# Player Move-Up Policy

# Southern Chester County Babe Ruth League

SCCBRL recognizes that players develop at different paces, particularly with the opportunity for additional playing experiences created with fall leagues, travel teams and skill clinics. Therefore, it is the policy of the league to allow players with the skill to move up to a higher division one year earlier, provided the league has open roster spots in the that division for the upcoming season.

To move up to a higher division, a player should have the skills required of that division as outlined below:

**Cal Ripken Rookie (6 year old moving up)**

* One year of prior T-ball experience.
* Ability to consistently hit a thrown ball without the aid of a tee.
* Ability to engage in a game of catch, with ability to throw the ball to a target and catch a ball tossed back to the player.

**Cal Ripken Minor (8 year old moving up)**

* Two years of prior baseball experience, including 1 year of Rookie division play.
* Ability to consistently hit a coach-pitched baseball, including ability to recognize difference between balls/strikes.
* Ability to throw the ball accurately the distance between two bases.
* Ability to consistently catch balls thrown in the player’s direction.
* Ability to field a ground ball and throw the ball to a base in an attempt to make an out.

**Cal Ripken Major (10 year old moving up)**

* Three years of prior baseball experience, including 2 year in the Minor division.
* Ability to consistently hit a player-pitched baseball beyond the infield, with the ability to recognize balls/strikes. Players should also know how to bunt.
* Ability to throw the ball accurately across the corners of the diamond (i.e. third to first).
* Ability to field a ground ball and fly ball with the knowledge of where the ball should be thrown.
* Prior pitching/catching experience in the Minor Division.
* Tournament/travel team experience.

Players that have the skills outlined above may request to be moved up early by registering for the higher league during registration. All requests will be subject to roster availability (see below) and Coach’s player assessments for Minor and Major division players. A player that is not moved up will be returned to their age appropriate division and the difference in their registration fee returned if the fee is less. **Players requesting to move up are not guaranteed a roster position in the higher division.**

**Roster Availability –** SCCBRL must give preference to players that register for the division appropriate for their age (i.e. 11-12 year olds that register for the Majors). The League will set a target division maximum roster count based on the desired number of teams and players per team for that division (i.e. target 6 teams of 11 = 66 players). If the number of age appropriate registrations is less than that target leaving available roster positions, Coaches may draft players that have requested to move up to fill those available slots, **only after all age appropriate players have been assigned a team**. Coaches may elect to exceed the league target maximum players per team with one under-age player after the conclusion of the draft of all age appropriate kids.

**Parent Coach Exception** – If a parent of a player requesting to move up agrees to manage a team, or coach a team with the consent of the team manager, that player will be automatically assigned to the team before age appropriate players are assigned or drafted. However, if an odd number of age appropriate players remain at the end of the last round of assignments, that team must carry one or more of the additional players even if that will cause the team to exceed the division’s target players per team goal.

**Player Invitations -** If the league needs players to make an even number of teams, or if a lower league has too many extra players to form an even number of teams, the league may invite players from a lower division who did not request to move up, but are close in age to the age cut-off, to move up to the higher division or participate in assessments. This may be done to balance the number of players in each division. Players that move up will be responsible for paying any additional fees for the higher division. Players may decline the invitation and remain in the lower division.