

T-Ball at Lakehill Ball

- T-Ball is a structured Learn to Play division where the emphasis is on fun.
- The season starts April 14 and ends on June 16.
- One practice a week and one game.
- Practices will be Tuesday night from 6 – 7 P.M.
- Games will be Saturday afternoon from 2 – 3 P.M.
- Children who are five (5) or six (6) years of age by April 30

Tee Ball Rules

Tee Ball is the introductory stage for most children to the world of organized baseball team play. Children who are five (5) or six (6) years of age by April 30, will only play in the Tee Ball Division. At age seven (7) they will move on to the Mini-Minor Division. Tee Ball play is marked by a high degree of hands on instruction by managers, coaches and assisting parents. The rules are designed to give each player the maximum opportunity to succeed at hitting and running, and to play the ball in defensive positions. The games are short and the rules relatively simple, however teaching baseball to young children requires a good deal of patience and understanding on the part of adults involved. Keeping the emphasis on fun and learning, there is no scorekeeping in Tee Ball.

Team Selection: Tee Ball players assigned to teams, with an equal number of players of the same age being placed on each team. Player requests may be granted at the discretion of the Tee-Ball Director. (see also “Player Requests” in “Ground Rules” section).

Scorekeeping: Game scores and runs shall not be counted in Tee Ball. Managers, coaches and parents should discourage any scorekeeping during a game.

Game Length: Until the May long weekend, games will be three innings; after that date they will be four innings. Games may be called due to weather, darkness or some other good cause. Games will always be considered complete regardless of the inning in which they end.

Inning Length: Each team will remain at bat until all players have had one turn at bat. The umpire will call “last batter” at the end of the batting order. After the last player has hit, the ball should be fielded in the normal manner and thrown to the catcher. The catcher will then step on home plate and the umpire will declare the inning over.

Parent Assistant Coaches: Parents will only be allowed on the field to assist if they are registered with the league as an assistant coach. This is required for insurance purposes and must be followed.

Umpires are selected from volunteers at the game. The home team is responsible for providing the home plate umpire who will keep the game running in a manner that is fair and consistent with the general rules of the game.

Defensive Play

Coaches: There will be two defensive coaches on the field to assist the outfield and infield players learn their positions and the game rules. Time should be called by the umpire if you wish to demonstrate a technique or make an explanation to a player.

Field Positions: All players will be placed on the field. Seven in the infield, the remainder distributed evenly in the outfield. All players are to play proper field positions. Outfielders are to remain in the outfield (behind the infielders).

Pitcher: The pitcher will stay on the pitchers mound until the ball is hit.

Player Rotations: Players will be rotated through all defensive positions on a roughly equal basis. A sample rotation sheet is available from the Director of Tee Ball.

Offensive Play

Coaches: There will be two offensive (base) coaches on the field to assist base runners, one at first and one at third. Coaches may stand near a batter or player to assist and give advice but must not interfere with the play. If a Coach wishes to demonstrate a technique or make an explanation to a player, "time" must be called by the umpire.

Batting: All balls will be hit from a batting stand. Batters should be encouraged to stand square to the home plate and not to line the ball up more than one or two times. All batters will bat once in each inning. **Batters are not permitted to warm-up. Regulations prohibit on-deck batters.** This means no player should handle a bat, until it is his/her turn at bat. All players will be cautioned not to throw the bat. As the season moves along, if a batter throws the bat after hitting, he or she shall be called out

Batter Rotation: Batters will be rotated through placement on the order on a roughly equal basis.