



# Itty Bitty 5/6 yo T-Ball League Rules

The purpose of this league is designed as a learning league. To teach all the participants the basic rules of the game, proper technique, fielding positions and sportsmanship.

## League Bylaws:

- First 20 minutes will be an instructional period ran by the SS Rec staff, followed by a 1-2 inning game (time dependent).
- Home team will take the third base line.
- Only coaches are allowed to be on the field. Please no older children on the field to help coach, must be 18 years or older.
- Coaches are responsible for managing their lineup and the field. Home plate will be managed by a staff member.
- ***HECKLING: Heckling by the players or fans will not be tolerated.*** The coach of each team is responsible for his/her players' and fans' conduct. At the discretion of an umpire or field supervisor, they will warn the offending teams coach. A second warning is caused for suspension or forfeit.
- This is a non-umpired program. The head coaches will ensure the game flows properly.

## Game:

**The Practice/Play Format will be: 50 minutes long with the timer starting at the scheduled time, so please be ready to start at the scheduled time.**

**Practice/Play Format: First half will be practice; the last half will be the actual game.**

- A game can start with a minimum of six players.
- No score will be kept.

## Batting:

- Each child will get up to 5 swings only to the ball, if the batter cannot put the ball in play after the 5th swing, she will be allowed to run to first base.
- When a player gets out, they are encouraged to return to the dugout; they can't keep running the bases. We are not playing three outs, but we do want the players to learn that when they are called out, they must sit down. PLEASE HANDLE WITH CARE AND POSITIVE COMMENTS.

- Every player will bat each inning. The last batter on the lineup may run all the way around the bases until they are called out or score.
- Only batter and on deck batter are allowed off the bench. Keep all other players in the bench area. Other parents can help with this.
- Batter/base runners must wear a protective helmet. If the helmet falls off, replace it promptly.
- NO THROWING BAT: Teach players to drop their bat properly.
- The ball must clear the 10' circle to be fair.
- The last two weeks, if the batter would like to be pitched to, an offensive coach can come on the field to pitch. They are allowed 4 good pitches. If they do not get a hit, the tee will be brought back in.
- Batting order can be changed each inning, allowing for more players to experience a "home run."

### **Field Play:**

- Only 5 players are allowed in the infield. The rest in the outfield beyond the baselines. This teaches the positions better and avoids overcrowding. No player should play the same position more than once in a game.
- There is NOT a catcher position in this league.

### **OTHER:**

- LIGHTNING/WEATHER ISSUES: When lightning is in 8 miles radius play will be suspended for 30 minutes. Leave and vacate the outdoor activity to a safer location. If lightning occurs at the beginning of the delay, the 30 minutes count will reset. Game can only be suspended for 60 minutes total, or it must be cancelled.
  - If a game is canceled due to inclement weather, games are not guaranteed to be made up.

**\*\*To help keep our parks and fields clean we'd appreciate it if you as coaches would help make sure that all wrappers and game treats are thrown away after the games\*\***