

# **T-Ball Division Rules (Quick Reference)**

#### **Coaches**

- -The offensive team can have a home plate coach along with a first and third base coach. The base coaches are to act as umpires on their bases. The home plate coach is responsible for announcing to the opposing team that the ball is on the tee and ready to play.
- -The defensive team may have coaches positioned in the outfield to assist with properly aligning the defense and remind them of where the play is to be made.

### **Game Governance**

- -The game begins at 6:00pm and will last 6 innings or for 1 hour and 15 minutes.
- -A foul line is to be drawn 15 feet from the point of home plate straight to both base paths. Batted balls that do not cross this line will be considered a foul ball. A ball touched before it crosses the line will also be considered a foul ball.

#### **Players**

- -The only players permitted off the bench are the on-deck batter and those preparing for entry into the game as instructed by the coach
- -No players can be base coaches.
- -Free substitution will be allowed.
- -The batting order will consist of all players in uniform batting in rotation regardless if they have a position in the field or not. Any player arriving to the game late will be added to the bottom of the batting order. (Late arriving players must be announced to the opposing team upon arrival and entry into the game.)

Playing Time: In a 4 inning game, players must play at least three innings with at least one inning in the infield.

-Coaches for the fielding team stand behind the infield with one coach standing behind the pitcher to help.

# **Pitcher position**

- -The pitcher may make an out at home plate.
- -The catcher position is NOT utilized in T-Ball.

#### **Base Running**

- -A runner may not leave the base until the ball is hit by the batter. If a runner leaves early, one warning will be issued per game, per team. A second occurrence will result in the runner being called out. In all occurrences, all runners must return to their original base.
- -A batter cannot advance past first base on a walk.
- -A play will be considered over when the ball is controlled in the infield. The infield will be considered anywhere in the direct area of the infield, not just the base paths.
- -Head-first sliding is forbidden. If this occurs, stop the game and instruct the player on what they did wrong. Use it as a teachable moment.
- -Contact Rule: Runners must attempt to avoid contact with a player making a play on him/her. If, in the judgement of the
- "umpire" (coach or base coach), a runner makes avoidable contact, the runner will be called out. NOT a must slide rule.
- -Stealing, sliding or tagging up is not permitted.
- -Runners may NOT advance on an overthrow.
- -At the end of the play, the ball is returned to the pitcher, who returns it to the home plate coach.

## **Batting**

- -Every player will bat every inning. There are NO strikeouts.
- -There will be NO right field assists at first base permitted.
- -There will be no unassisted force outs from the outfield positions permitted. The outfielder must throw the ball to a base to record an out.
- -Hits should be limited to singles unless the hit ball would result in a legitimate double. That means when a ball is hit hard down the line or line drives past the middle infielders or a fly ball over an outfielder's head. Not routine ground balls that find their way to the outfield. Please use your discretion, if you're not sure, hold them to a single.