

BETHEL BASEBALL ASSOCIATION (BBA)

2018 TEE-BALL LEAGUE RULES AND REGULATIONS

1) Player Eligibility

Player eligibility for BBA Tee-Ball League is determined as follows:

- a) The player must be a resident of the Municipality of Bethel Park; or, the player's legal guardian(s) must pay taxes to the Bethel Park School District at the beginning of the regular season.
- b) The player must complete an official registration form prior to the deadline for player registration; registrations received after the deadline may be rejected by the BBA Board of Directors (Board).
- c) The player must attain the age of four (4) prior to September 1st of the current season; and, the player must not attain the age of seven (7) prior to September 1st of the current season.
- d) The player must not be a member of any other recreational, community-based, non-affiliated baseball league.

2) Official Team Rosters

- a) Roster Size and Number of Teams. The Tee-Ball League Commissioner (Commissioner) will set the number of teams so as to have a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 13 players on each team. The Board will appoint a Manager to each team.
- b) The Commissioner will conduct a player draft. All players will be drafted each year. Second and third year players will not remain with previous year team. The draft format shall be designed to result in evenly competitive teams, all 6 year olds are drafted first then all 5 year olds then all 4 year olds.
- c) Each manager can have one assistant which said assistant's child will also be on that team.
 - i) The child or children of a Manager will be placed on the Manager's team.
 - (1) Any Manager who does not wish to have his child on his team must make this known to the Commissioner in advance.
 - ii) Siblings will be placed together.
 - (1) If the parents or guardians of siblings wish for the players to be on different teams, they must make this known to the Commissioner at the time of registration, in which case the siblings will be placed separately.
- d) Official Team Rosters
 - i) Teams established per the annual placement become Official Team Rosters. Managers are not permitted to trade players or make any other changes to Official Team Rosters.
 - ii) No Manager or coach may dismiss a player. Managers who have difficulty with a player related to behavior or lack of attendance must inform the Commissioner.
 - iii) Managers have the right to remove a child from a game for unresolved disciplinary reasons. Any such occurrences must be reported to the Commissioner within 48 hours.

- iy Changes to Official Team Rosters may only be made by the Commissioner, with written approval by the Board. Any such change to an Official Team Roster, and an explanation for why the change was made, shall be made known to all other Managers in the league.
- y Any Manager who becomes aware of a player on his team who is for any reason ineligible (see Section 1) must immediately inform the Commissioner.

3) Player Participation

- a) Only officially roster players may participate in a Tee-Ball League game.
- b) All players present and eligible will bat in a continuous order for the entire game. Late arriving players will be inserted at the end of the batting order.
- c) All players will play the field in all innings.
- d) Defensive positions consist of:
 - i) Infielders: pitcher, first baseman, second baseman, shortstop and third baseman.
 - ii) Outfielders: all other players.
 - iii) The offensive team shall supply an adult catcher. However, plays at the plate must be covered by a member of the defensive team.
- e) No player shall play more than 3 innings in the infield unless all other players have played 3 innings in the infield. All players shall be rotated through all positions.
 - Exception: Four year olds do not have to play the infield if it is a safety issue

4) Equipment

- a) Batters and base runners must wear batting helmets at all times.
- b) A Wilson A1117 or equivalent tee-ball baseball shall be used for games.
- c) Metal-cleated shoes are prohibited.
- d) Maximum bat barrel diameter is 2-1/4 inches. Maximum bat length is 28 inches. All bats must be Little League® approved.
- e) Regardless of whether they are Little League® approved, composite-barrel bats are strictly prohibited.
 - i) Hybrid design bats, in which the handle is composite and the barrel is metal, are permitted.
 - ii) Wood bats and full-metal bats are permitted.
- f) A player and the player's Manager are deemed to be in violation of the composite-barrel bat rule (IV) if the player steps into the batting box with a composite-barrel bat. Whenever a violation occurs, both Managers must notify the Commissioner within 24 hours. Penalties for violation of the composite-barrel bat rule are as follows. Second and third violations are for violations occurring during the same season as the first violation.
 - i) Penalties against the Manager:
 - (1) First Violation: A warning will be issued to the Manager. [However, there will be no Manager violation if the offending player's manager identifies the violation during the player's at bat.]
 - (2) Second Violations: The Manager will be ejected from the current game and will receive an additional 1 game suspension. The second violation need not be committed by the same player that committed the first violation.

