



Softball Tee Ball

Eligible Players:

Any player whose age is between 4-6 years old and won't turn 7 before January 1st is eligible to play.

The Playing Field:

The distance between all bases shall be 60 feet.

The pitching distance from the back point of home plate will be 15-30 feet. Pitchers should move further away from the batter as the season progresses, especially for players in their final year of t-ball.

Positioning of Players:

Infield – 5 players: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, shortstop, and pitcher.

A coach of the team at bat will be the catcher.

If teams have 11 players or more, then coaches can add a 6th player to the infield at the long stop position, which is halfway between 1st and 2nd bases but deeper than 1st and 2nd player positions.

Outfield – all other players must be positioned at least 10 feet on the grass at a similar radius. No short fielders will be allowed.

The defensive pitcher must remain directly in front of the mound/behind the coach pitcher until the batter makes contact with the ball.

Playing Rules:

All players present will play in the field every inning. Players must be rotated between infield and outfield every inning and play both every game. Coaches may rotate players during the inning as well. If teams have more than 10 players, coaches must rotate players within the innings to facilitate each player getting the opportunity to play infield.

The entire lineup will bat each inning, three (3) outs doesn't change sides. Teams will have a continuous batting order which means all players present will be in the batting order and will hit.

Hitters/runners who get put out will continue to run the bases until mid-season. At that point, outs will be recorded for caught fly balls, force-outs at a base and runners tagged out. Once a player has been called out, he/she will be removed from the base path and return to the dugout. Instruction should be provided by the coach as to the reason for the recorded out.

Coaches shall give instruction of rules such as missing the base, batted balls hitting the runner or running out of the baseline. Unless players repeatedly violate these rules, no outs will be recorded. Coaches will use their best judgment.

There is a 1-hour time limit per game (hard stop). A game may start with a minimum of five (5) players. In the event a team does not have the minimum number of players present, and the opposing team has above the minimum number, the players shall be divided equally, and a game will be played.

No official score will be kept, and no official league standings will be recorded.

Advancement of base runners will be base to base if the ball is playable within the infield. For batted balls that reach the outfield, base runners may advance more than one base at a time as instructed by the base coaches (3 base max). If players choose to slide, the slide must be feet first. No headfirst sliding is allowed or should be taught.

Home Run Hitter

The last batter is designated the home run hitter. On his/her bat, he will be allowed to round all the bases including any other runners who are currently on base. Only the first out will be played. The batting order can be changed to have a different home run hitter each inning.

Pitching

An arc shall be marked approximately 15 feet from the point of home plate, foul line to foul line in fair territory. A ball hit in this area will be considered a foul ball. Base runners will not advance, and the batter will be allowed to resume his/her at bat.

The coach pitcher must start the pitch outside the foul arc. The coach may pitch from one knee and **must pitch underhand.**

Each batter is allowed four (4) pitches from the coach/pitcher, including foul balls. No extra pitching will be given when fouling the fourth pitch. If a batter fails to get a hit on the fourth hit, a batting tee will be placed by the coach catcher and the batter will be allowed to swing until a fair ball is hit.

Coaching Positions

Offensive: 1 – Pitching

1 – Catching and assisting the batter with stance

1 – Coaching 1st base

1 – Coaching 3rd base

1 – Dugout and on-deck circle monitor

Defensive: 1 – Coach behind 1st at the edge of the grass

1 – Coach behind 3rd at the edge of the grass

2 – Coaches behind the outfielders

Balls hitting the coach/pitcher shall be ruled a ground rule single and each base runner will advance one base. Players at bat, on base or on deck must wear batting helmets at all times. Substitution of base runners, if needed, will be done by utilizing the player making the last out.

Head coaches shall be umpires.