

## 2017 OHYBA T-Ball Rules (Pre-K & Kindergarten)

### GENERAL

1. The bases will be set at 50 feet & the pitcher area will be set at 40 feet from home plate.
2. Four (4) innings shall constitute a regular game: no extra innings.
3. Each half inning shall consist of 6 outs, with the bases cleared after each series of 3 outs, or until all team members have batted, whichever limit is reached first.
4. An inning is complete when each player on the team that is batting has had a turn to bat.
5. If both teams do not have the same number of players, the team with the greater number of players will bat all their players one time each inning. The opponents will bat the same number of batters as the opposing team each inning. Some players for the team with fewer players may bat more than one time. The team with fewer players will start their next at bat where they left off the previous inning.
6. The last counted batter each inning shall be ruled out, and the inning ends: they are put out in a conventional manner or, when the ball is in the possession of an infielder (pitcher and catcher included) within the confines of the base paths. Time will be called and all runners will be awarded the base which they are attempting to reach. EXAMPLE: If a runner is around third base when time is called, he will be awarded home.
7. The Home team, listed first on the schedule, will occupy the 1<sup>st</sup> base dugout and the Away team, listed second on the schedule, will occupy the 3<sup>rd</sup> base dugout.
8. There will be a 30-minute practice time prior and a one hour time limit applied to T-Ball games. If the visiting team is at bat when the time limit occurs, they will complete the set of three outs or bat through the order, whichever comes first. The home team will then be allowed the same number of outs or bat through the order, whichever comes first in the bottom half of the inning.
9. There is no run limit for the tee ball program. We do not keep score!
10. Both teams are responsible for litter control, especially in their dugout area. Keep our fields clean.
11. Any player or coach may be excluded from league activities for conduct uncomplimentary or detrimental to the league as determined by the OHYBA

### PLAYERS

1. A protective helmet must be worn by each batter, base runner, and defensive catcher. Catchers must wear a protective helmet with face mask.
1. Ideally ten (10) players shall play in the field in conventional fielding positions at one time. The infield will consist of 1B, 2B, SS, 3B, the catcher, and the pitcher. The remaining players must reside in the outfield.
  - *The Pitcher:* The pitcher does not pitch the ball but is tasked with fielding the diamond area in which most balls are hit.
  - *The Catcher:* This role, unlike their baseball equivalent is to place the ball on the tee, catch the ball and to tag runners running for home base.
  - *Bases:* First Base, Second Base, Third Base & Short Stop positions field in and around their base area and attempt to run out players running for their base.
2. Any additional player (10+) must play in the outfield. The outfield is defined as the area of the fair playing field beyond lines drawn fifteen (15) feet outside and parallel to the base lines.
3. Players are to be rotated from the infield to the outfield. Players should not play consecutive innings in the infield.
4. Players should be rotated as equally as possible to give them opportunities at all positions.

5. To avoid game delays, players should be ready to bat (helmet on, bat in hand) and hustle onto the field for their turn.
6. Any late arriving player(s) will be added to the bottom of the batting order.

## **BATTING**

1. Each member of the team will bat in rotation. This rotation will change from game to game giving all players an equal opportunity to have an equal number of at bats.
2. There will be no strikeouts. Foul balls will be counted as strikes.
3. The ball must be hit off the tee at all times. Some part of the tee must be in contact with home plate. The batter must be in the batter box while attempting to hit the ball and must take a conventional set stance including a stride if desired. Stepping out of the batter's box or on home plate while hitting the ball results in an immediate dead ball.
4. Bunting and stealing of bases is not permitted.
5. Last player up does not get an automatic home run. Played like the rest of the inning.

## **FIELDING**

1. Base runners cannot leave their bases until the ball is hit.
2. On any overthrow, there will be no advance by the base runner. The base runner(s) will be awarded the base they are trying to reach. Exception: an over throw in to the outfield, will remain a live ball.
3. There is no infield fly rule.
4. A home plate attendant, usually a parent, must remove the tee after the ball is hit fairly for each batter.
5. A player is declared as being out when: (1) The ball is hit and then caught without hitting the ground, (2) A player who has the ball stands on the base before the runner makes it to the base, or (3) A fielder with the glove or hand that is holding the ball tags a runner between the bases.
6. A foul ball results: 1) when the ball is batted into foul territory or 2) when the ball is batted into fair territory but fails to travel at least 15 ft. from home plate, 3) a batted ball travels past the required 15 ft. arc then bounces back inside the arc without first being touched by a fielder.
7. The fielding team's coach shall call "TIME" after all play has been completed, or an infielder has control of the ball within the confines of the base path. The ball will then be returned to the catcher for placement on the tee. (Reminder: players may request "TIME" but only the fielding team's coach may call "TIME")
8. Infielders may not play more than 5 feet in front of the base path and outfielders may not play any closer than 15 feet behind the base path. This is intended to keep teams from crowding the infield.

## **COACHES POINTS OF EMPHASIS**

- Coaches should instruct hitters to take only one practice swing when they are at bat and the ball is on the tee ready to be put in play.
- Please remember to display good sportsmanship during games.
- Excessive running of the bases will not be permitted. This is an instructional league and the goal of the program is to teach children about baseball and sportsmanship.
- Remember to have fun!