- (3) Third Violation: The Manager will be ejected from the current game and will receive an additional 3-game suspension. The Manager will be ineligible for any BBA managerial position for the remainder of the current year and the entirety of the following year.
- (4) If a violation occurs during a game in which the Manager is not present, it shall count as a violation nonetheless.
-) Penalties against the Player:
 - (1) First Violation: Batter is out and ejected from the current game and receives an additional 1-game suspension.
 - (2) Second Violation: Batter is out and ejected from the current game and receives an Additional 3-game suspension. The player is furthermore ineligible for Travel Baseball during the year in which the second violation occurred, and is ineligible for any BBA- affiliated non-recreational teams, such as West Penn or Metro teams, the following year.
 - (3) Third Violation: Batter is out and ejected from the current game and receives a Suspension for the remainder of the current year and the entirety of the following year. The suspension applies to any and all BBA or BBA-affiliated teams.

5) Playing Rules and Regulations

All Tee-Ball League contests shall be conducted and played according to the latest playing rules and regulations set forth in the Little League Baseball Rule Book, except as follows.

- a) No player is permitted in the coaching boxes. Occupants of the coaching boxes must be coaches or non-player representatives designated by the manager.
- b) Two game formats shall be used.
 -) Weekend games shall be 5 complete innings, weather and daylight permitting.
 - (1) Teams shall practice for 30 minutes prior to the game. Field time shall be shared equally.
 - (2) No new inning shall be started later than 90 minutes from the scheduled start time of the game.
 -) Weeknight games shall be 3 complete innings, weather and daylight permitting.
 - (1) Teams shall practice for 60 minutes prior to the game. Field time shall be shared equally.
 - (2) No new inning shall be started later than 60 minutes from the scheduled start time of the game.
- c) Extra innings will not be played to break ties.
- d) The defensive team shall consist of all players present.
 -) Five players shall be infielders; the rest shall be outfielders.
 -) At no time is a rover permitted. A rover is an outfielder who plays behind and within 20 feet of 2nd base.
- e) Batting Rules:
 -) Prior to June 1st:
 - (1) All players will hit off the tee.
 - ii) June 1st and thereafter:

- (1) Players have the option of being pitched to by his/her coach.
- Ⓚ Cleanly missed swings are strikes; foul balls are strikes when there are fewer than two strikes in the count.
- (3) upon strike three, the player will hit from the tee
- (4) There are no called balls and strikes; there are no walks.
- (5) After 7 pitches, all players will hit off the tee, whether or not the seventh pitch is fouled.
- f) Bunting is not permitted.
- g) Batted balls that come to rest in fair territory within 6 feet of home plate (as marked by an arc centered on home plate) are foul balls.
- h) Pinch runners are permitted for injured base runners or for catchers. The pinch runner shall be the last player to make an out.
- i) Leading off from base and stealing are not permitted. Runners must remain on base until the ball is put in play by the batter.
- j) The infield fly rule is not in effect.
- k) The defensive team may have 2 coaches positioned in the outfield deeper than the players.
- l} Dead Ball/Time Out occurs when an infielder has possession of the ball in the infield (the dirt) in fair territory, or when the ball is thrown from the outfield to the area enclosed by the four baselines.
 -)} Upon occurrence of dead ball or time outs, runners who have advanced more than halfway to the next base may continue without risk.
 -)} Runners who have not attained the halfway point between bases upon the Dead Ball or Time Out must return to the previous base without risk.
- m) There is a 5-run scoring limit per inning. Once the batting team scores 5 runs the inning is over. Additional runs scoring on the same play with the 5th run do not count.
- n) Throwing of bats and helmets is not permitted. One team warning shall be issued on the first occurrence of a player throwing a bat or helmet. Any subsequent violation will result in the offending player being called out.
- o) Coach pitchers must pitch overhand from within the pitching circle.

6) Grievances

- a) From time to time incidents may occur wherein disputes within the Association will require resolution to restore harmony and wellbeing to the organization. Accordingly, the Board of Directors has established "Grievance Committees" that will bear the responsibility of resolving disputes pertaining to players, managers, coaches, umpires, and parents, that, in the opinion of the Commissioner, warrant committee action.
- b) Grievances shall be submitted in writing, within 72 hours of the event causing the grievance, to The Commissioner, who will take the grievance to the Grievance Committee.

7) Ground Rules

- a) Field dimensions for Tee-Ball League are as follows:
 - i) 45 feet between bases.

- b) A fair ball bouncing over, going under, or sticking in the outfield fence is a ground rule double. i) Where no fence is present, a fair ball leaving the field and entering an unmaintained area is Out of play, and is ruled a ground rule double, whether a player retrieves the ball or not.
- c) A fair fly ball over the fence is a home run, whether or not touched by an outfielder.
- d) Overthrown balls that go out of play are dead. Runners on route and more than halfway to the next base are awarded that base; runners on route and less than halfway to the next base must return to the last base.
- e) Only Manager, coaches, and players are permitted on the bench, in the dugout, and in the batter warm-up areas.
- f) Pre-game warm-ups: see 5.b

8) Awards

Player participation awards shall be given to all league players.