

# Tracy Little League A, Tee Ball (Baseball and Softball) Division Local Rules

## Equipment Requirements

**Managers are responsible for ensuring that all players follow Little League equipment guidelines. Failure to meet the requirements could range from a player being called out to a manager being ejected.**

Catchers:

- Catchers are required to wear a face mask, dangling throat protector, chest protector, and shin/knee protectors while in the catcher's box.
- All male catchers must wear an athletic cup and supporter.

Other Requirements:

- All baseball bats must display the USA Baseball stamp. USSSA Bats are NOT PERMITTED.
- All softball bats must display a Bat Performance Factor (BPF) of 1.20.
- Official softball game balls are 10-inch softballs
- All male players are required to wear an athletic cup.
- Baseball batters and base runners must wear batting helmet.
- Softball batters and base runners must wear batting helmets equipped with protective face cages.
- All players must wear rubber cleats while on the field. Metal cleats are not permitted.

## Conduct and Sportsmanship

- Swearing, foul language, or derogatory/inflammatory statements by managers, coaches, players, or fans will result in immediate ejection and suspension from the league.
- Use of any noisemakers is prohibited.

## Game Format

- Games are limited to a maximum of four innings or a hard stop at 60 minutes, whichever comes first.
- Each inning is considered complete when every player on both teams has had one turn at bat.
- There is no scorekeeping, and outs are not recorded, as the focus is on teaching fundamental skills and building players' abilities.
- No protests are allowed.
- Additionally, scores and standings will not be kept for this division.
- Home Team is in the 3<sup>rd</sup> base dugout. Away team is in the 1<sup>st</sup> base dugout.
- There will be no forfeits, even if a team has fewer than 8 players. In the case of a shortage, a team may borrow players from the opposing team for defensive purposes, provided both managers agree. Borrowed players will only play defense and will bat for their own team. Players will be rotated out as necessary to allow everyone a chance to bat.

## Dugout Policy

- Sugary drinks and foods such as gum, candy, seeds, and soda are not allowed in the dugout or on the field.
- Only water and sports drinks, such as Gatorade, are permitted during games.
- Please refrain from having any snacks with nuts in the dugout as well.

## Offensive Play

- If both coaches agree, you are allowed will use coach pitch. This is recommend for A Division. For Tee-Ball, it is recommended to start with the tee and transition to coach pitching later in the season.
  - Coaches will gently throw three pitches to each batter from a distance of approximately 15 feet—no closer. If the batter does not hit a fair ball after three pitches, the batting tee (provided by the home team) will be used. The batter will then swing from the tee until the ball is hit into fair territory, past the coach. Walks are not allowed.
- Players are allowed to slide, but only feet first.
- Stealing bases is not permitted.
- If an out is made, the runner will remain on the base, and play will conclude when the runner reaches first base. Runners are allowed to advance only one base at a time.

## Defensive Play

- On defense, the team will field one pitcher, four infielders, and all remaining players will be positioned in the outfield (the dirt area near the grass).
- There is no catcher in this division.
- No player may play in the infield for more than three innings in a single game, except in cases where the team is short on players. In these situations, players must rotate positions so that no one remains in the infield for the entire game.
- When the ball is put into play, fielders should attempt to make an out on the batter or runner.

## Coaching and Supervision

- While on offense, teams may have up to two adult base coaches.
- On defense, three adult coaches are permitted on the field.
- One bench coach is required, and there must always be at least one adult in the dugout.

## Rescheduling and Makeup Games

- The league will attempt to reschedule games canceled due to rain, as time and field availability permit. Makeup games may be scheduled on any day of the week, with Sunday being used only as a last resort.

## Post-Game Procedures

- Teams must clean up the field and dugout area promptly after the game.
- Post-game meetings must be held off the field.