

## Winterville Parks and Recreation Department

### Pee Wee Baseball Rules & Regulations

1. Pee Wee baseball is about teaching every child how to play and having fun! This league is a step up from the t-ball level and is designed to prepare the player for the 7-8 year old Winterville Rookie Ball League. We do not encourage playing to win at this level. Therefore, please make a conscious effort to focus on learning and the fun aspects of the game. No score will be kept at this level.
2. Teams will play with a restricted flight baseball.
3. Each team will be scheduled 9-10 games. Each team is guaranteed to play 8 games. (I.e., 2 rainouts may not be made up).
4. Each team is limited to 3 practices each week. It is encouraged that every team practice at least 1 time per week each week. Practices should last **NO MORE THAN 1 hour** as it is very difficult to keep children of this age interested in any activity longer than this time period.
5. Pee wee is played on 40 foot bases.
6. Every team must have at least 7 players to start a game.
7. Each game will last 3 innings or 1 hour, whichever comes first. **NO** new inning may start with less than 5 minutes to go in the game. Please make every effort to start on time as there may be games played after your team finishes their game.
8. A defensive player can only change positions once per inning unless there is an injury.
9. At this level, players will play/field a position. There will be 4 outfielders and 7 infielders including the catcher (plus a roving player). **THERE MUST ALWAYS BE A CATCHER IN THE GAME!**
10. A pitching machine will be used in pee wee at a distance of 30 feet. Machine provided is a UPM 45. Please have all 3 speed selection locations on notch 3. Speed selection locations are located on throwing arm, release lever, and power lever. If a player has not hit the ball in fair territory after 4 pitches, the batter will be given a fifth pitch. The batter may continue to see additional pitches as long as they make contact. If after the 5<sup>th</sup> pitch the child has failed to put the ball into play **in the 1<sup>st</sup> inning only** they will be able to hit off of a batting tee. This allows every participant to hit the ball at least once during the course of a game.
11. No Bunting is allowed.

12. Once a ball is hit, the player can either reach base safely or be put out by the defensive players. There are NO umpires at this level. It is up to the pitcher (coach) to make out/safe calls. Any questionable plays (i.e., close plays), the runner/batter should be called safe.
13. An inning is complete once every player in the lineup has batted. A lineup consists of every player in uniform for that game. It is highly encouraged that every game the coach changes the lineup (i.e., little Johnny bats last in game #1 then he should bat first in game #2, and second in game #3, etc.). If three outs are made and all players have not batted in the inning, the bases should be cleared and the team shall continue to bat until all players have batted.
14. A bat thrown by the batter results in a warning; if the problem continues to occur it will result in an automatic out.
15. Play ends when the ball is thrown from the outfield into an infielder and said player has control of the ball. Balls hit in the infield shall be deemed dead once a defender has control of the ball and is not making an attempt to put a runner out.
16. Pitching coaches should not interfere with, or impede play. This will result in an automatic out. If a pitcher/coach is struck by a batted ball it shall be considered a dead ball and the batter and all runners shall receive 1 base.
17. On defense 1 coach may be down each foul line (past the base). On offense, one coach may be at each base and the pitcher.
18. All final decisions on the rules will be made by the Department.
19. **Remember, Pee Wee baseball is about having fun! Winning is not to be emphasized at this level.**

*In case of inclement weather, call 353-8697 for the status of games.*