

# 5/6 Year Old

## 2024 T-Ball Rules

### Centerville Youth League

1. Bat entire lineup, roster bat. If a child refuses to bat in their spot in the lineup, it is an out for the inning. If someone is injured during play, they may be skipped in the line up without penalty and re-enter if they are capable.
2. If a player gets out, they do not stay on the base. 3 outs per inning.
3. Play every player on the team in the field every inning. (No one on the bench or rotating out)
4. Catcher position to be played by a coach or parent volunteer, not a player.
5. A parent or coach must be the pitcher, not a player. There can only be adult coaches on the field.
6. Batters each receive 3 pitches and then will attempt to hit off the tee.  
Coaches may pitch up to 2 more pitches IF the batter fouls the 3<sup>rd</sup> pitch and the 4<sup>th</sup> pitch. The player may not receive more than 5 pitches. The player may hit off the tee until the ball is fair.
7. The batter must hit the ball past the **10 foot arch** in front of home plate for the ball to be counted as fair.
8. There is a 60 minute time limit for each game. If an inning isn't over and time limit is reached, the inning will be finished. We will play up to 3 innings max. The first two innings will be 3 outs per inning or 6 runs. The last inning is where each team bats the lineup. There is a 6 run limit per inning.
9. If the batter hits the ball passed any base in fair territory – the batter can advance only 2 bases. If there are others on base, they can advance 2 bases if FORCED 2 bases; each base runner on base can advance only to the next base if FORCED by other base runners. They CANNOT run bases **freely**. If the runner(s) get out, they do not keep running bases and must return to the dugout.  
If a runner gets hits with a batted ball-continue play-no penalty.
10. If the ball is over-thrown, the runner(s) do not advance to the next base.

11. There should be one player in the pitcher's circle and he/she must throw the ball to 1st base to make the play and or any other base that the player pitcher tries to retire a base runner. The pitcher cannot run the ball to any base including first base, or roll the ball to any base; it must be thrown to that base. The pitcher can only run the ball to home plate to make a play. The pitcher cannot tag the runners on the way to any base or home plate. It must be thrown to 1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> and or 3<sup>rd</sup> base. Player pitcher can only run and touch home plate to get them out.
12. Any fielder on defense with possession of the batted or thrown ball can tag a base runner out.
13. The player in the pitchers circle must have both feet inside the of the pitcher's circle before the ball is pitched or hit. Player pitcher must remain positioned behind pitching coach but to the left or right of coach.
14. Players cannot stand in the baseline.
15. All Infielders will play their positions etc: 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, Short Stop, Pitcher, **There will be no Catcher!** All other players play on the grass line.
16. There needs to be a 10 foot arch in front of home plate. There needs to be a 16 foot circle (8 feet on each side of the pitching rubber) around the pitcher's mound. The pitching rubber must be at 35 feet.
17. The coach pitcher must pitch from behind the 10 foot arch in front of home plate. If the coach pitcher is hit with a batted ball-dead ball-batter gets another pitch and that pitch doesn't count towards pitch count.
18. Home team is responsible for getting tee out and putting away each day.
19. There can be a base coach at each base. (no defensive base coach can be inside the pitchers circle) The base coaches CANNOT touch the base runner(s) while the ball is in play. You can only point them in the right direction.
20. **Heart Guard and masks are Mandatory for the child pitcher in the pitching circle.**
21. **Adult pitchers are required to pick up the bat after contact has been made with ball**