

2022 HGRA T-BALL RULES

Participation, fun and learning are the goals of HGRA T-Ball. Score is not kept (although the players will undoubtedly tell you who won or lost)..

1. Younger children learn by practicing skills, not just playing games. All players should be strongly encouraged to attend the practices(s) and games.
2. Coaches serve as umpires and shall work cooperatively in moving the game forward.
3. Bases will be 50 feet apart. The “pitcher” must stay on the mound until the ball is hit.
4. There will be no stealing bases and no leading off.
5. Any batter throwing a bat 10 feet or more shall be declared automatically out after one initial warning to the player.
6. Play stops when the ball is returned to the infield (the infield is 10 feet outside the base path). It does NOT have to be controlled by the defensive team.
7. A ball must be hit at least 5 feet to be considered fair, outside the 5 foot circle from the back corner of home plate. If the batter misses the ball, hits the ball less than 5 feet or knocks over the tee, it is a foul ball. A batter gets an unlimited number of swings – nobody strikes out in T-ball.
8. When the ball is put in play, the batter and runners may only advance one base. The only exception is if the batter hits the ball past the outfielders, in which case the runners may advance at will until the ball is returned to the infield, when play stops (See Rule 6 above).
9. *Every* player bats one time/inning – no matter how many outs are made. The last batter should be allowed to clear the bases. All players on the defensive team must remain on the field until the batter crosses home plate.
10. Defensively, ALL players may be on the field. However, the defensive team may have no more than four infielders (1B, 2B, SS, 3B) in addition to the pitcher. All remaining players shall be stationed in the outfield.
11. A player may play only one inning at any defensive position. Coaches may be on the field while their team plays defense.
12. There are no catchers in T-ball. Their presence at the plate merely slows down the game and poses a safety risk.
13. All games will begin at times noted on the schedule. A team short of players may “borrow” players from the other team. Siblings or others not signed up for HGRA may *not* play.
14. Games are to last 2 innings. As the season rolls on and the kids are more skilled in where to go and what to do, a third inning can be played as long as it ends at or about 8:00.
15. These rules cannot be modified by agreement of the coaches at any time except by the Commissioner.

2022 HGRA GENERAL BASEBALL RULES

Participation, not winning, is the ultimate goal, especially for the younger players. Each participant must play a significant amount of time in each practice and game.

It will take a cooperative effort on the part of the coaches, parents, participants and spectators to uphold the program goals of HGRA.

1. No coach may place a player on his/her team without the permission of the Baseball Commissioner or the HGRA Administrator.
2. Tennis shoes or baseball shoes with plastic or rubber cleats may be used. Metal cleats are not permitted..
3. Continuous (Round Robin) Batting: The coach will set a continuous batting order and all players present will be assigned a slot. All players present will bat before the lead-off batter bats a second time. Late arrivers will be added to the bottom of the batting order.
4. Only one batter may handle a bat at a time. The on deck batter is not to handle a bat until it is his/her turn to hit.
5. Free substitution is allowed, but each player must play more or less the same number of innings on defense.
6. Bad Weather Policy: Coaches should attempt to continue play in light rain. However, if lightning is observed in the area, play stops and all participants should seek shelter. If a game is postponed, the head coaches should make an attempt to reschedule the game. If rescheduling is not possible, the game will then be canceled.
7. Nobody (including fans) participating in HGRA games may smoke on or near the field of play.
8. All persons associated with any HGRA team, including players, coaches, parents and fans, must display the highest standards of sportsmanship and decorum. Anybody unable or unwilling to do so will be asked to leave the field and/or invited to leave the program, at HGRA’s discretion.

2022 HGRA ROOKIE LEAGUE RULES

Participation, fun and learning are the goals of HGRA baseball. Coaches of both teams share the duty of umpiring and instructing both teams. Score is not kept for Rookie League games.

1. Young children learn by practicing skills, not just playing games. Coaches should schedule at least one practice/week in addition to the game. All players should be strongly encouraged to attend the practice(s) and games.
2. Bases will be 20 paces or 60 feet apart.
3. Coaches serve as umpires with mutual cooperation. Such cooperation is a fundamental requirement of coaching.
4. All players batting or running the bases must wear a helmet.
5. The pitcher must be an adult from the offensive team. He or she will pitch at least 20 feet from home plate. Pitches should be overhand but may be by any method that facilitates hitting. Every effort should be made to avoid stopping a hit ball. If the adult pitcher catches, or stops or deflects the ball, the ball is dead and the pitch does not count. The child playing in the pitcher's position shall stand within three feet right or left of the pitching rubber until the ball is hit.
6. Each player may receive up to 8 pitches to hit the ball "fair." If after 8 pitches the batter has not put the ball into play, he or she shall be awarded first base. The batter cannot strike out.
7. Outs may be made. If a player is called out during a play, he or she must leave the basepath - players may not run the bases after they are out.
8. There will be no stealing bases and no leading off.
9. Any batter throwing a bat 10 feet or more shall automatically be declared out after one warning per game.
10. Play stops when the ball is returned to the infield (the infield is 10 feet outside the basepath). Once the ball is within the infield, the ball is dead.
11. Base runners may take one base on an overthrow into foul territory.
12. The inning ends when all batters have batted, regardless of the number of outs made. The last batter will be allowed to run the bases until either tagged out or a "force" play is made at home plate. The fielding team must remain on the field until the batter crosses home plate.
13. All coaches should keep their players from making derogatory remarks to the opposing team at all times. Coaches must keep their players in order at all times. Disputed plays should be resolved amicably by the coaches.
14. A player may play no more than one inning at each position. Coaches may be on the field while their team plays defense.
15. All games begin at times noted on the season schedule. If a team can not field eight players within 15 minutes after game time, the coaches may elect to "borrow" players for a practice game.

