

Dear League President, Coach, Volunteer or Parent:

Babe Ruth League, Inc. is pleased to announce that beginning with the 2007 season, we will be debuting another exciting dimension to our program, the Cal Ripken Major League 70' Division. We received an overwhelming favorable response, which indicated there is a strong desire among our leagues and commissioners for this new division.

As I indicated previously, there will be NO CHANGE to the current Cal Ripken program. This new division, which has a 50' pitching distance and 70' base paths, will be offered as an additional option to your current league set-up. This new division will have a tournament trail from district competition through the World Series, just as the current division enjoys. Whether a league charts a Cal Ripken League or a Cal Ripken Major League 70' Program, their rookie and minor teams will still use the 46' pitching distance and 60' base paths.



With today's advanced baseball and bat technology, there is a common perception that players are stronger and developing at a faster rate than ten to twenty years ago. For this reason, coupled with the new age determination date of April 30th making players up to three months older, the 70' program provides a great option.

In addition, by establishing the Cal Ripken Major League 70' Program, Babe Ruth League, Inc. is on the "cutting edge" of the youth baseball arena by offering alternative field dimensions and will provide another great selling point for leagues to charter with the Cal Ripken Division.

Please visit the Babe Ruth website at www.baberuthleague.org for complete details on the 70-foot program.

We at "home plate" would like to thank you for your recognition and favorable response in supporting this new division. Our goal has always been, and will continue to be, to keep as many players as possible in the great game of baseball and to make it a fun and memorable experience for all.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Steven M. Tellefsen". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Steven M. Tellefsen
President/CEO, Babe Ruth League, Inc.



“ I am very excited about Babe Ruth League's new 70' program,” said Cal Ripken, Jr. “This is a wonderful, proactive step for youth baseball and, I believe, it will have a tremendous impact on the youth game. These days many kids are bigger and stronger than when we were kids and it was necessary to provide them with an option that will allow them to take their game to the next level. The 70' program will allow its participants to make an easier jump to the 60-90 field and, for many of these talented youngsters, it will allow them to enjoy a game that is more true and a better fit for them all the way around. The growth that this will allow them to experience with every aspect of their game is immeasurable. ”

— Cal Ripken, Jr.

Babe Ruth League, Inc./Cal Ripken 60- & 70-Foot Programs



1. How do we convert our existing 60' program field to a 70' program?

Your league can convert the field by following 3 easy steps. (Just click on the "Field Conversion" buttons back on the web page that brought you here.) No need for expensive changes to fences or moving scoreboards and bleachers. All the changes are to the infield area.

2. Do we have to move the fencing back in the outfield for the new 70' program?

NO! Keep your fencing at your traditional height and distance as you would for the 60' program. The only changes pertain to the infield.

3. What rule changes will be different from the 60' program to the 70' program?

- Players may take leads from the bases, no longer having to wait for the ball to cross the plate.
- Balks can be called in the 70' program where players will advance to the next base similar to the older levels of Babe Ruth Baseball.

4. Do we have to move back Home Plate for the changes?

No. Home Plate stays where it is with no change.

5. We have lights on our field. Will we have to adjust them?

NO! Your light package will be fine. However, for fields getting new lights, you may want to consult with your lighting engineer for optimal lighting of your league's playing field.

6. Is there a great deal of cost to convert a field from 60' to a 70' Program?

This depends on the existing make-up of your playing field. However, most of the work involved centers on removing the turf grass from behind the back infield and replacing it with traditional infield mix. Additionally, you will have to purchase the required pitching rubber base sockets depending on if you're running just a 70' program or both 60' and 70' Major programs.

7. We have a small program and Major Division, why should we change to a 70' Program?

The 70' program will offer a greater chance for players to develop more baseball skills at a younger age, and will help better prepare them for the transition to the 60-90 field found at Babe Ruth and/or high school ball.

8. What size bat do players use in the 70' program?

Players will use the same size bat as in the 60' program—a 2-1/4 barrel maximum (see Rule 1.10 and note).

