



**Tri-West Little League Baseball
2026 Gameplay Guidelines
T-Ball (4U) Division**

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 stop game after 1 hour time limit has been reached. Upon mutual agreement of coaches, games may be shortened to 2 innings (example: less than ideal weather conditions for 4U).

Fielding

- Ⓢ Teams shall field one pitcher's helper and four infielders. Remaining players shall be positioned in the outfield;
- Ⓢ Fielders shall attempt to record an out according to Little League rules;
- Ⓢ Coaches shall be positioned in the field to instruct fielders during gameplay.

Batting

- Ⓢ Each player shall bat one time each inning, regardless of number of outs recorded;
- Ⓢ T-ball shall be placed on a tee over home plate;
- Ⓢ Batter shall have unlimited swings to hit a fair ball into play;
- Ⓢ Batting order shall be varied each game to allow for exposure throughout the lineup;

- Ⓢ Final 2 games of the season: At coach's discretion, a player may receive up to 5 pitched baseballs (underhand or overhand from a distance to promote player success). If a fair ball is not put into play, after 5 pitches, the ball shall be placed on a tee over home plate.

Baserunning

- Ⓢ Baserunners shall advance one base per at-bat;
- Ⓢ Baserunners shall not advance an extra base following an errant throw;
- Ⓢ Baserunners shall be called "out" by coaches if the defense records an out, but shall remain on base;
- Ⓢ Last batter: all baserunners shall continue advancing until bases are cleared.

Equipment

- Ⓢ All batters and baserunners shall wear a helmet at all times while on the playing field;
- Ⓢ Fielder in the pitcher's helper position shall wear a heart guard and face mask;
- Ⓢ Only USABat baseball 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>