16. Length: 3 innings. By agreement between the coaches, the teams may play one extra inning if it begins before 7:40.
17. These rules cannot be modified at any time during the game or season except by the Commissioner

2022 HGRA GENERAL BASEBALL RULES

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It will take a cooperative effort on the part of the coaches, parents, participants and spectators to uphold the program goals of HGRA.

1. No coach may place a player on his/her team without the permission of the Baseball Commissioner or the HGRA Administrator.
2. Tennis shoes or baseball shoes with plastic or rubber cleats may be used. Metal cleats are not permitted..
3. Continuous (Round Robin) Batting: The coach will set a continuous batting order and all players present will be assigned a slot. All players present will bat before the lead-off batter bats a second time. Late arrivers will be added to the bottom of the batting order.
4. Only one batter may handle a bat at a time. The on deck batter is not to handle a bat until it is his/her turn to hit.
5. Free substitution is allowed, but each player must play more or less the same number of innings on defense.
6. Bad Weather Policy: Coaches should attempt to continue play in light rain. However, if lightning is observed in the area, play stops and all participants should seek shelter. If a game is postponed, the head coaches should make an attempt to reschedule the game. If rescheduling is not possible, the game will then be canceled.
7. Nobody (including fans) participating in HGRA games may smoke on or near the field of play.
8. All persons associated with any HGRA team, including players, coaches, parents and fans, must display the highest standards of sportsmanship and decorum. Anybody unable or unwilling to do so will be asked to leave the field and/or invited to leave the program, at HGRA's discretion.

2022 HGRA MINOR LEAGUE RULES

Participation, fun and learning are the goals of HGRA baseball. Coaches of both teams share the duty of umpiring and instructing both teams. No score is kept for Minor League games, except as otherwise directed by the Baseball Commissioner.

1. Young children learn by practicing skills, not just playing games. Coaches should schedule at least one practice/week in addition to the game. All players should be strongly encouraged to attend the practice(s) and games.
2. Bases will be 20 paces or 60 feet apart.
3. All players batting or running the bases must wear a helmet.
4. The pitcher must be an adult from the respective offensive teams. He or she will pitch at least 20 feet from home plate. Pitches shall be thrown overhand. Every effort should be made to avoid stopping a hit ball. If the adult pitcher catches, or stops or deflects the ball, the ball is dead and the pitch does not count. The child playing in the pitcher's position shall stand within three feet right or left of the pitching rubber until the ball is hit.
5. Each player may receive up to 8 pitches to hit the ball "fair." If, after 8 pitches the batter has not put the ball into play, he or she shall be called out. If the batter gets three strikes, he or she shall be called out. No bunting.
6. There will be no stealing of bases and no leading off.
7. Any batter throwing a bat 10 feet or more shall be declared out after one warning per game.
8. Play stops when the ball is returned to the infield (the infield is 10 feet outside the basepath). It does NOT have to be controlled by the defensive team. Once the ball is within the infield, the ball is dead and runners must return to the last base.
9. Base runners may take one base on an overthrow into foul territory.
10. Everybody on the team is in the batting order but only 10 may bat per inning. If the 10th batter puts the ball in play, they will be allowed to run the bases until either tagged out or a "force" play is made at home plate.
11. The inning ends when all 10 batters have batted, or where three outs have been recorded, whichever comes first.
12. All coaches should keep their players from taunting or making derogatory remarks to the opposing team at all times. Disputed plays should be resolved amicably by the coaches.
13. A player may play no more than one inning at each position. Coaches may not be on the field while their team plays defense.
14. Teams may play 1 catcher, 1 "pitcher", 4 infielders and 4 outfielders. Nobody may play "short center."

2022 HGRA MAJOR LEAGUE RULES

Our goals are fun, learning and participation. Everyone should demonstrate fairness and good sportsmanship at all times.

15. All games will begin at times noted on the season schedule. A team not having eight players may "borrow" players from the other team.
16. These rules cannot be modified at any time except by the Commissioner.
17. Length of game is 4 innings. A 5th inning may be played by agreement of the coaches if it begins no later than 7:50 p.m.
18. Minor leaguers may be "called up" to play in a major league game at the request of a major league coach. Players interested in being called up should inform their coaches.
19. Minor league players may practice with a major league team if they wish. Just show up at the practice and speak to the coach.

