

T-Ball Rules (2017)

The following rules, determined by SLYSI, are to be followed during league play for the entire year unless subject to a mid-season amendment.

- Fixed league rules:
 - No score is recorded, 1 hour of play per game
 - 2 inning minimum, no max, however many innings within time limit
 - No outs are played
 - 10 players may play utilizing 4 outfielders
 - Infield hit: Player advances to 1st base
 - Outfield hit: Player may advance to 2nd base
 - The complete lineup must bat, no exceptions
 - Last batter in lineup, coaches announce last batter and all bases are run completely, then sides change.

- Mid-season amendments until end of Season:
 - Outs will be played, a player called out must return to dugout
 - Player/Coach has option to convert to coach pitch, if so
 - Coach (pitcher) must remain unchanged for entire game
 - Batter receives 4 pitches, no hit, then must hit from the Tee
 - Batter cannot be called out on strikes
 - Outfield hit: player may advance to 2nd base, not automatic, player can be called out when advancing.

(1) For use with batting tee:

- The ball shall be hit off of a batting tee placed on home plate. The coach is responsible for removal of tee prior to any play at home plate.
- The batter shall not swing at the ball until the pitcher has made a pitching motion from the pitcher's plate.
- The pitcher shall remain in contact with the pitcher's plate until the ball is hit by the batter.

(2) For use with coach pitchers:

- Coaches pitch from a pitching plate 38 feet from the point of home plate. Coaches may move closer based on player's ability level.
- The player fielding the pitcher's position shall take position always to the rear of the pitching plate, and on the left or right side of the coach-pitcher with one foot on the dirt portion of the mound.
- Underhand is allowed only if needed. Batter receives 4 pitches, no hit, then must hit from the Tee.
- Coach-pitcher is allowed to kneel on one knee only, if coach has determined that a player cannot make contact with the ball delivered from a standing position.
- Kneeling on both knees is not allowed, this position does not provide adequate time for a coach-pitcher to move out of the way when a ball is hit in their direction.
- Coach-pitcher is allowed to squat when delivering pitch to batter.

SLYSI encourages all coaches to focus on team building, comradery, and good sportsmanship throughout the year. At this age group we should be focused on teaching the game, developing good techniques, working on fundamentals and most importantly **HAVING FUN!!**

SLYSI also recommends that all players get a chance to rotate in every position. This gives each player a chance to play a position which may receive more or less action. It can also help to determine which position a player tends to enjoy more, excel at, and or show potential at more than other players. Identifying those positions helps future coaches, players, and parents in finding out where the players are suited to play as they move up in age groups.

Please do not "stack" your pitcher and 1st baseman with the same players to try to get everyone out. The goal in T-Ball is not to win at all costs, if that is the case, you will be disappointed; the score does not matter. SLYSI is not interested in hearing about the scores, we want to know if the kids are having fun and the parents are smiling.

If you have any question or concerns please contact your league coordinator.

Thank you for volunteering and we hope you have an excellent season with SLYSI.