

T-BALL RULES

Preschool Division



Playing Time

At the YMCA we want each player to have the opportunity to play and learn the game. Therefore coaches must strive to provide each player with equal play time in every game for the players present. A player will be allowed to participate in a game if the player has missed a practice, however all players should be encouraged to attend all practices.

Players

Teams will play all players on offense and defense. Defense players will be placed into the standard infield positions with extra players positioned throughout the outfield.

All players will be included in the batting order.

Equipment

Players are required to wear a YMCA baseball jersey, shoes, socks, and shorts or long pants. Soft rubber cleats are the only type cleats allowed.

Players must wear approved helmets while batting and on the base paths. All players must wear a baseball glove at all times while in a defensive fielding position.

Field Requirements

All bases will be placed **40 feet** apart. A ten foot arc extending from the first base line to the third base line will be marked. No players are allowed in this area and all balls hit in this area will be considered foul.

Batting tee and safety balls will be used.

Practices

Teams will be given 20 minutes for practice prior to the game. Practices will start at the time listed on the game schedule.

Games

At the start of the game, choice of first team at bat is determined by the flip of a coin or by odd/even. Games will last for approximately 20 minutes or two innings.

Referees will not be provided for these age groups.

A Y staff member will be present on the field to assist coaches, keep the game safe and teach rules. Coaches/volunteers from each team will be required to be on the field to instruct the players.

- Two coaches will be allowed in the defensive field during play but may not have any contact with the ball.
- Batting teams will need to provide a first base coach and third base coach to help their team around the bases.

The purpose of all coaches and volunteers on the field are to keep the players safe at all times and instruct them while not affecting the play of the game.

- Keep the game safe but let the players PLAY the game

Rules of the Game

All players will be allowed to bat and are to be listed in the batting order. The batting order will be set after the first inning and will be cycled through completely each inning.

Balls will **not be** pitched but hit from a stationary tee. Strikes are not called. Outs will not be tracked.

No stealing, leading off or infield fly rule. Players should tag up on fly balls and are not allowed to leave the base path when advancing to the next base.

Runners shall advance one base on each hit. The last batter of the line up will be announced to the other team and after this hits all the players on base will continue to run until they reach home, clearing the bases.

The basic rules and traditions of baseball should be followed teaching the players the rules of the game while allowing them to have the most play possible in a safe environment.

Additional YMCA Rules

All coaches and participants will recite the YMCA Youth Sports pledge prior to the start of the game.

Opposing parents/coaches and players will shake hands after each game.

Parents and coaches are role models for our young and impressionable participants and therefore are expected to follow the YMCA code of conduct and demonstrate the highest standards of sportsmanship.