

## Tee Ball Local Rules – Updated March 2019

1. Tee Ball is an instructional/preparatory division of the Little League Baseball preparing the players to move into the Coach Pitch Division for players who are league age 4 to 6 (any player who has turned age 4 on or before April 30<sup>th</sup> of the current season).
2. Unless otherwise noted herein, rules stipulated in the Little League rule book shall be in effect. There will be NO end of season tournament in Tee Ball; Tee Ball teams will play additional games during the time in which the other divisions are playing tournaments.
3. For Tee Ball games, there shall be a time limit of 1 hour and 15 minutes, with no new inning starting after the 1 hour and 5 minutes. Home team will register the official start time.
4. All games will be played regardless of the number of players on each team. If one team has less than 9 players, they may ask to 'borrow' from the opposing team. There are no forfeits.
5. There are no walks in Tee Ball.
6. There is no leading off or stealing in Tee Ball. A runner may not advance to the next base until the ball is hit into fair territory.
7. Each Tee Ball team shall bat through its entire lineup with no limit to the number of defensive outs. A batter/runner that is put out shall return to the dugout.
8. All offensive Tee Ball players (except for batters and base runners) shall remain in the dugout at all times.
9. During the season, all players shall hit from the tee. To be considered a fair ball, the ball must be hit into fair territory and go beyond the white line that is 4 ft. in front of home plate.
10. Players shall be warned for throwing a bat. On the third such warning, the player shall be called out.
11. Players shall be warned for Sliding into first base. On the third such warning, the player shall be called out.
12. Courtesy Runners: After having reached base safely, a courtesy runner may be substituted for the catcher of the upcoming inning regardless of the number of outs. However, the substitute runner must be the last player to have been put out. This rule is intended to speed up games and also allow the catcher ample time to prepare for the upcoming inning.

13. Tee Ball coaches will be permitted on the field during defense, to direct and instruct players.
14. The infield fly rule does not apply in Tee ball.
15. Tee Ball games will include 10 defensive players in the field at a time. Managers can substitute as they feel necessary to allow all children equal playing time. The basic concept of defensive positions will be followed, i.e., bases and field positions will be occupied and children will not be deployed in a semi-circle around the batter.
16. Each Tee Ball player shall play at least two innings on defense in every game. A position roster template is available for download on the web page.
17. Play is dead and runners must halt when the one or all of the following conditions have been met:
  - a. When any fielder records and an appropriate out(s).
  - b. There shall be no tagging up or advancing as a result of a caught fly ball either in the infield or outfield. Play is dead when the ball is caught.
  - c. Any ball that is hit safely into the outfield, retrieved and brought under control by any fielder.
  - d. Any ball that is hit safely into the infield, fielded by an infielder and either that infielder makes a recorded out(s) or when the first error/overthrow occurs.
  - e. All overthrows at any base are considered dead balls and runners must remain at the base that they are approaching or have attained at the time of the overthrow.
    - Exception: the catcher shall be thrown the ball after the last batter hits and all runners will clear the bases, attempting to cross home plate while the catcher attempts to tag the runners out.
  - f. Coaches may only assist (touch) an offensive player when the ball or play is dead.
18. All Tee Ball games shall be played by Liberal Substitution Rules. All players on the roster will be in the batting order and can be substituted at will in the field. All mandatory play rules still apply to defensive outs and one at-bat.
19. All male/female players are encouraged to wear appropriate protective athletic gear regardless of what position they play.

20. Home team is responsible for setting up and taking down the field (**however; both teams are encouraged to work together to set up, maintain and take down the fields**). This should be done 30 minutes prior to game time. This includes lining the field with chalk, checking bases and raking if necessary.
21. Visiting team is responsible for picking up trash on both sides of the field and emptying trash cans into the dumpster. Dugouts shall be cleaned after every game by the respective teams.
22. The teams with the last games of the day will be responsible for disposing of all trash in the dumpsters and raking out the. If there was inclement weather prior to game time, it is suggested that both teams arrive early enough to make their field suitable to play.