules of playing shall be found in the current Babe Ruth Baseball and Softball Official Regulations and Playing Rules book. These rules are amended by the following local Ground Rules and By-Laws in accordance with Rule 3:13. Interleague softball division games will follow District 7 interleague rules; should any conflict with the following local ground rules occur during interleague games District 7 interleague rules will prevail.
2	Due to park regulations no inning shall begin after 9:30 pm. This applies to all divisions. Park closes at 10pm. Any game still in progress at 9:45 must be immediately ended to permit the parking lot to clear by 10:00 PM.
3	<p><b>Game Time Limits:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 15u / 18u – no new inning after 2:00 of start time</li> <li>○ 12u Majors - no new inning after 2:00 of start time</li> <li>○ 10u Minors – no new inning after 1:45 of start time</li> <li>○ 8u Rookies and 6u CP - no new inning after 1:30 of start time; Game ends immediately at 1:45</li> <li>○ 5u Tball – 1:00 game time. The game will end immediately one hour after start time.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> Max duration time limits are from the end of the plate meeting or when the home team takes the field if there is no plate meeting. Managers, Umpires and/or Official Scorekeeper should note the start time and agree on the no new inning / cutoff time at the plate meeting.</p>
4	<b>APPROVED PRACTICE LOCATIONS:</b> Orange County Schools and Parks; Waterford, Eastwood, Avalon Park, and Wedgefield Homeowners
5	<p>10U Baseball Division and below: All players, while batting, are required to wear batting helmets with full-face guards throughout the season and post season play.</p> <p>All Softball Divisions: All players, while batting, are required to wear batting helmets with full-face guards throughout the season and post season play.</p>
6	<p>All games are scheduled and approved by the Board of Directors (BOD). All schedule changes must be authorized by the Director of Baseball / Director of Softball. If a manager requests for a game to be rescheduled because of the potential for not having enough eligible players the manager will submit to their Player Agent a list of players who will not be able to attend the game and the reason for their anticipated absence.</p> <p>Note: Managers and/or coaches that knowingly provide false or misleading information to the league or a league official shall be subject to removal from their position by the BOD. A player may be expelled from the league if it is determined that they or their parents have knowingly provided false or misleading information to the league or a league official.</p>
7	10U Divisions and below (Fall: all divisions): There shall be no forfeits, game cancellations, or make up games (10U division MAY make up games in the Spring Season at the discretion of the BOD). Players shall be borrowed from the opposing team to play outfield. Players used shall be the last batted out(s). Teams shall only bat players from their own team. There is no penalty for not having 9 players (no automatic out). 8u may borrow defensive players so their total defensive player count is 9.

