

2026 T-Ball/Coach Pitch (Co-Ed) Rules

Game Structure:

1. **Game Length:**
 - Games last **1 hour** (minimum **3 innings**).
 2. **Equipment:**
 - **Softie baseballs** must be used—**no hard baseballs** allowed.
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Batting Rules:

3. **On-Deck Batters:**
 - **No on-deck batter** is allowed—players should remain in the dugout until their turn.
 4. **Strikeouts:**
 - **No strikeouts**—
 1. **TBALL:** players will continue hitting until they make contact.
 2. **COACH PITCH:** Each batter receives **5 pitches** unless they hit a **foul tip** on the 5th pitch—then they may continue. If they do not make contact after 5 pitches, then they get to hit from the Tee.
 5. **Batting Order:**
 - Players will bat **round-robin**.
 - The **last batter** in the lineup will hit a **grand slam** to clear the bases.
 6. **Base Advancement:**
 - Players may advance **one base per hit**, except for the **last batter**, who clears the bases.
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Fielding Rules:

7. **No Base Outs:**
 - Runners are not called **out** for defensive plays.
8. **No Stealing:**
 - **Base stealing** is not permitted at this level.
9. **Catcher Position:**
 - **No catcher** position is used.
 - One coach should be positioned **behind home plate** to:
 - Assist with placing the ball on the tee.
 - Retrieve the ball from the first baseman.
 - Guide players to run to **first base**.
10. **Defensive Positions:**
 - All players should be **on the field** at all times.
 - Use a **normal infield** (without a catcher) and place remaining players in the **outfield**.
11. **First Base Plays:**
 - The **first baseman** must complete every play.
 - If the ball is **overthrown**, the first baseman must retrieve it and **touch first base**.

Team & Game Management:

12. Minimum Players:

- Games will be played **regardless of team size**—no minimum player requirement.

13. Game Cancellation:

- Only the **League President** or **Vice President** may cancel a game.
- If you have concerns about the weather or field conditions, **contact the League President or VP** before making any decisions.

Helpful Tips for Coaches:

- **Recruit Extra Help:**

- You **can't have too many helpers**—if a child needs a parent on the field, allow them to assist. Don't hesitate to ask for volunteers.

- **Prevent Bat Throwing:**

- If batters are **throwing their bats**, place a **5-gallon bucket** behind home plate for them to drop their bat into after hitting. This will **protect you and others**.

- **Organize Bats:**

- Have all players place their bats **halfway down the inside** of the fence line. This prevents **accidental swings** while waiting to bat.

- **Improve Focus:**

- Mark the ball with a **large dot** or symbol—face it toward the hitter when placing the ball on the tee. This helps players **focus** on the ball.

- **Batter Positioning:**

- Make **foot markers** in the batter's box and draw a **straight line** with a bat. This helps players position their feet correctly and align their toes.

Thank you for volunteering and helping our players learn the game of baseball in a fun and supportive environment!