



**Tri-West Little League Baseball  
2026 Gameplay Guidelines  
Pee Wee Division**

**New for 2026:** Implementation of new batting rules detailed below.

**General**

- Ⓢ Tri-West Little League adheres to Little League International's Official Regulations, Playing Rules, and Operating Policies: <https://www.littleleague.org/playing-rules/>
- Ⓢ Primary Focus: Introducing fundamentals, displaying sportsmanship, enjoying the game;
- Ⓢ 3 inning games or the game is stopped when time limit is reached. Time Limit: 1 hour and 15 minutes.

**Fielding**

- Ⓢ Teams shall field one pitcher's helper, one catcher and four infielders. Remaining players shall be positioned in the outfield;
- Ⓢ If a ball is fielded in the infield, fielders shall attempt to record an out according to Little League rules;
- Ⓢ If a ball is fielded in the outfield, a fielder shall return the ball to the infield by throw. Once an infielder has secured the ball and is no longer attempting a putout, "time" is granted;
- Ⓢ Catcher shall be positioned a safe distance behind home plate/the batter;
- Ⓢ Adult volunteer from the defensive team shall be placed behind plate to assist with ball retrieval, instruct fielders, and assist batters;
- Ⓢ Two coaches shall be positioned in the outfield to instruct fielders during gameplay.

**Batting**

- Ⓢ Each player shall bat one time each inning, regardless of number of outs recorded;
- Ⓢ Each batter shall receive 5 pitched baseballs from a coach:

- ❖ First 4 Games: If a fair ball is not struck after 5 pitches, ball to be placed on tee;
- ❖ Last 4 Games:
  - 1st Inning – follow the rule from the first 4 games – ball is placed on tee if a fair ball is not put in play after 5 pitches;
  - 2nd and 3rd Innings only - batter will strike out after 5 pitches (no tee).
    - Fouling off the final pitch results in additional pitch.

- Ⓢ Overhand, underhand, from knee, from appropriate distance—whatever best promotes a fair ball; strive for progressive growth throughout the season;
- Ⓢ Batting order shall be varied each game to allow for exposure throughout the lineup.

### **Baserunning**

- Ⓢ Baserunners shall return to the dugout if they are called out according to Little League rules;
- Ⓢ Generally, baserunners shall attempt to advance one base per fair ball;
- Ⓢ At the discretion of base coaches, if a ball hit into the outfield has not yet been possessed by the fielder throwing the ball back into the infield, baserunners may attempt to advance an extra base;
- Ⓢ Baserunners shall not advance an extra base following an errant throw;
- Ⓢ Baserunners shall advance/return to the nearest base at the moment “time” is granted;
- Ⓢ Last batter: all baserunners shall continue advancing until forced out at home plate.

### **Equipment**

- Ⓢ All batters and baserunners shall wear a helmet at all times while on the playing field;
- Ⓢ Pitcher’s helper shall wear a heart guard and face mask;
- Ⓢ Catcher shall wear helmet, face mask, throat protector, chest protector, and shin guards;
- Ⓢ Only USABat baseball bats (including T-Ball bats) are permitted. For more information on the USABat standard and a complete list of bats approved through the USABat Standard visit: <https://usabat.com>

### **Ultimate Year-End Goal**

- Ⓢ All players put the ball in play without the tee.