



Tee Ball League Rules for Wasco Baseball

Summary of League

Tee Ball is split into two different leagues:

The Intro to Tee Ball league is for players who are **Pre-Kindergarten and meet the minimum age of 3 and a half years old (as of 4/30 of the current year for Spring and as of 9/1 of the current year for Fall).**

The Tee Ball league is for players who are **Pre-Kindergarten and will be attending Kindergarten in the Fall of the current year (Spring League) or will be attending Kindergarten in Fall of the Following year (Fall League).**

Both Tee Ball leagues are a **100% Tee** league. The spirit of the Tee Ball league is to give young players a fun introduction to the game of baseball while focusing on the basic fundamentals needed to participate in organized baseball. Formal scorekeeping of league games and league standings will not be kept.

Player Registration

Players will register for the appropriate Tee Ball league based on the language above. Any exceptions to this rule, will need to be presented to the Tee Ball Commissioner. There will be no play-ups into the Tee Ball league. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Game Rules

Game/Inning/Time Limit: All games will have a 40-minute time limit. No inning may be started after forty (40) minutes from the original scheduled start time. This rule applies whether or not a game is to be played on the field following the game in progress. Tee Ball League games are to be a maximum of six (6) inning games or 40 minutes, whichever comes first. The offensive side is retired when all players in the batting order have batted once during the half-inning.

Minimum Team: Every attempt will be made to complete all games. In the event a team is unable to field four players, for any reason, at the start or during the progress of a game, it is the responsibility of the managers to establish a timely and workable decision between them.

Base Coaches: Adults will coach 1st base and 3rd base, with one adult in the dugout. Two adults may be allowed to coach in the outfield area while the team is on defense. These Coaches must be registered, rostered and approved by the Wasco Baseball Board of Directors.

Uniforms: Uniforms are conventional, with long-legged pants (no shorts) and player-provided sneakers or compositional baseball shoes (no steel spiked shoes permitted). The league provides a jersey, and a baseball hat to each player. Each player is responsible for wearing their entire uniforms on game-day (with all shirts "tucked in"). It is expected that hats will be worn to both practices and the games. No jewelry is permitted at games or practices. Managers/Parents have the discretion to deviate from this in cases of inclement weather and/or the health of a child.

Heat / Cold / Lightning Polices: Please refer to the Policies section of the Wasco Baseball website:
<https://www.wascobaseball.com/policies>

Rainouts / Suspended Games / Make-Up Games / Rescheduled Games: The Home team manager is responsible for checking the fields to determine if a game should start due to rain or threatening weather. If the Home team manager determines that the field or conditions are unplayable, they should contact the Visiting Manager as soon as possible. Managers are encouraged to make an effort to reschedule the game if possible.

Field Dimensions

Distance between bases: The distance from the back of home plate (the point) to the outfield side of the middle of the bases at 1st and 3rd is 40 feet. The distance from the back of home plate (the point) to the center of 2nd base is 56 feet and 6.84 inches.

Offense

Format: The tee will be used for the entire game all season. There will be no pitching in the Tee Ball league, **NO EXCEPTIONS**. A batted ball, which travels less than 15 feet from home plate, shall be ruled foul. Batters must assume a legal position within an imaginary batter's box. At no time should they be allowed to stand with either foot extending over a line parallel to and one inch away from the side of home plate.

Lineup: All players will always be in the lineup and will bat in consecutive order.

Inning Limit: The inning is considered over when all batters in the lineup have completed one at bat.

Batting Order: Continuous batting order shall be used, and no batters and/or base runners are ruled off the bases for being put out.

Bat Information:

Intro to Tee Ball: Wasco will provide bats for all players. Metal bats are not permitted.

Tee Ball: Tee Ball bats are strongly encouraged. Tee Ball bats are 26" or less in length, have the USA Baseball stamp and the barrel reads "Only for use with approved Tee Balls."

Bats that are acceptable are:

- 2-1/4" diameter barrel with either a USSSA or USA Baseball stamp.
- 2-5/8" diameter with the USA Baseball stamp.
- Solid one-piece barrel Wood bat (does not require USA Baseball stamp).