8	One drink is available for every coach and manager after each scheduled game, when the concession is open. Drinks consist of a fountain beverage.																								
9	<p>All Divisions: One roster coach or approved volunteer must remain in the dugout while players are present in the dugout.</p> <p>12U and above in both Baseball and Softball Divisions: While on defense two coaches (Maximum) may be outside the dugout (in the immediate area) and in foul territory. The only equipment that may be outside the dugout with the coaches during this time can be a covered bucket for each.</p>																								
10	<p>EOBR Baseball division assignments by player league age:</p> <table data-bbox="167 485 662 747"> <tr> <td>4, 5 year old:</td> <td>T-Ball</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5*, 6 year old:</td> <td>6U/Coach Pitch</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7 and 8</td> <td>8U/Rookie</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9 through 10</td> <td>10U/Minor</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11 through 12</td> <td>12U/Majors</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13, 14 and 15</td> <td>15U/Junior</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16, 17 and 18</td> <td>18U/Senior</td> </tr> </table> <p>EOBR Softball division assignments by player league age:</p> <table data-bbox="167 835 662 1020"> <tr> <td>4, 5 and 6 year old</td> <td>6U/Coach Pitch</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7 and 8</td> <td>8U/Rookie</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9 and 10</td> <td>10U/Minor</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11 and 12</td> <td>12U/Majors</td> </tr> <tr> <td>13-16</td> <td>16U</td> </tr> </table> <p>As a standard, player waivers to divisions outside of their league age will not be considered. Players may choose to go to evaluations for the division one age older but must be drafted by a team no later than the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> round. Players must attend their correct age evaluation as well to be considered to play at the older division. Special considerations (ex. Special needs, safety concerns, etc) may be considered by the Director of Baseball or Director of Softball upon request. A player's eligibility to play in post-season tournaments may be effected if they play out of their division.</p> <p><b>* (League Age 5 year old players may register for 6U if they have prior Tee Ball experience, subject to approval of the Director of Baseball)</b></p>	4, 5 year old:	T-Ball	5*, 6 year old:	6U/Coach Pitch	7 and 8	8U/Rookie	9 through 10	10U/Minor	11 through 12	12U/Majors	13, 14 and 15	15U/Junior	16, 17 and 18	18U/Senior	4, 5 and 6 year old	6U/Coach Pitch	7 and 8	8U/Rookie	9 and 10	10U/Minor	11 and 12	12U/Majors	13-16	16U
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11	<p>Each player is issued a hat and shirt.</p> <p>Baseball: parents provide solid gray pants (no piping or pin stripes), socks, belts and athletic supporter with cup (male players) and mitt. A team may choose to wear different color pants if agreed upon by entire team and everyone matches.</p> <p>Softball: parents provide solid black pants (no piping or pin stripes), socks and mitt. The entire team must be uniformed the same. A team may choose to wear different color pants if agreed upon by entire team and everyone matches.</p>																								
12	6U and above: Official EOBR scorebook must be kept by the home team for each game. This includes the use of electronic scoring. 6U just needs to record the lineup for all star eligibility.																								
13	All divisions play by Babe Ruth rules with the addition of local playing rules for those divisions.																								

<b>14</b>	Inter-league will be considered when a division cannot field 4 teams within the league or at the request of the district. All inter-league play will follow Baseball: District 12 inter-league rules, Softball: District 7 inter-league rules.
<b>15</b>	<p>Skills Assessment: EOBR Divisions 8U and above: All 8U and above players MUST attend one day of player evaluations. Two evaluation dates per division will be announced during the open registration period. Any player missing evaluations risks losing eligibility to play at EOBR that season. If a player misses the evaluations, and there are open spots for players at the time of team formation, the players will be selected to the teams by random/blind draw. This process is governed by the division's Player Agent and/or the Director of Baseball/Softball.</p> <p>Skills Assessment: shall consist of activities necessary to evaluate players in an effort to have equal competition throughout the division.</p>
<b>16</b>	<p>EOBR Draft Procedures 8U and above:</p> <p>All teams are formed anew each season. Players that participated in the evaluations will comprise the player pool eligible to be selected to a team during the draft. Draft style will be a serpentine style draft. (Example for a 6 team Draft: Round 1, teams will select Team 1 thru Team 6; Round 2 would then select Team 6 thru Team 1; Round 3 would mirror Round 1; Round 4 would mirror Round 2 and so on...) The draft order will be determined by blind draw prior to the player evaluations each season.</p> <p>Managers for all divisions will be nominated by the League President and voted on by the BOD.</p> <p>Draft Protection: A manager may declare, to their Player Agent, one roster coach. For the purposes of player draft protection this coach must be named PRIOR to the start of the evaluations. Manager's children as well as the ONE roster coach's children will be protected and automatically taken in round 3 and round 4. If there is only one protected player, they will be automatically selected in round 4.</p> <p>12U and above: A sibling of any selected player, eligible to play in the same division by virtue of league age only, will automatically be placed on the same team in the next available round if the parents request children to be on the same team. If parents do not require children to be on the same team, the sibling will be protected from being drafted by another team for ONE CONSECUTIVE ROUND.</p> <p>10U and below: A sibling of any selected player, eligible to play in the same division by virtue of league age, will automatically be placed on the same team in the following available round.</p> <p>Please note this rule does not guarantee players who evaluate for older divisions selection to a team just because they have a sibling in that division. They must still be drafted.</p> <p>All Trades must be submitted to the Player Agent for approval within the 48 hours after the start time of the draft.</p>
<b>17</b>	All local Babe Ruth volunteers must complete a volunteer application and complete/pass screening process.