## 2017 OHYBA Coach Pitch Rules (Kindergarten-1<sup>st</sup> Grade)

### GENERAL

1. The bases will be set at 50 feet & the pitcher area will be set at 40 feet from home plate.
2. All players must play at least (2) innings in the field per game, not necessarily consecutive.
3. Six innings shall constitute a regular game. No extra innings. No team may score more than 5 runs per inning. There will be three outs per half inning.
4. An inning is complete when each player on the team that is batting has had a turn to bat.
5. If both teams do not have the same number of players, the team with the greater number of players will bat all their players one time each inning. The opponents will bat the same number of batters as the opposing team each inning. Some players for the team with fewer players may bat more than one time. The team with fewer players will start their next at bat where they left off the previous inning.
6. The last counted batter each inning shall be ruled out, and the inning ends: they are put out in a conventional manner or, when the ball is in the possession of an infielder (pitcher and catcher included) within the confines of the base paths. Time will be called and all runners will be awarded the base which they are attempting to reach. EXAMPLE: If a runner is around third base when time is called, he will be awarded home.
7. The Home team, listed first on the schedule, will occupy the 1<sup>st</sup> base dugout and the Away team, listed second on the schedule, will occupy the 3<sup>rd</sup> base dugout.
8. There will be a 1 ½ hour time limit applied to games. If the visiting team is at bat when the time limit occurs, they will complete the set of three outs or bat through the order, whichever comes first. The home team will then be allowed the same number of outs or bat through the order, whichever comes first in the bottom half of the inning.
9. The (coach) pitcher cannot leave his position to give instruction to the players on his team.
10. Both teams are responsible for litter control, especially in their dugout area. Keep our fields clean.
11. Any player or coach may be excluded from league activities for conduct uncomplimentary or detrimental to the league as determined by the OHYBA

### PLAYERS

1. A protective helmet must be worn by each batter, base runner, and defensive catcher. Catchers must wear a protective helmet with face mask.
2. Ideally ten (10) players shall play in the field in conventional fielding positions at one time. The infield will consist of 1B, 2B, SS, 3B, the catcher, and the pitcher. The remaining players must reside in the outfield.
  - *The Pitcher:* The pitcher does not pitch the ball but is tasked with fielding the diamond area in which most balls are hit.
  - *The Catcher:* This role, unlike their baseball equivalent is to place the ball on the tee, catch the ball and to tag runners running for home base.
  - *Bases:* First Base, Second Base, Third Base & Short Stop positions field in and around their base area and attempt to run out players running for their base.
3. Any additional player (10+) must play in the outfield. The outfield is defined as the area of the fair playing field beyond lines drawn fifteen (15) feet outside and parallel to the base lines.
4. Players are to be rotated from the infield to the outfield. Players should not play consecutive innings in the infield.
5. Players should be rotated as equally as possible to give them opportunities at all positions.

6. To avoid game delays, players should be ready to bat (helmet on, bat in hand) and hustle onto the field for their turn.
7. Any late arriving player(s) will be added to the bottom of the batting order.

## **BATTING**

1. Each member of the team will bat in rotation. This rotation will change from game to game giving all players an equal opportunity to have an equal number of at bats.
2. There will be no strikeouts. Foul balls will be counted as strikes.
3. If a batted ball makes contact with the coach/pitcher, the ball is foul. When a thrown ball makes contact with the pitcher, the ball is in play.
4. There will be no walks from a pitched ball. If a batter is hit by a pitch, the batter **will not be awarded first base.**
5. Each batter is to receive a maximum of **5 pitches**, thrown by a coach. If the ball has not been thrown over the plate or hit into fair territory by the fifth pitch, the pitcher will be replaced by a batting tee which will be placed on home plate and the batter will receive **(3) final swings**. Since there are no walks or strike outs for this division ALL batters are encouraged to swing. The batter is out after **8 total pitches, (5 from coach, 3 from batting tee)**. If the 8th pitch is a foul ball the batter is out.
6. Each coach shall select an individual who will be designated to pitch to players of their own team.
7. Bunting and stealing of bases is not permitted. Runners cannot leave the base until the ball has been hit.
8. Last play up does not get an automatic home run. Played like the rest of the inning.

## **FIELDING**

1. Base runners cannot leave their bases until the ball is hit.
2. On any overthrow, there will be no advance by the base runner. The base runner(s) will be awarded the base they are trying to reach. Exception: an over throw in to the outfield, will remain a live ball.
3. The infield fly rule will not apply.
4. A home plate attendant, usually a parent, must remove the tee after the ball is hit fairly for each batter.
5. A player is declared as being out when: (1) The ball is hit and then caught without hitting the ground, (2) A player who has the ball stands on the base before the runner makes it to the base, or (3) A fielder with the glove or hand that is holding the ball tags a runner between the bases.
6. A foul ball results: 1) when the ball is batted into foul territory or 2) when the ball is batted into fair territory but fails to travel at least 15 ft. from home plate, 3) a batted ball travels past the required 15 ft. arc then bounces back inside the arc without first being touched by a fielder.
7. The fielding team's coach shall call "Time" after all play has been completed, or when an infielder has control of the ball within the confines of the base paths and the play has come to an end. (Reminder: players may request "TIME" but only the fielding team's coach may call "TIME")
8. Infielders may not play more than 5 feet in front of the base path and outfielders may not play any closer than 15 feet behind the base path. This is intended to keep teams from crowding the infield.

## **COACHES POINTS OF EMPHASIS**

- Coaches must pitch the ball underhand to each batter.
- Please remember to display good sportsmanship during games.
- Excessive running of the bases will not be permitted. This is an instructional league and the goal of the program is to teach children about baseball and sportsmanship.
- Remember to have fun!