Thrown Bat Rule: The manager or coach at home plate shall warn batters who throw their bat. If after having been warned once, the same player throws their bat a second time, the player shall be declared out and the ball ruled dead.

Helmets: Batting helmets shall be worn in all practice and game situations whenever a player is preparing to bat or is batting.

Base Running

Leadoffs/Stealing: There are no leadoffs or stealing. Runners must stay in contact with the base until the ball is hit. When the ball is hit, the runner/runners may run until out or safe at a base.

Sliding: Sliding into bases is not allowed.

Overthrows: Runners may not advance on overthrows.

Running out of the Baseline: Runners must stay in the base line. Children should be taught, however, to over-run 1st base toward the right side of the base or straight-ahead.

Runs Scored: Runs and score are not kept at the Tee Ball level. On a ball in play, the base coaches should not attempt to “stretch an extra base” out of the play. This rule is for the safety of the players and to avoid the disorganization and frustrations that are caused by multiple errors on one play.

Defense

All players present for a game must play.

Inning Minimums: Each player shall play every inning (unless an injury requires less playtime). Tee Ball will be focusing on the infield positions.

Positions: Pitcher (must wear a batting helmet) 1B-2B-SS-3B, and short center. No infielders shall be positioned in the base path or more than 10 feet in front of the base paths from 1st to 2nd or 2nd to 3rd. No position jumping shall be allowed. No player shall play the same position for more than 1 inning per game. The position requirement is superseded by time/weather/darkness/mercy rules of the league. All coaches from the defensive team shall be permitted on the field to aid the defensive team players with instruction, position and encouragement.

Outfielders: Tee Ball will be focusing on the infield positions.

Infield Fly: There is no infield fly rule.

Chase Rule: A fielder may not run all over the field to tag out a runner. The defensive player should defend only the base at their position. For example, a first baseman may not run across the infield to tag a runner along the base line between 2nd and 3rd base.

Pitching

Tee Rules: The tee will be used 100% of the season. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

Conduct

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES DO WE WANT ANY ARGUING ON THE FIELD. ACTIONS LIKE THIS IN FRONT OF THE CHILDREN WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. Managers are 100% responsible for the conduct of their coaches, parents and players. Parents are to be informed of the rules before the season begins. All managers, coaches, players, umpires, parents, and board members are subject to the Wasco Baseball Codes of Conduct. The League Commissioner must be notified as soon as possible with a report to the League President as to what occurred if a problem arises.

Rosters

Only players that are registered shall be considered “rostered players” and be allowed to participate in

practices, games or other league sponsored events. A “registration” shall be considered completed when the player has their registration fully completed through SportsEngine (the Wasco Baseball website), which includes the applicable fees paid, the medical waiver form and code of conduct form completed. Use of a non-rostered player shall be strictly prohibited and will result in disciplinary action against the team manager.

Dugout Selection & Rules

Unless otherwise agreed to by the managers, the home team shall occupy the 3rd base dugout/bench and the visitor team shall occupy the 1st base dugout/bench. The only persons allowed in the dugout during a game are the players, the manager and coaches. Managers and coaches shall remain in the dugout during game play unless specifically allowed by league rule or functioning as a base coach or an outfield coach.

Field Preparation and Care

The **home team** is responsible for ensuring the field is set up properly for the game, including chalking the foul lines and the batter’s box. The home team will supply the game balls and shall be required to surrender the field to the visiting team fifteen minutes before game time.

At the end of the game, the **away team** is responsible for clean-up. Bases should be left “in” (there is no need to take the bases out and replace them with plugs). Please put away all rakes and ensure all field equipment (marking string, dig out tool, and chalk) are in the field box **with the lid closed tightly**. The away team is responsible for smoothing and filling any holes created during play especially around the bases, home plate, and the pitcher’s mound.

The field shall be cleared of all players five minutes prior to the start of the game. The Managers shall concur in the event a previous game makes the field setup impossible to be completed prior to the scheduled start of the game. Teams should remove all equipment from their dugouts immediately following their game, and prior to post-game meetings, to allow the next games teams to enter the dugouts timely. **Each team is responsible for the removal of all trash from their respective dugouts, spectator areas, and the field.** All field issues should be reported to fields@wascobaseball.com.