18	<p>ALL DIVISIONS: A maximum of three (3) approved adults, manager and two roster coaches (or approved volunteer), are allowed to be in the dugout / field with the team during the game. <b>8U Machine Pitch</b> may have a fourth coach in order to operate the pitching machine.</p> <p>One roster coach MUST remain in the dugout when players are present in the dugout. There are no exceptions to this provision.</p>
19	<p>Both teams are responsible for field preparation prior to the game. Each team is responsible to clean out the dugout area, and parents are responsible for removing all trash from under their bleachers after each game.</p>
20	<p>Each team is responsible for their assigned concession stand duty. The manager is responsible for scheduling his team for filling the slots. Each team is required to have <b>4</b> volunteers for the entire shift including one to operate the BBQ grill (over 18 years old). Due to insurance regulations, no one under the age of 13 may work in the concession stand, one volunteer must be 18 or older, and no one under 18 may work the cash register. Any manager who doesn't follow this will be addressed by the BOD for disciplinary action and will be rescheduled for another concession time.</p>
21	<p><b>Spring Mandatory play:</b></p> <p>12U and above: Every Player must play in the field for 2 consecutive innings (6 defensive outs) and bat at least once per game. Any player who does not meet minimum play in a game must start the next game and complete his or her minimum play missed and then complete the minimum for that game before being removed. Players who arrive to the ball field after the start of the game are not subject to the minimum play requirements.</p> <p>10u: Each team will bat the entire roster and will have free substitutions during the spring season. Every Player must play 2 innings (6 defensive outs) per game. Any player who does not meet minimum play must start the next game and complete the remaining minimum play missed plus the current game's minimum play. Players are exempt from the 2 inning mandatory play if they show up after 1 completed inning.</p> <p>Second half of the spring season: Each 10u player must play a minimum of 1 inning in the infield.</p>
22	<p>The use of noisemakers is not permitted in the stands or dugouts. This includes, but is not limited to horns, drums, bells, boom boxes, and whistles.</p>
23	<p><i>5 Run Rule is in effect for 8u and 10u divisions during spring regular season play. A half inning will end when there is three recorded outs or when the offense scores 5 runs in their half inning.</i></p>
24	<p><b>Regarding substitutions for 12u and 15u Divisions</b> - a starter once removed from the game may re-enter the game once, in any position in the batting order, provided that the player that replaced him has reached his minimum play and the player he is replacing has also had his minimum play. This ground rule alters Babe Ruth's Re-entry Rule as it pertains to batting position thus relieving the "batting position marrying requirement" and taking into account local mandatory play requirements. The player the returning starter replaces, regardless if that player is a starter or not, must have also reached minimum play requirements and may not re-enter the game. This alteration is permitted by Baseball District 12 Director and is for EOBR local league play only. All other re-entry requirements, not addressed above, pertaining to pitchers, starters and substitutes are in effect as stated in Babe Ruth rules.</p>

25	10u and above: All on deck batters will position themselves behind the batter against the fence in foul territory near the dugout. With a right handed batter up they will be on the 3rd base side and with a left handed batter up they will be on the 1st base side. Players will NOT cross over while the batter is in the box and the battery is assembled. In order to keep the game moving along, on deck batters may assist in retrieving foul balls and passed balls when there are no runners on base and when applicable it is not a dropped third strike.
26	Spring season: 12u and 15u divisions will consist of a 16 game regular season.
27	<p><b>Pool play protocol</b> - <i>At the beginning of each Spring season, the Player Agents for the 12u and older divisions will create and manage a pool/list of eligible players to be utilized for teams, which for valid reasons as determined by the local BOD, cannot field nine(9) players. These players will be contacted and assigned to the teams by the Player Agent on a rotating basis. The management of the player pool list will be done by the Player Agent for the respective division, under the supervision of the Director of Baseball.</i></p> <p><i>The goal of this regulation is to provide an additional method of ensuring games are played, rather than being rescheduled due to occasional player shortage. Obviously, the more notice that is given to the Player Agent of the shortage, the more likely a pool player(s) can be assigned in time. Pool players who are assigned to games may not pitch or catch, and must bat at the bottom of the batting order. No more than two pool players will be assigned to a team per game. In the event a team needs more than two assigned players to field nine, BOD approval will be required. All minimum play and substitution requirements apply.</i></p>
28	Courtesy Runner for the catcher – For 12u and above with 2 outs, if the catcher of record (catcher from the previous inning) is on base, you may run for the catcher so he can get ready and reduce delay in between innings. For 10u and below, if the player that will be catching the next inning is on base, you may run for that player so they can get the catcher’s gear on quicker.

