

## Field Dimensions

The diamond will have 50' base lines. Second base will be 70' 9" from home plate.

The pitcher's mound will be 35' from home plate. It will be a circle 6' in diameter.

Left field and right field foul lines will be marked.

There will be a fair ball line 10' feet from home plate.

A 6' diameter on-deck circle will be provided for each team.

## Equipment

Each player must furnish their own glove.

Team shirts and hats must be worn by players while on the field.

NOCSA approved batting helmets must be worn by the batter, on deck batter, all base runners, and youth coaches.

Shoes with metal spikes or cleats are not permitted. Shoes with molded cleats are permissible.

Only "Tee-Ball" bats may be used. All bats must be marked for tee ball use. If the bat does not have the tee ball markings then it cannot be used in a game. HSA will mirror Little League Tee Ball bat rules: <https://www.littleleague.org/playing-rules/bat-rules/>

A regulation size "Soft" T-Ball will be used during games. Each team may provide a game ball.

All equipment must be returned to the HSA equipment shed after the final game.

## Games

Game format will be as follows:

- 1 hour time limit.
- No inning will start after 45 minutes of game time has elapsed.
- Every player hits each inning and each player will score.
- A team's turn at bat will end once all players have batted.
- Players cannot sit out for more than one inning at a time.

All players must remain seated in the dugout when they are not playing.

The home team will always occupy the dugout on the 3rd base side of the field.

Games results will not be kept. The object of the game is not to win or lose, but to have fun learning how to play the game and developing the player's skills. Winning should not be emphasized; learning and improving a child's skill level should be the focus.

## Positions

A team on the field will consist of 9 players. First baseman, second baseman, shortstop, third baseman, pitcher and 4 outfielders (left, left center, right center, right).

A player may not play the same position for more than 2 innings in a game.

An infielder may not take a position more than 3 steps inside the baseline. All outfielders must play outside the outfield position line. Once the batter makes contact with the ball, then all fielders can advance.

Fielders must play in their designated position until the ball is hit. Overloading fielders to one side of the field is not allowed.

## Batting

The batter will receive 5 pitches from their coach. If the ball is not in play after the 5th pitch, the batter will be allowed to hit off the tee.

Batters will bat until a fair ball is batted. There will be no strikeouts.

When batting off the tee, a ball hit short of the 10' fair ball line is considered a foul ball. Once a batted ball crosses the 10' line it is considered "fair" regardless of how much contact is made with the batting tee.

Bunting or intentional "easy swings" are not allowed. The play will be repeated.

A batter is out if he/she throws the bat a second time. The first thrown bat will be accompanied by a warning. The batting team coach is responsible for making the call.

Only one player may warm up at a time, and they must be in the on deck circle and have on a batting helmet on. All other players are to be in the dugout area for safety.

## Base Running

All bases must be held until the ball is batted. There will be no lead-offs or base stealing. If a runner leaves a base when a ball is hit foul, he/she will be required to completely return to the base and touch the base.

Base runners will only advance one base.

All base runners will run to home base when the last batter hits the ball.

## Umpire

No umpires will be provided by the league for this age group.

The batting coach will serve as the umpire for making determining if the ball has crossed the 10' line.

### **Coaching**

The batting team is allowed an adult batting coach, pitching coach, first base coach, third base coach and an on-deck coach.

The fielding team is allowed 3 field coaches.

The batting coach will be responsible for removing a tee and bat when there is a play at home plate. For safety reasons, please make sure that the batting coach is a responsible individual, preferably an adult.

The head coach is responsible for maintaining order on the sideline and keeping equipment and players seated behind the bench lines in the dugout. A coach or parent must be assigned to the dugout to maintain order.

Batting helmets and bats should be kept by the on-deck circle away from the dugout.

All coaching must be positive and instructional, not vulgar, critical or demeaning. Coaches who are abusive to players must be reported to the Baseball Commissioner and the Hillandale Sports Association board. Continued abusive behavior will not be tolerated.

Coaches are responsible for keeping their cool and setting a good example of sportsmanship in all game situations.

Coaches are not permitted to smoke or chew tobacco products during games or practices.