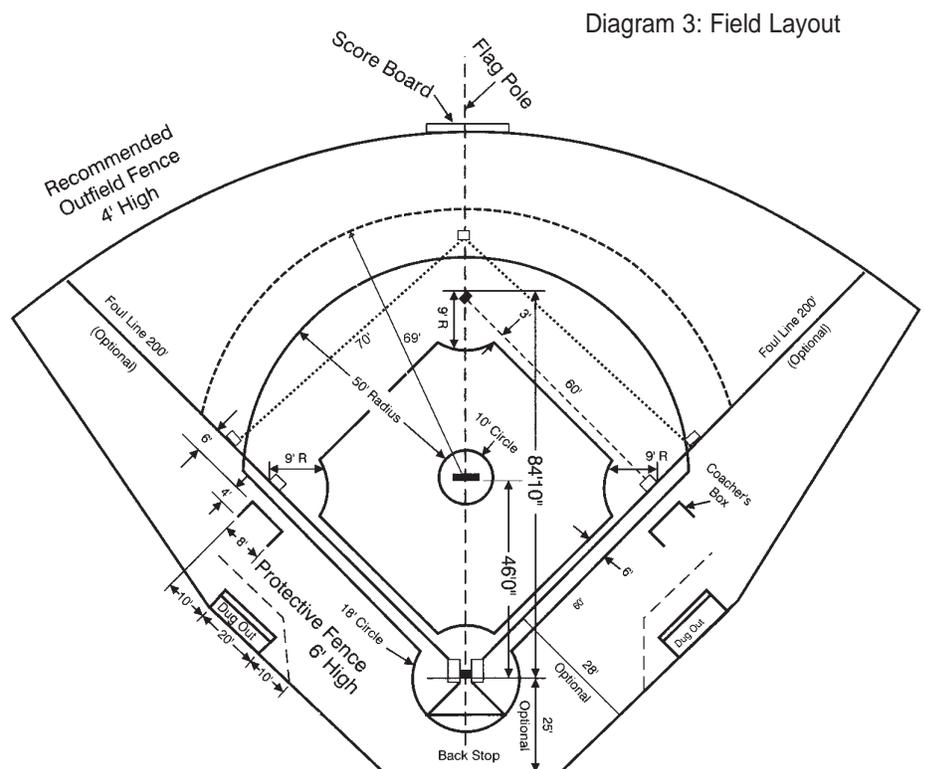
9. How do we set up bases for both programs without interfering with one another?

Your league can convert your in ground base socket field to where it can be covered and not in the playing field area depending on whether you use the 60 foot or 70 foot bases.

10. How can our players pitch at 50 feet with a rubber at 46 feet?

When building your new mound for 50 feet you can place a permanent rubber in the ground at the 50' mark. For games at 46 feet, place a spiked or temporary rubber at that distance and remove it when a 50' distance is needed.

60' and 70' programs can be played on the same field!!



CAL RIPKEN DIVISION
FIELD LAYOUT
60' AND 70' PROGRAMS

STEP 2: Converting your field to accommodate both a 60' and 70' program.

