

Cedar Mill Little League

Tee Ball Rules

Last Revised: March 2023

OBJECTIVES

- Tee Ball is intended to be a skill-building, team-building, and positive learning experience.
- Keeping the game moving and fun is a critical component at this age.

RULES

1. There are no outs. Each player keeps swinging until they get a hit. Each hit is considered a single, even if an actual “out” is made. Hitter remains on the base.
2. There are no walks or strikeouts. There are no umpires.
3. If the ball does not travel 10 feet in fair territory, it’s considered a foul ball.
4. No leading off. No stealing. No sliding.
5. No runners can advance on overthrows.
6. Inning is over after the entire line-up bats through once. The final batter is the “home-run hitter”! 😊
7. Defensive players play traditional positions.
 - Infielders (besides the pitcher) should be positioned no more than 3 feet in front of the bases, and out of the base path.
 - Outfielders will typically be positioned just outside the outer edge of the infield where the dirt meets the grass.
 - All players play every inning. If extra players, scatter throughout the outfield.
8. Coaches may be on the field coaching players on offense and defense.
9. **Helmets must be worn at all times** while in the dugout on offense. Keep bats on the inside of the backstop, outside of the dugout. Only the batter should have a bat in their hands.
10. The Home team occupies the third base line dugout. The Visiting team occupies the first base line, and bats first.
11. Game length is as many innings as you can fit into 75 minutes. Do not start a new inning after 75 minutes have passed, but you may complete the previous inning.

TIPS FOR KEEPING THE GAME MOVING

- *Batting*
 - Getting “squared up” to the plate often takes time. Help kids know where to stand by marking the position of their feet.
 - Use chalk or an inverted spray paint can to mark where their feet should go.
- *Line-up and Batting Order*
 - Before the game, take the time to assign players to a variety of positions throughout the game to learn and develop new skills.
 - Some coaches use a baseball whiteboard and update positions every inning.
 - Encourage a quick transition between half innings; help players know where to go beforehand.
 - Change up the batting order every inning to mix up who goes first and last. Assign a coach to help keep players in order on the bench, and bats out of their hands.
 - Keep individual players’ hats, gloves, and helmets together for a quick transition.
 - Some coaches use a set of inexpensive plastic bins/buckets for each player to hold their gear. (This is especially useful with wet/muddy dugouts.)

***Towards the end of the season, and in preparation for the Single-A level, some kids will be ready to hit live pitching from their coach. Discuss this ahead of time amongst opposing coaches, and follow these guidelines:

- Coaches should sit or kneel to keep the pitcher at the same level as the batter, keeping the flight of the ball low. Coaches should be positioned about 30-35 feet away from the plate. **After 5 strikes, go back to the tee** to keep the game moving along.