

TEE BALL RULES

Effective Date 2025

1. Catcher will wear a fielding glove or catcher's mitt and Catchers Helmet or Batting Helmet.
2. Catcher position is optional.
3. A batting order including every player on the official team roster who is present will be made before the game and used throughout the game, unless illness or injury incapacitates a player. Players arriving after a game begins will be added at the end of the batting order.
4. Each team must have five (5) players to begin a game.
5. Each team may have a maximum of one (1) head coach and three (3) assistant coaches.
6. Two (2) defensive coaches may position themselves in the **outfield grass** to coach the players and assure that the outfielders remain in outfield territory prior to any play. One (1) defensive coach must remain in the dugout at all times during a game. No coaches may be on the infield.
7. If there is no league assigned umpire at the game, one (1) offensive coach shall stand by home plate to act as umpire-in-chief and to remove the tee from home plate after the batter has hit the ball.
8. A team may score a maximum of five (5) runs per inning. Runners must touch the bases they are forced to on any play in which the fifth run scores.
9. All games shall be five (5) full innings, unless shortened by the game time limit, run limit, or weather conditions.
10. No score or divisional standings are kept in the Tee Ball Division. All players receive participation awards.
11. Start time will be determined by the schedule for the field where the game is to be played. All tee ball games played will have a one hour time limit. Innings started before the time limit can be completed. No new inning will start after time limit.
12. When a member of the defensive team playing an infield position has control of the ball and, in the judgment of the Umpire-In-Chief, makes no play on a runner, then play will stop and:
 - i. The runner must return to the last base he touched if he is before the halfway mark.
 - ii. If this rule forces two runners to the same base, the lead runner has the right to the base. The following runner must return to the preceding base except if he is forced to the next base because of a batter becoming a runner.
13. The Umpire-In-Chief shall call "TIME" when play stops.
14. The front of the pitching line will be at least 40 feet from the back of home plate and a line extending from the line to first and third base will be the safety area for the player pitcher. The player pitcher must remain behind this line until the batter swings at the ball.
15. Pitcher player may wear a batting helmet for protection while in the field.
16. A safety base may be used at first base. The fielder will use the base in fair territory (white) and the runner will use the base in foul territory (orange). Once the batter becomes a runner at first, he will use the base in fair territory (white). The purpose of the safety base is to prevent collisions at first base.
17. A ten (10) foot arc will be placed in front of home plate in fair territory. The area inside the chalk line will be considered foul territory. The chalk line after the arc is fair territory. A ball must be on or beyond the arc line to be in fair territory.
18. Base runners may not leave their bases until the ball is hit. Base stealing is not allowed. The penalty for stealing is the runner shall be returned to their base of origin.
19. Each batter will be allowed to swing at the Tee a maximum of five (5) times. Should the batter not hit any of the five attempts into fair territory, then the batter **will be called out**. Another attempt is provided on every attempt after the 4th attempt is fouled off. Hitting the tee is not a foul ball, the ball must touch the bat and then go foul to get another attempt to hit the ball.
20. Each team will use their batting tee for the game.
21. The infield fly rule is waived for tee ball games.
22. All teams will use a standard four (4) player infield and a pitcher and catcher and the remainder of the players may take positions in outfield territory. A fifth infielder is not allowed. Catcher position is optional.
23. All players in the outfield must stay 10 feet behind the base path in the outfield grass. It is the defensive coaches' responsibility to assure that no outfielder is in front of this line when play begins.
24. The infield players must play their positions no closer than one step in front of the base path line and not play up until after the ball is put into play. Do not put your defensive infielder in the base path line.
25. On a thrown ball to first base that is missed by the defensive first baseman and lands in foul territory, the runner attempting to reach first base may not advance to second on the overthrow.
26. Above all, have fun and encourage both teams.