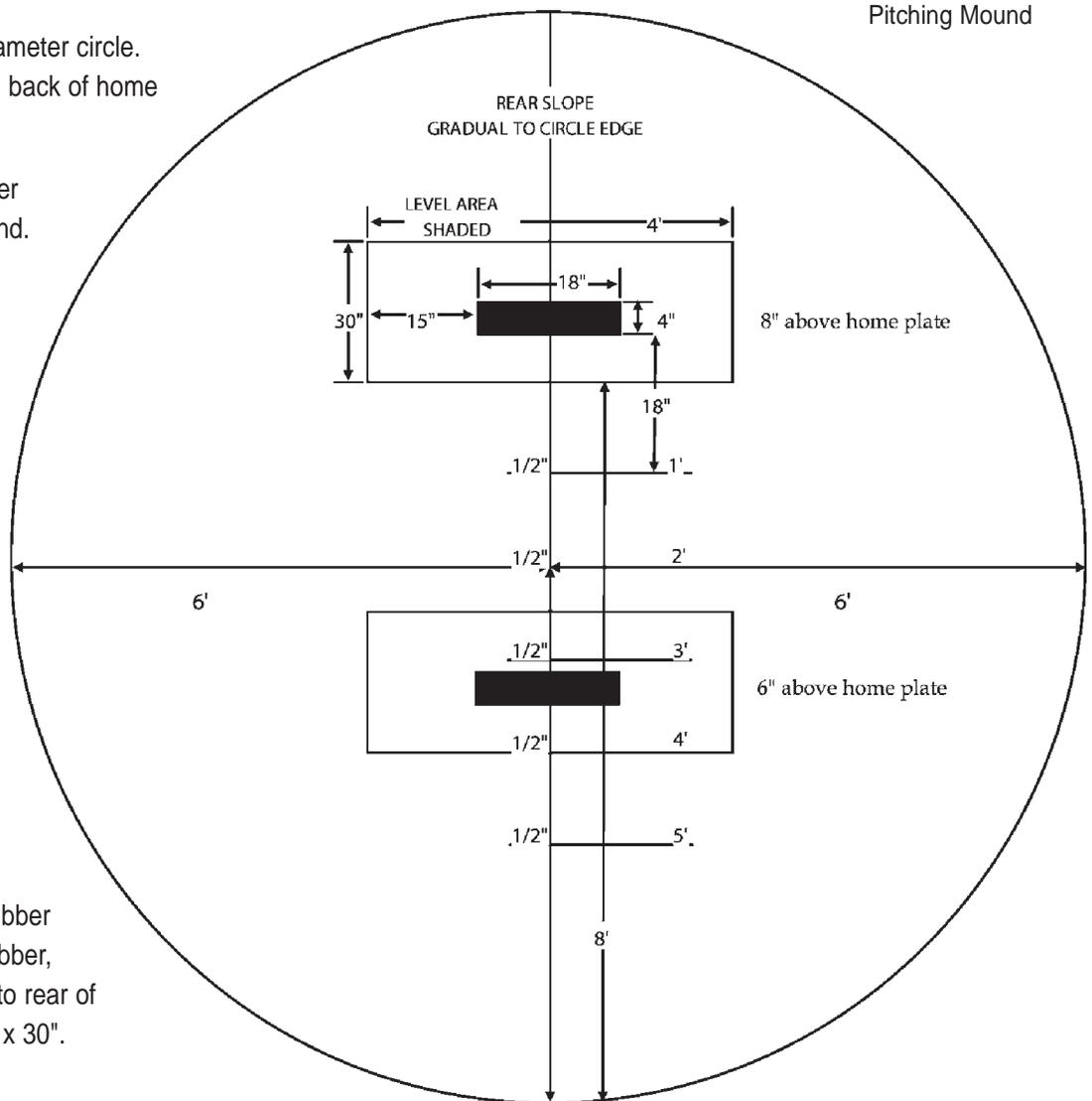
Pitching Mound 46/50 foot

- Extend your pitching area using traditional pitching mound clay or other desired packaging material.
- Set a "fixed" pitching rubber at 50 feet from the point of home plate. Follow manufacturer's instructions on proper placement and packing of the new pitching rubber.
- Set your contours to the pitching mound following the recommended heights and slopes.
- Set a temporary pitching rubber if you plan on playing 60' Program games on the same field.
- After the rubber is set in place then set contours on the pitching area as listed in the adjacent diagram.
- Remove the 46 foot pitching rubber out when playing 70' program games.

Suggested Layout of Pitching Mound

Diagram 2:
Pitching Mound

- Pitching Mound - A 12' diameter circle. The center is 48-1/2' from back of home plate.
- Locate front edge of rubber 18" behind center of mound.
- Front edge of rubber to back point of home plate, 46' or 50'.
- Slope starts 6" from edge of rubber.
- The degree of slope, from a starting point 6" in front of the 46' and 8" in front of the 50' pitcher's plate to a point 6' toward home plate, shall be 1/2" to 1', and such degree of slope shall be uniform.
- Level area surrounding rubber should be 6" in front of rubber, 18" to each side and 22" to rear of rubber. Total level area 4' x 30".



STEP 3: Converting your field to accommodate both a 60' and 70' program.

Setting bases at 70 feet

- Once you have selected the type of bases that you will use follow manufacturer's instructions on the proper installation of base sockets in the ground.
- Use the new layout guide pictured to help with laying out your new baseball diamond.
- Remember, if you plan on using the field for both 60' and 70' programs, select base sockets that can easily be covered so they do not interfere with the field of play.

