

LCYBA 2023

Standing Rules

TEE-BALL

The following rules are *in addition to* the 2022 LCYBA General Standing Rules. These rules are designed to cover special circumstances in Tee-Ball, 5U-6U.

The child must be 4 yrs old by season start in order to be eligible to play.

5U UPDATED RULES:

5U is now recreational play and there will be no wins or **losses**, which means scores will not be kept. A batter may only obtain a double at max of any hit ball. This is in efforts to help teach the players how to field and throw a ball without chasing a runner all the way around the bases, in addition this is to speed up the game to allow for more at bats per player.

For players on bases, the hitting teams coaches may elect to leave the player on the base if they are called out in efforts to continue the learning curve of how to run bases. The hitting teams Coaches may also elect to remove the players from the bases if they wish to.

These rules have been set in place to allow the players to develop in the game of baseball efforts to prepare them for 6u when most standard rules come into play, and the players have now built the knowledge of how to throw, where to throw, and how to properly run bases.

A: COACHES

- 1) Each team will be limited to one (1) Manager and up to five (5) rostered Coaches. The Manager will be the main point of contact with league representatives and umpires and be liable for any team sanctions created by players, parents and coaches. Secondly, no Manager can be assigned in such role to multiple teams across multiple divisions.
- 2) One coach will be allowed on the field on defense (6U) and two for (5U), and **must be positioned in the grass outfield (not the infield dirt). No Coaches are allowed to coach from the outfield area or outside perimeter of the outfield.** He/she may touch and position players only while the ball is dead and not in play.
- 3) One parent representative will be allowed in the dugout.
- 4) Coaches should be positioned in official coach's boxes or behind the batter's box on offense.
 - a. **Buckets and chairs are not allowed on the field. Keep dugout areas (foul territory) free from any equipment and players.**
- 5) The batter/base runner will be called out if they are touched by a coach/manager while the ball is in play, starting at the tee.
- 6) A coach will place the ball on the tee. He may position the batter before putting the ball on the tee. **The Coach may not only reposition the tee to allow for height, but not physically alter**

the tee set on home plate.

7) Home team sits on the third base side, and is listed last on the schedule.

B: ROSTERS

1) Each team will have a minimum of 13 players. When a child is placed on your official roster, that child will remain on your team until he/she voluntarily removes themselves from the team. Contact your Division VP in case of problems.

2) 6U: No player tryouts will be held by Coaches. Once a player practices once (1 practice) with your team, he/she is on your team.

5U: Core players for 5U are 1 child for each Manager/Coach.

3) In 5U, only 10 Players are allowed on Line Up, additional players will be noted as Subs (Bat 10 and switch, do not play by the 3 outs rule)

4) In 6U, a Team may bat their entire team on Line Up (3 outs or 6 runs scored, whichever comes first)

5) Player Qualifications: In 5U, players must play a consecutive 2 innings on the field and have one at bat before they can be subbed or removed from game (exception is illness or injury). In 6U, a team qualifies if they bat their entire line up however the players must play a minimum of 2 consecutive innings on the field before subbed on the field.

C: GAME TIME

1) The Manager will report all substitutions to the plate umpire and scorekeeper.

2) Games need not be forfeited due to lack of players. If the manager of the team with insufficient players is willing, game may start or continue with a minimum of nine (9) players. Missing player is an automatic out and will be placed 10th on the line-up.

3) 6U: Time limit will be one (1) hour, or six complete innings for each game, regardless of the score.

5U: Time limit will be one (1) hour drop dead. The team hitting will be allowed to finish batting if time expires during the at bat.

4) Ties: International tie-breaker rule will be used in playoffs only, season games may end in a tie. (A runner starting on second base)

5) If an inning is started it will be completed unless the home team is ahead in 6U

6) The ball will be hit off a tee, which will be centered on home plate. It is not to be moved by the coach other than if a runner is coming home from a hit ball in play

7) The batter must swing the bat within a reasonable length of time.

8) The defensive player listed as pitcher shall stay in contact with the pitchers' plate until the ball is hit. (For safety of the kids, coaches please advise the opposing team when your power hitters are up, so coaches can take precautions of moving their pitcher directly behind the pitching rubber.)

8a) Penalty: The play continues. After the play has ended, the offensive team has the option of taking the result of the play or no-pitch.

8b) Additional Penalty: First Offense: Warning; Second Offense: Removal of player from the pitching position for the remainder of the game.

9) A batter will be allowed four (4) swings at the ball. If on the third strike the batter does not hit the ball, he/she will be called out. If on the third swing the ball is fouled (Batter must make contact with the ball, not the tee), the batter will be allowed one and only one more swing.

10) Throwing a bat. Warning will be issued the first time to a batter. Repeated violations are subject to being called out, at the discretion of the umpire. Third time in same game by same batter is an out. **Umpire discretion.**

11) No bunts are allowed. The batter must take a full swing. Violation of this rule results in the batter being called out and the base runners will not be allowed to advance.

12) Each player in the line-up **MUST** qualify two (2) complete innings. Violation - Forfeit.

13) Foul ball. If the ball fails to travel nine feet from the home plate in fair territory it will be called a foul ball. The ball has to go past the nine-foot arch in front of the batter's box.

