



# Tee Ball Division Rules



## PURPOSE

These rules are established for the Tee Ball Division of University East Little League. The purpose of these rules is to establish regulations by which all participants can have a structured, enjoyable experience. This includes rules that assist with equitable playing time and ultimately increasing the skill level of all players. The current Little League baseball rulebook shall govern all play, except for local rule modifications as outlined below.

## GAME MANAGEMENT

1. Tee Ball games consist of 2 complete innings of play. No outs or runs are recorded.
2. GAME TIME LIMITS: No inning shall start later than one hour after the start of the game.
3. No records or standings are kept at the Tee Ball level. Tee Ball is an instructional sport. Winning is not the objective. Players at this level shall have the opportunity to have fun and build self-confidence while learning to play the game of baseball.
4. Home teams must provide the batting tee for the game.
5. Coaches shall act as umpires and maintain control of the game at all times.
6. All equipment not in use shall be removed from the field of play.
7. A maximum of four (4) adult coaches shall be allowed in the dugout. The batting team is allowed two coaches on the field during the game to coach first and third base, and one coach to pitch and set the batting tee for the batters. The fielding team is allowed two coaches on the field to direct players. One coach, or an approved league volunteer, must be in the dugout at all times.
8. Parents and spectators are not allowed on the field unless invited to help prepare the field for play or to help an injured player. All parents and spectators are asked to remain outside the ball field fences and not sit or stand behind the backstop or dugout fences.
9. All participants are responsible for cleaning up trash in their respective dugout and their side of the field after each game.
10. No jewelry is to be worn by any player.
11. If a question of the rules arises during the game, all attempts shall be made to answer the question before play resumes. No game protests are allowed in Tee Ball.

12. **WEATHER CANCELLATIONS:** The Division Commissioner will notify head coaches at least 30 minutes prior to game time of cancellation due to weather. Cancellations due to weather within 30 minutes of game time shall be called at the field of play. The league will reschedule cancelled games for the earliest available date.
13. **LIGHTNING RULE:** All participants must clear the fields upon recognition of thunder or lightning and shall return to their cars until all is clear. Players cannot remain on the field or in the dugouts. Umpires must wait 10 minutes after the last visible lightning before allowing play to resume.
14. Unsportsmanlike conduct by players, coaches or fans will not be tolerated.

## **BATTING**

15. All bats must be Little League approved. It is the responsibility of the head coach to ensure the proper equipment is on the field at all times.
16. The batting lineup shall consist of all players in attendance. All players shall bat in a consecutive and continuous batting order. The last batter of the batting lineup shall rotate each inning so that three different players per game get the opportunity to “clear the bases” and essentially hit a home run at the end of each team’s batting order. Any late arrivals shall be placed at the bottom of the batting order. If a player must leave or is injured before the completion of the game, that player’s position in the batting lineup may be skipped.
17. All players bat every inning. Each time 3 outs are made by the defense, the bases shall be cleared and the offensive team will continue batting until all players have batted in that inning. The inning will be complete when a player (preferably the catcher), in possession of the ball, steps on home plate.
18. **ON DECK BATTERS ARE NOT ALLOWED.** It is the responsibility of the coaches to keep players in the dugout until the play is completed for the previous hitter. Practice swings are not allowed until a batter reaches the plate.
19. A batted ball that does not travel at least six feet in fair territory from the back point of home plate is considered a foul ball.
20. Players shall get one warning for slinging the bat. Any subsequent infractions shall be ruled a dead ball, the batter shall be ruled out and all runners will return to their original base.

## **BASE RUNNING**

21. No advancing of runners on overthrows.

22. No leading off bases.
23. No base stealing.
24. NO HEAD FIRST SLIDING! Players, for safety reasons, should be taught to slide feet first on a close play at any base.

## FIELDING

25. **MINIMUM NUMBER OF FIELDERS:** A team may play with 7 fielders, or borrow defensive players from the opposing team each inning.
26. All players will play defense every inning, with a normal infield set and the remaining players in the outfield.
27. No player should play the same defensive position more than once per game. Coaches are encouraged to rotate players during innings if opportunities present themselves to align players at positions base where batted balls are often fielded (pitcher, second base, first base).
28. No outfielder may be positioned inside the outfield grass line prior to the start of play. .
29. Coaches should be preparing players for the next level of play. Teach fielders to throw the ball to the first baseman to make play at first base rather than rolling the ball or running with the ball to make a play.
30. Outfielders may not make a play on the infield. If this does occur, runners will advance until the outfielder throws or hands the ball to an infielder. Coaches should take time at this point to explain this rule to the players.
31. No infielder may start the play any closer than 10 feet in front of first and third base.
32. The player positioned at pitcher must start with both feet on the pitching rubber. The pitcher cannot leave the pitching rubber before the ball is hit.
33. Defensive players shall not chase after a runner in order to record an out. Except in a normal rundown defensive players are expected to throw the ball to make a play on the runner.
34. Coaches may not touch a player at any time when the ball is in play.

## PITCHING

35. Coaches may toss up to 5 pitches to each batter. If the last pitch is fouled, the batter may receive an additional pitch. After 5 pitches, the ball shall be placed on the tee.