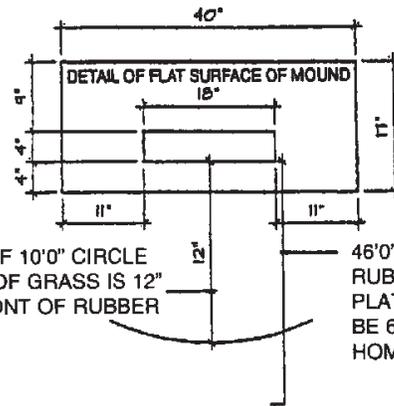


Diagram 4:
Flat Pitching
Mound

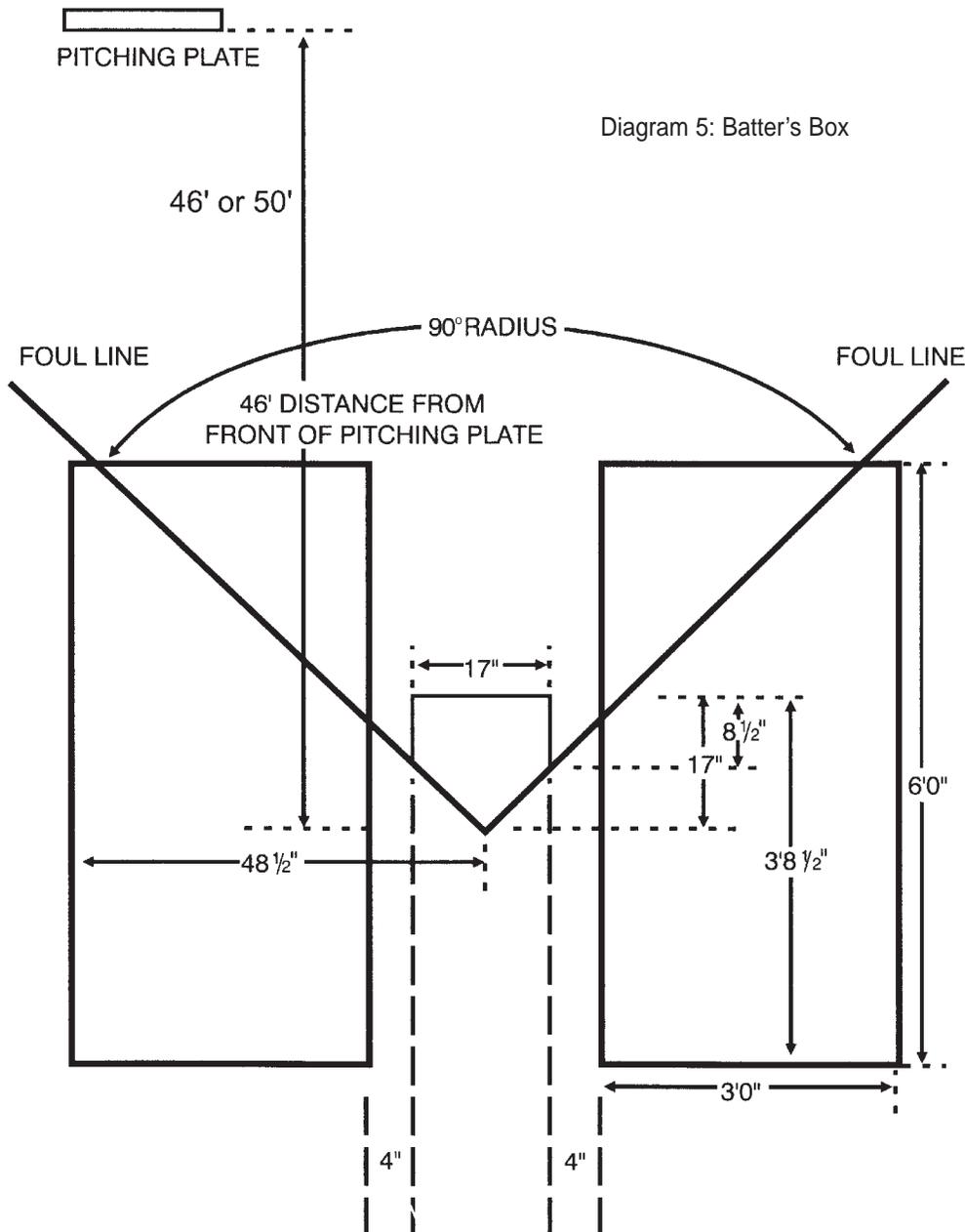


Diagram 5: Batter's Box

HOW TO ENTER THE WORLD SERIES TOURNAMENT TRAIL

1. Contact your District and State Commissioners to let them know you plan to participate in one or both World Series tournament trails.
2. Field two tournament teams; one Cal Ripken Major/60' team and one Cal Ripken Major/70' team.
3. Each tournament trail goes through District, State, and Regional Tournaments, culminating in World Series competition.
4. Players may only play on one (1) tournament team.
5. All Babe Ruth League, Inc. league eligibility rules apply.



Cal Ripken Major League Division Tournament Trail



60-Foot
Division
World Series

70-Foot
Division
World Series