**29** Regular Season Pitching Limitations / Rules - Baseball

(a) Any player on a regular season team may pitch. (NOTE: There is no limit to the number of pitchers a team may use in a game.)

(b) 12u Major and below: A pitcher once removed from the mound cannot return as a pitcher in the same game.

15u and above: A pitcher remaining in the game, but moving to a different position, can return as a pitcher anytime in the remainder of the game, but only once per game.

(c) The manager must remove the pitcher when said pitcher reaches the limit for his/her age group as noted below, but the pitcher may remain in the game at another position:

League Age: 18U	105 pitches per day
15U	95 pitches per day
12U	85 pitches per day
10U	75 pitches per day

Exception: If a pitcher reaches the limit imposed for his/her league age while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch until any one of the following conditions occurs:

1. That batter reaches base;
2. That batter is put out;
3. The third out is made to complete the half-inning.

Note 1: A pitcher who delivers 51 or more pitches in a game cannot play the position of catcher for the remainder of that game.

(d) Pitchers league age 15 and under must adhere to the following rest requirements:

- If a player pitches 66 or more pitches in a day, four (4) calendar days of rest must be observed.
- If a player pitches 51 - 65 pitches in a day, three (3) calendar days of rest must be observed.
- If a player pitches 36 - 50 pitches in a day, two (2) calendar days of rest must be observed.
- If a player pitches 1 - 35 pitches in a day, no (0) calendar day of rest is required.

Pitchers league age 16-18 must adhere to the following rest requirements:

- If a player pitches 76 or more pitches in a day, four (4) calendar days of rest must be observed.
- If a player pitches 61 - 75 pitches in a day, three (3) calendar days of rest must be observed.
- If a player pitches 40 - 60 pitches in a day, two (2) calendar days of rest must be observed.
- If a player pitches 1-40 pitches in a day, no (0) calendar day of rest is required.

If a pitcher reaches the threshold limit imposed for his/her league age while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch and be scored to the threshold limit, until any one of the following conditions occurs:

1. That batter reaches base;

	<p>2. That batter is put out; 3. The third out is made to complete the half-inning.</p> <p>Violations of pitch count may result in sanctions against the manager as determined by the BOD. Rest period begins at the end of the day. If a team has a double header, the player may pitch up to their max daily pitches for the entire day. Required rest begins at the end of the calendar day.</p>
<b>30</b>	<p>For liability and insurance reasons:</p> <p>a) Any BR player participating in a BR practice must have one of their Babe Ruth managers or coaches present. Example: BR Team A is holding practice and a player from BR Team B wants to join them. The BR Team B player may only do so if a BR Team B manager or coach is present.</p> <p>b) No non-BR players may participate in a BR team practice.</p>

	<p><b><u>Fall Season Additions</u></b> <i>The following rules override the specific division rules for the Fall Season.</i></p>
<b>F-1</b>	<i>Each team will bat the entire roster in all divisions</i>
<b>F-2</b>	<i>Removed</i>
<b>F-3</b>	<i>5 Run Rule in all divisions (Exception: T-Ball and Coach Pitch.) No continuous play.</i>
<b>F-4</b>	<p><b>Free Substitution Rule:</b> <i>This rule alters rule 3.03 that allows only starters to re-enter. The intent of this rule is to allow players to participate defensively more than 2 innings (6 defensive outs or two defensive half innings).</i></p> <p><b>Mandatory play:</b> 12U and above: Every Player must play 2 innings (6 outs) per game. Any player who does not meet minimum play must play the first 2 innings of the next game. Players are exempt from the 2 inning mandatory play if they show up after game has started. 10u: Every Player must play 2 innings (6 outs) per game. Any player who does not meet minimum play must start the next game and complete remaining minimum play plus current games minimum play. Players are exempt from the 2 inning mandatory play if they show up after 1 completed inning. All Players will have a minimum of 1 inning in the infield. No player shall sit out more than 1 consecutive inning.</p>
<b>F-5</b>	<i>Softball All Divisions – with 2 outs, the offensive team may use a “courtesy runner” for the catcher.</i>
<b>F-6</b>	<i>Softball Coach Pitch – Use of the Tee after 5 pitches or 3 strikes will continue for the entire season.</i>