2022 HGRA GENERAL BASEBALL RULES

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1. No coach may place a player on his/her team without the permission of the Baseball Commissioner or the HGRA Administrator.
2. Tennis shoes or baseball shoes with plastic or rubber cleats may be used. Metal cleats are not permitted..
3. Continuous (Round Robin) Batting: The coach will set a continuous batting order and all players present will be assigned a slot. All players present will bat before the lead-off batter bats a second time. Late arrivers will be added to the bottom of the batting order.
4. Only one batter may handle a bat at a time. The on deck batter is not to handle a bat until it is his/her turn to hit.
5. Free substitution is allowed, but each player must play more or less the same number of innings on defense.
6. Bad Weather Policy: Coaches should attempt to continue play in light rain. However, if lightning is observed in the area, play stops and all participants should seek shelter. If a game is postponed, the head coaches should make an attempt to reschedule the game. If rescheduling is not possible, the game will then be canceled.
7. Nobody (including fans) participating in HGRA games may smoke on or near the field of play.
8. All persons associated with any HGRA team, including players, coaches, parents and fans, must display the highest standards of sportsmanship and decorum. Anybody unable or unwilling to do so will be asked to leave the field and/or invited to leave the program, at HGRA's discretion.

1. Games begin on time. A team not having eight players shall forfeit the game following a 15 minute wait.

2. Length: 6 innings, official after 3.5 innings. No inning may start after 8:15 PM.
3. Distances: Bases are 60 ft apart; pitching rubber is 46 feet from home plate. If players cannot pitch the ball from the rubber, they should not pitch. The distance between the rubber and home plate cannot be shortened. No pitcher may pitch more than two innings per game. The pitched innings must be consecutive. For example, getting the third out in one inning and the first two outs of the next inning is considered "one inning pitched." Any inning where the opposing team bats all 10 players is deemed to be one full inning pitched regardless of how many outs were recorded.
4. No player may play more than two innings at any one defensive position, except catcher if no other player wishes to catch. Adults are not permitted on the field. Each team plays 10 players in the field. Short center fielders and extreme shifts are not allowed.
5. All players batting or running the bases must wear a helmet.
6. Ten batters or three outs per half-inning. If the tenth batter walks or is hit by a pitch, the batting team gets one run for the batter and one additional run if there are any runners on base.
7. A base runner shall not leave his base until the ball crosses home plate. If a runner leaves too soon, s/he will be ordered to return or will be called out if the ball was put into play. There will be only two (2) "stolen" bases (including those resulting from wild pitches or passed balls, or attempts when the runner is thrown out or where the runner safely returns to the original base) per team per inning. No runner may steal home under any circumstances. Advancing on overthrows is not permitted.
8. The Infield Fly Rule is NOT in effect.
9. Teams may bunt ONCE per inning. Once the first bunter has attempted to bunt (either by putting the ball in play or by bunting foul on two strikes) any other bunt attempt will immediately result in the batter being called out immediately..
10. Taunting, trash talk or derogatory remarks to the opposing team or to the umpire are forbidden. Such behavior will result in ejection of the offending person (with a report to the Baseball Commissioner for possible further penalty). The coach is responsible for the behavior of the team and its fans.
11. Umpires have full authority over all action on the field. Only one coach per team may approach an umpire in regard to a disputed play; and only rule applications may be questioned. Judgment calls (i.e., balls and strikes, out at first, etc.) may not be questioned. Failure to comply with these rules may result in ejection from the game and possible penalty from the Commissioner. If a coach feels that an umpire has not performed adequately, contact the Commissioner.
12. If a player scheduled to catch the next inning gets on base, the player making the most recent out may be inserted as a pinch

runner. This is intended to speed up play, not as a means of gaining an advantage in the game.

11. Unless otherwise noted, the game-play rules of Little League Baseball will apply. The rules cannot be changed or modified at any time during the season, except by the Commissioner.
12. Each team must designate an official scorer. This person (a spectator or coach) must verify the score at the end of each half inning with the official scorer of the opposing team. If there is a dispute, the scorers should review the results from each batter in that half-inning with the home plate umpire, who shall have the final authority to declare the score.
13. Full uniforms (cap, shirt and pants) must be worn to all games. Uniform socks are suggested, but not required. Shirts must be tucked in at all times and hats must be worn forward..

2022 HGRA GENERAL BASEBALL RULES

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1. Nobody may place a player on his/her team without permission from the Baseball Commissioner or the HGRA Administrator.
2. Tennis shoes or baseball shoes with plastic or rubber cleats may be used. Metal cleats are not permitted..
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5. Free substitution is allowed, but each player must play more or less the same number of innings on defense.
6. Bad Weather Policy: Coaches should attempt to continue play in light rain. However, if lightning is observed in the area, play stops and all participants should seek shelter. If a game is postponed, the head coaches should make a strong attempt to reschedule the game.
7. Nobody (including fans) participating in HGRA games may smoke on or near the field of play.
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