14) Infield fly rule does **NOT** apply.

15) No leads or base stealing. The base runner must stay in contact with the base until the ball is hit. **If the base runner leaves early, the runner will be called "out", however the ball is still a "live ball" and play continues.**

16) Umpires shall call "Dead Ball" after every play. Upon the Umpire's judgment, a "Dead Ball" shall be called as soon as the lead runner is not attempting to advance AND/OR THE BALL HAS been returned to the Pitcher and he is inside the Pitcher circle. A Pitcher running through the circle to make a play will not constitute a Dead Ball.) Runners that are halfway to a base, in the umpire's opinion, will be awarded the next base.

17) Teams are limited to two, one-minute time outs per game.

18) 5U RULE - AN OFFENSIVE INNING IS COMPLETED WHEN THE OFFENSIVE TEAM HAS BATTED THROUGH THEIR LINE UP- 10 PLAYERS. (PLEASE ANNOUNCE YOUR LAST HITTER TO OPPOSING DEFENSE.)

6U RULE – AN OFFENSIVE INNING IS COMPLETED AFTER THREE OUTS ARE MADE OR THE OFFENSIVE TEAM HAS SCORED 6 RUNS, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST. NOTE:

THE OFFENSIVE TEAM CAN SCORE THE MAXIMUM OF 9 RUNS PER INNING IF THE 6TH RUN IS ON 3RD BASE AND A GRANDSLAM IS HIT (RUNS 6-9 CAN SCORE IF PLAY IS LIVE AND CONTINUOUS).

19) Mercy/Flip Flop Rule (Amendment 4/2017):

Flip/Flop Rule - In the inning when the Run Rule for that particular program is exceeded and the home team is losing, the home team will remain at bat and become the visiting team. If the new visiting team does not score enough runs to reduce the run difference below the Run Rule the game is over. If they reduce the run difference to below the Run Rule then the new home team will bat. If they subsequently score enough runs to exceed the Run Rule the game will be over; if they do not the Game will continue under that format. If the situation reverses, the teams would flip/flop again.

20) NO EH will be allowed.

D. Player Positioning

1) A team will consist of 10 players: six (6) infielders and four (4) outfielders (left, left center, right center, and right field). **There will be no Rovers allowed to be positioned behind the infielders.** Outfielders will play no closer than the edge of the outfield grass.

2) TBall fields have an Infield Arch that will measure approximately 18-22ft from home plate and intersect with the pitching circle. A ball that lands within the Infield Arch cannot be touched by a 3B/1B Player and **ONLY** playable by the Catcher/Pitcher. If the ball, while in the arch, is touched by a 3B/1B Player, the ball will become a Dead Ball and all players will advance one base and the Runner will be automatically placed on first base.

3) Defensive Rule (Amendment 4/2017):

The ball must be thrown "overhand" unless the fielder and the baseman are in very close proximity requiring an underhand throw. A rolled ball, is not a throw, and a player put out as a result of a rolled ball will be declared safe.

E. Equipment

1) Baseballs will be provided for games by LCYBA (Dick's Sporting Goods)

2) USA Stamped TeeBall Bats (USA Bat Standard)

2) Catchers Gear is MANDATORY for 6U

3) Any offensive player out of the dugout must have a batting helmet on

4) 5U/6U will only be allowed to use the League Approved Jugs Tees for ALL League play. The tee will be set on home plate and the only adjustment will be to lower or raise the tee to the **height** limit set by the league. **There** will be no positioning of the tee around home plate. Tees are provided by the league and will be available at all games.

E. Code of Conduct

Score Keepers and umpires will generally be the youth of our city. Errors may occur. However, the LCYBA will absolutely not tolerate profane or abusive language directed toward them, by any parent/spectator/coach attending competition. In the interest of good sportsmanship, it is required that parents and/or/spectators abide by the following:

Do not harass coaches or players on any team.

Do not make any vulgar or suggestive remarks to members of any team.

Cheers will be limited to encourage teams and not directed against opposing teams.

Managers are fully responsible for their parents, fans and coach's behavior.

Umpires have the right to eject unruly parents/spectators/coaches.

A minimum of one parent/guardian will participate in the City of Las Cruces Pays Program.

A minimum of one manager/coach per team will attend a mandatory coach's clinic. Teach the players the fundamentals of the game of baseball, emphasize the importance of good character and good citizenship, and encourage conduct which will develop an attitude of good sportsmanship among players.

No Tolerance Policy-We will not tolerate any type of threats made to any player, coach, parent or umpire. Any infraction to this policy by any party depending on the severity of the situation will have a minimum of a 2 game suspension and up to, but not limited to a suspension of the entire season. Any Coach/Manager/Parent that is ejected from a game will not be allowed to participate in any future game until a \$50 Fee is paid to the League and successful completion of an Online Course. If a parent is ejected from a game for any infraction, the team manager will also be ejected. We all need to remember who we are here for and that is the youth of our city.

***Any person ejected must leave the ballpark completely and may not return even at the conclusion of the game(s). Team associated with ejected person may be subject to forfeit.**