

## 2019 Fall 4 yr. Old T-Ball Official Rules

1. Games will be 3 innings or 50 minutes, whichever comes first. At the end of 50 minutes, if an inning has started it will be finished. **There will be NO SCOREBOARD kept during these games.**
2. The entire team shall bat every inning. Once all of the players on a team have batted once, that half of the inning is over. An inning is complete when all the batters, willing to bat, have batted once. **Each batter will swing at the ball placed on the tee until it is put in play. There are no strikeouts or walks in t-ball.**
3. In case of inclement weather, it will be the director's or coaches' decision whether or not to continue play. **A game will be considered complete if (2) full innings have been played.**
4. There will be no forfeit from lack of players. Games will be played with the available players. If a team has less than (8) Players, it may **"pick up"** another registered T-Ball player, even if from the opposing team.
5. Bases will be set at 45 feet...The foul semi-circle at 15 ft..... and the pitcher's mound plate at 35 feet from home plate.
6. A 9-inch t-ball will be used.
7. Batters are required to wear helmets.
8. Visiting Team (**first base dugout**) always bats first. Home Team (**3rd base dugout**) The umpire will get out and put up the tee.
9. No game protests will be permitted.
10. Parents or spectators may not halt the game for any reason
11. All equipment must be kept **OFF** the field of play. There should be no foreign objects on the field of play (lawn chairs, bat bags, etc.....)
12. If a player is called out, they **MUST** return to the dugout! By doing this we are teaching them parts of the game.
13. A pitcher **CANNOT RUN** the ball to any of the bases! It must be thrown!
14. **No more than 6 players may play within the infield area (1st base, 2nd base, 3rd base, shortstop, rover behind the baseline on either side of second base, and pitcher).** All outfielders **MUST** be on the grass and at least three feet from the infield dirt until the ball is hit.

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15. When hitting off the tee, the pitcher must have at least one foot on the pitching rubber until the ball is hit. **Only the pitcher can be inside the baseline until the ball is hit.** If the pitcher is not on the rubber when the ball is hit, the play continues. After the play has ended, the coaches must apply; First Offense: Warning; Second Offense: Removal of the player from the pitching position for the remainder of the game.
16. **Only the 1st baseman** can tag a batter out going from the batter's box to first base.
17. A defensive player, whether intentional or unintentional, may not obstruct a runner from advancing to the next base unless, they are in position to make the initial play on a batted ball. **If there is a collision during a defensive player making the play/the base runner is OUT. If there is a collision when the defensive player is not making a play/the base runner is awarded ONE base.**
18. Play will be called dead when the ball crosses the plane of the baselines (returning to the infield from the outfield) or if an infielder attempts to throw the ball to home plate. **A ball thrown from the outfield is a live ball until it has crossed the plane of the baselines.**
19. **All coaches Must stay on the grass during play until a ball is ruled dead.** Coaches may not physically assist or interfere with the travel of the ball **(whether batted or thrown).**
20. If a runner is half way to the next base, when the ball is called "dead" then they will be awarded that base. If not, they must return to the last base occupied. (All advanced will be governed by the lead runner). **These are judgment calls and NOT SUBJECT TO DISPUTE.**
21. **For balls over thrown to first base, runners MAY NOT advance any further from any base.** The spirit of this rule is to encourage coaches to teach the players to THROW the ball to first to make an out. **In the case of a throw to any other base, runners may advance one base at their own risk.**
22. Base coaches should **NOT** touch runners in an effort to guide them while the ball is in play. **If a coach touches a runner, they are automatically OUT!**
23. **Fair Ball Arc:** There shall be a **twenty (20)** foot arc drawn from first (1st) baseline to third (3rd) baseline in front of home plate. A batted ball must go past this line to be fair.
24. The Infield Fly Rule shall not be in effect at any time.

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**25.** Rotation of Players- It is the intention of this league for all players to fully participate and learn the game. All players should be rotated to infield and outfield positions. Violations with the infield rotation rules will result in the player being placed in the outfield position for the remainder of game and all of the next game.

- No player may play in the outfield more than 2 innings in a row
- No player may play a "key" position for more than 3 innings per game (key positions: pitcher, shortstop, 1st base)

**26.** Base runners may not lead off the base or leave until the ball is struck by the batter. Play will be called dead if a runner leaves too soon. A team warning will be issued for the first offense, after that each violation will result in an out.