

Winterville Parks and Recreation Department

T-Ball Rules & Regulations

Each team will be scheduled 8 games. Each team is guaranteed to play 6 games. Effort will be made to make-up cancelled games though sometimes this is not possible.

Safety

1. All batters will wear a batting helmet while both at bat and on base.
2. No sliding.
3. There is no on-deck circle. The on-deck batter will wear a helmet to be ready but will not have a bat in their hands until they are at the tee.
4. Teams will play with a restricted flight baseball.
5. A bat thrown by the batter results in a warning. If the problem continues to occur it will result in an automatic out.

Start of the Game

1. Each team must have at least 7 players to start a game.
2. A team should appear at the field, ready for play, 10 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the game.

Players and Positions

1. All players present will be placed in the batting line-up and will bat in the order listed.
2. It is highly encouraged that the coach change the lineup every game (i.e., little Johnny bats last in game #1 then he should bat first in game #2, and second in game #3, etc.
3. A fielding team will consist of 11 players. At this level, players will be positioned at 1B, 2B, SS, 3B, pitcher, and utility infielder. All other players will be positioned evenly in the outfield area.
4. No player will play the same position for more than two innings.
5. If a player is hurt, they may be removed from the game and at a later time return to the game.
6. Coaches will ensure that all players will play at least half of each game.

Coaches and Assistants

1. Coaches or assistants will be at the batting tee instructing the children while their team is at bat.
2. The 1st and 3rd base coaches are restricted to the area of the coach's boxes. Coaches are not allowed to physically assist base runners; e.g. pushing the runner or helping the runner off the ground, while the ball is in play.
3. A maximum of 3 coaches from the defensive (fielding) team are allowed on the playing field. These coaches should be situated behind 1st, 2nd, and 3rd bases. These coaches are on the field for instructional purposes only, such as re-positioning the fielders and relaying information.
4. Each coach shall be responsible for the conduct of his players and fans/spectators.

Play of the Game

1. Make the game fun.
2. There will be no score keeping of any kind. This is a non-competitive league.
3. Each game will consist of approximately 50 minutes of playing time or 3 innings, 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.
4. T-ball is played on 40 foot bases.
5. Batter will not approach home plate until called by coach.
6. The coach will place the ball on the tee and verify that the tee is adjusted within the strike zone (between the knees and the armpits of the batter). The batting coach may adjust and reposition the batter at any time as long as the ball is not in play.
7. Batters will have no more than 5 attempts to successfully strike the ball.
8. All batters will hit off the Tee. **No pitching to more advanced players.** When you have a stronger batter up, please notify the other coach so he can protect his smaller players.
9. The batting coach will remove the tee from the playing field after the ball is hit.
10. There are no outs for base runners. If a base runner is put out by defensive player, runner will remain on base.
11. The play is considered over when the ball is returned to a player at the mound or any base.
12. When the coach calls the ball dead, it stays dead until the coach calls the ball in play again.
13. An inning is complete once every player in the lineup has batted. A lineup consists of every player in uniform for that game. 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. Runners may not advance to the next base on an overthrow out-of-bounds. Runners cannot advance on any foul ball.
15. Leading off is not permitted. The runner may not leave the base until the ball is struck by the batter.
16. Base stealing is not permitted.
17. Department Staff has final say for all local league rules and reserves right to change as necessary. Anyone who has a question regarding a rule or suggested rule change should contact Department Staff.

Miscellaneous

1. Both teams are responsible for cleaning up the area after each game.
2. No pets are permitted on athletic fields or in dugouts.
3. Facility rules and regulations shall be adhered to at all times.

Remember, T-Ball 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