



T-Ball/Coach Pitch Division Rules

Board Approved February 5, 2025

The T-Ball/Coach Pitch Division shall be played in accordance with the rules stated in the Babe Ruth Rule Book and the SVBL Local Rules with the following exceptions:

1. Purpose

- 1.1. The T-Ball/Coach Pitch Division is considered highly instructional where every player will participate on defense and offense. All players will be in the batting order for all games.
- 1.2. Standings and win/losses are not recorded. The emphasis on the T-Ball/Coach Pitch Division is to encourage the understanding of the game and instill in each player the importance of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage, and respect. At no time shall any player be discouraged for his/her lack of ability.

2. Playing Rules

- 2.1. Three innings per game or 1 hour time limit. Once the inning starts it must be completed even if time has expired.
- 2.2. Each team will bat its entire roster of players present. Once a batting order is established, it will remain the same throughout the entire game.
- 2.3. Each team will bat through the entire line up once per inning.
- 2.4. Coaches are encouraged to pitch to the more advanced batters from their knee. However, during the 1st inning each team **MUST** have their entire line up hit off the tee, no coach pitching allowed during this inning.
After a limit of five pitches the batter shall complete his at bat on the tee.
- 2.5. The batter may not strike at the ball until the pitcher has positioned themselves in the pitchers circle.
- 2.6. The batted ball must reach the arc of the infield grass to be considered "in play." If the ball doesn't travel past the grass arc, it will be ruled foul, and the batter will continue his at bat.
- 2.7. During the first inning, the batter must run to first base, running through the base completely on any batted ball. During the second and third inning, the batter can take two bases only on any batted ball.
- 2.8. The last batter of each inning will circle the bases until she/he scores. All players are to remain on the field until the last runner passes home plate.

2.9. No base stealing is allowed.

2.10. Headfirst sliding is not permitted.

2.11. There will be a maximum of 6 fielders playing in the infield. The remaining players shall be positioned in the outfield.

2.12. No defensive out shall be officially recorded. Any player who hits into or is put "out" while running the bases shall remain on base.

2.13. Any parent/coach assisting in the field who intentionally interferes with a live ball will result in the play immediately being declared "dead".

2.14. All equipment is to always remain inside the dugout.

2.15. The T-Ball/Coach Pitch Division shall have NO minimum number of players needed to play a game. Players that arrive late will be placed at the end of the established batting order.

These rules apply for Spring and Fall season and may not be changed by any manager, coach, or umpire without the consent of the SVBL Board of Directors. Recommendations for rule changes should be forwarded to your Commissioner. The Local Rules Committee and/or Board of Directors reserves the right to amend these rules during the season should it be deemed necessary.