***E.O.B.R.: Local Division Ground Rules***

**LOCAL BASEBALL RULES: [ROOKIES](#) [COACH PITCH](#) [T-BALL](#)**

Note: All divisions when playing interleague games, the District 12 (District 7 / Softball) Interleague Ground Rules will apply.

<b>ROOKIE BB 8U (MACHINE DIVISION) DIVISION PLAYING RULES</b>	
<b>1</b>	Stealing or Lead Off is not permitted.

2	Three (3) Adult coaches will be allowed on the field for the offense. One will be stationed in each of the coach's box and the other must be stationed on the mound. Coaches may not touch players or the ball during a play.
3	Teams will bat the entire roster, and field 11 players on defense. The players must be positioned with 4 outfielders, 4 infielders, 2 players fielding the pitchers position and 1 catcher. The 2 players fielding the pitchers position must be positioned on the right and left side of the pitching machine but not in front of the machine. Each player will have a minimum of 1 inning in the infield position.
4	A half inning shall be complete when three (3) outs occur or immediately when five (5) runs have been scored. Exception: All runs will be scored on an over the fence homerun.
5	Baseball: The machine pitch will be delivered from the forty six (46) foot rubber at 40 MPH by an offensive coach. Each batter will receive a maximum of 5 pitches or 3 swinging strikes, whichever comes first. If the ball is not put into play before three swinging strikes or after the 5th pitch, the batter is out.
6	Mandatory play: if a team has more than 11 players, no player will sit out more than 1 consecutive inning. No player will play more than 2 innings in the same position. All players will have a minimum of 1 inning in the infield.
7	The ball shall be dead when, in the judgment of the Umpire, a player (not necessarily the Pitcher) has control of the ball within the dirt circle of the pitcher's mound.
8	Only one (1) base advance is possible on an overthrow. One (1) overthrow per play. The runner is at risk to be put out if advancing on an overthrow. Definition: An overthrow shall be defined as a thrown ball that is not caught and travels into foul territory or is not recovered by the intended fielder. Example: The batter hits ball and runs to first base, center fielder fields the ball and throws to the shortstop, the shortstop misses the ball, the runner can now advance at <u>his or her own risk</u> to second base. The third baseman retrieves the ball and throws to second base and the second baseman misses the ball; if the runner advances beyond second base, the runner must return to second base. <u>The runner is always at risk of being put out when not touching a base and the ball is live.</u>
<b>COACH PITCH BB 6U DIVISION PLAYING RULES</b>	
1	A game is regulation after four complete innings.
2	Bunting, stealing, and lead offs are not permitted.
3	<u>Three (#) Adult coaches</u> will be allowed on the field for the offense. One is stationed on the mound to pitch, and the other Adult coach must stay in one of the coach's boxes at first or third base. A coach or approved adult volunteer must remain in the dugout. Two (2) Adult coaches will be allowed on the field for the defense stationed either in the outfield or foul territory. Adult coaches may not touch players or the ball during a play, and should make every effort to avoid becoming physically involved in the play. (Two Adult coaches will be allowed on the field as long as <u>one adult coach</u> is in the dugout at all times. <b>NO EXCEPTIONS</b> )
4	Teams will field all players each inning. Players shall be stationed as the catcher, pitcher, first baseman, second baseman, third baseman, shortstop (all positioned on the infield grass near the base paths), left

