T-Ball Local Rules

1. **Practices**- All teams are encouraged to have two practices each week of pre-season and as permitted each week during the season.
2. **Coaches**- May coach from 1st and 3rd base coaching box in addition to Coach pitching to child and another behind plate helping to set tee and players up. Two coaches may occupy the fielding area to coach the fielding team, but may not slow game to teach technique. One adult must be in the dugout at all times.
3. **Umpires**- No league provided umpires. It is up to coaches closest to play to call outs. Please be fair and civil in these calls.
4. **Batting**- Teams will use a complete roster batting order.

**March:** Teams will use a continuous batting order without counting outs.

**After April 1**: Each ½ inning will be over after three outs are recorded or five runs are scored or entire batting order has batted. Coaches may throw 3 pitches total to each player from in front of the mound, if a fair ball is not hit, then the child will hit from the tee for the remainder of the at bat. A hit ball is foul when the batter knocks the tee over while batting, regardless of where the ball goes. The ball is also foul if it does not travel beyond the arc in between home plate and the pitcher’s mound.

1. **Fielding**-All players of fielding team will play in the field (**one at each of the infield’s positions, all remaining players outfield**). Players in the outfield should be placed in the grass beyond the dirt marking the infield. Players must be rotated after each inning, allowing all players equal opportunity to play both infield and outfield.
2. **Base Running**- Base runners will stop at the nearest base once the defense has control of the ball. There will be no extra bases on overthrows or passed balls.
3. Pitcher- Player on pitcher’s mound must remain on mound until ball goes past line in front of home plate.
4. **Fielders**- **(ESPECIALLY THE PITCHER**) may not field a hit ball and run to a base to tag a runner or cause a force out unless the ball if fielded within five to seven feet of the base. The fielder must throw the ball to the appropriate base in order to create the out. Violation of this rule will result in the base runner being called safe.
5. **Game limits**-Early games begin at 6:00 pm and late games at 7:00 pm. The time limit is 1 hour. There is no minimum number of innings that must be made to constitute a game. Early games must end on time to ensure late games start on time as scheduled. No new inning may begin after 50 minutes beyond games start time. Current Inning will be completed.
6. **Dugout**- up to 3 adults are allowed in the dugout, all players should be seated except the batter and “on deck” batter. Only registered players on the team are allowed in the dugout.
7. **Players**- Each team must have at least 7 players to play
8. **Rescheduled games**- subject to league and field availability. The league is the only one authorized to cancel games.
9. **Home team**- First team listed on schedule, should occupy **3rd base** dugout. Home team is responsible for preparing the field for the game including setting up tee, bases, etc. Visiting team is encouraged to help. The league is lining all fields this season; therefore the home team should also help with after game maintenance.
10. **Visiting team**- Second team on schedule, should occupy **1rd base** dugout. If your game is last game of day, you are responsible for maintaining the field (i.e., raking the baselines and home plate area, returning bases and tee to clubhouse closet and watering the infield). The home team is encouraged to help.
11. **Both teams**- Responsible for picking up trash in dugout, on and around field after each game. Please encourage parents, siblings and friends to properly dispose of their trash in stands also.
12. **Conduct/behavior**- From the Little League Operating manual: “The actions of players, managers, coaches, umpire and league officials must be above reproach. Any player, manager, coach, umpire or league representative who is involved in a verbal or physical altercation, or an incident of unsportsmanlike conduct, at the game site or any other little league activity, is subject to disciplinary action by the Local Little League Board of Directors.”

First offense: Suspension from the next game after the Rules and Discipline Committee meets concerning this offense. (Offender may not be on Western LL premises at all during that game)

Second offense: Offender will be removed from his/her position within Western Little League for the remainder of the season.

 To clarify- the following behaviors will not be tolerated: abusive or insulting comments, yelling or screaming at players, other managers or coaches, umpires, or scorekeepers; the use of profanity; physical demonstrations of anger such as throwing objects, kicking dirt, the use of offensive hand or arm motions, etc.; and any other behavior that fails to meet the Little League standard of being “above reproach.”

1. All managers are encouraged to remind his/her players and parent the importance of good sportsmanship and to offer positive encouragement to the children of both teams in a game.
2. The “Little League” rulebook shall govern all other rules not addressed here.

*Revised 3/20/2023 MT*