	field, left center field, right center field, right field. Extra players will be placed as (1) roving infielder and the remainder will be placed as roving outfielders. Rovers are to be positioned in the clay, midway between bases. <u>Outfielders may be positioned no closer to home plate than the edge of the outfield grass.</u> The players must rotate traditional correct positions each inning.
5	All players present are placed on each team's batting lineup. All players bat in order each inning. Reverse batting order alternating innings. For example, top to bottom in the first inning, bottom to top in the second inning. Substitutions are not permitted. An "at bat" will be completed at the end of the play caused by the last batter having batted for the offensive team.
6	When the ball is hit, this coach must immediately move away from the play into foul territory. Baseball Coach Pitchers will pitch from no closer than 25 feet.
7	The coach will pitch 5 pitches or 3 swings of the bat, whichever comes first, if no hit is made the batter will have three attempts to hit off the tee. If the ball is not put into play on this last attempt off the tee, the batter is out. The coach must move off the field of play once the ball is placed on the tee. When batting off of the tee the catcher moves to the back of the box.
8	<p>Only one (1) base advance is possible on an overthrow. One (1) overthrow per play. The runner is at risk to be put out if advancing on an overthrow.</p> <p>Definition: An overthrow shall be defined as a thrown ball that is not caught and travels into foul territory or is not recovered by the intended fielder.</p> <p>Example: Batter hits ball and runs to first base, center fielder fields the ball and throws to the shortstop, the shortstop misses the ball, the runner can now advance at <u>his or her own risk</u> to second base. The third baseman retrieves the ball and throws to second base and the second baseman misses the ball; if the runner advances beyond second base, the runner must return to second base. <u>The runner is always at risk of being put out when not touching a base and the ball is live.</u></p> <p><b>No umpires or 5 run Rule in this division</b></p>

**T-BALL DIVISION PLAYING RULES**

**1** Bunting, stealing, lead offs are not permitted.

2	T-Ball Managers are encouraged to use players from the Majors Division and above to assist them with their T-Ball team. For operation of the T-Ball Division, "Adult Coach" shall refer to a league-approved adult volunteer who is listed on the team's roster as a coach. Each team is permitted to have two "Adult Coaches" in addition to the Manager. "Coaches" shall refer to the Manager, "Adult Coaches", and players in the Majors Division and above who are registered and assigned to an EOBR team during the current season.
3	Three (3) coaches will be allowed on the field for the offense. One Adult Coach is to be stationed at the plate to put the ball on the tee, while the other coaches may be positioned in the coach's boxes at first or third base. Three (3) coaches will be allowed on the field for the defense, stationed either in the outfield or foul territory, provided one of the Coaches is the Manager or an Adult Coach. Coaches may not touch players or the ball during a play, and should make every effort to avoid becoming physically involved in the play. (Three coaches will be allowed on the field as long as <u>one League approved adult volunteer</u> is in the dugout at all times. <b>NO EXCEPTIONS!</b> )
4	Teams will field the entire roster. For safety reasons no player shall be positioned closer to the batter than the closest pitching plate. Players are to be positioned such that the bases / base paths are not blocked. Catchers are not used. The players must rotate traditional correct positions each inning. Extra players will be placed as (1) roving infielder and the remainder will be placed as roving outfielders.
5	Teams will bat the entire roster. The reverse order is used in alternating innings. For example, a team will bat their line-up top to bottom in the first, third, and fifth innings, and bottom to top in the second, forth, and sixth innings.
6	An arc will be established approximately fifteen (15) feet from home plate. Any batted ball not advancing past the arc will be counted as a miss.
7	The batter shall use a batting tee situated on home plate. The batter will be given five (5) attempts to hit a fair ball. If the last attempt passes the arc and then goes foul the batter will be awarded another attempt. Since the objective of T-Ball is to give every player an opportunity to participate in all aspects of the game, strict adherence to the number of attempts is not appropriate unless, in the opinion of the manager of the team on offense, it is obvious the batter has no chance of hitting a fair ball.
8	With the exception of the last batter of each team's at-bat, each batter is entitled to reach first base on a ball hit in fair territory and each runner on a base is entitled to advance one base. The last batter of each inning for each team is entitled to a "home run" and all runners are entitled to score on that hit. As a courtesy to the batter, the defensive team should stay on the field until the batter reaches home plate (or the Manager of the team on offense indicates it would be appropriate to clear the field).
9	The defensive team is encouraged to make plays on the batter and/or runners. However, if a play is made and the batter (or runner) is out, the batter (or runner) is entitled to remain on the base they were attempting to achieve.
10	This division does not use umpires. There is no five (5) run rule and scores/standings are not kept.