

Danvers National Little League Division Game Rules & Skill Sets Tee-Ball Division

Overview

Tee-Ball is an introductory level for children Little League age 5 who are new to the game of baseball. The program is designed for children to participate in coach assisted Tee-Ball games that will be used to develop individual player skills & sportsmanship. **An ideal roster will have 8 players/team.** They are kept to small numbers so all kids will play at all times. **Tee-Ball is NOT intended to be competitive but fun.** Players will be exposed to the basics of baseball including hitting, catching, throwing and base running. **Players hit balls placed upon a tee. The Tee is used to develop proper mechanics for hitting. Coach pitch may be introduced after June 1st as player development allows. Teams play hour-long 3 or 4-inning games twice a week with a practice session prior to each “game”.** Participation trophies are given to all players at the end of the season. The rules are simplified to accommodate young beginner players.

Game Rules:

- **Safety is always first.**
- **Make the game fun.**
- **There will be no score keeping of any kind.** This is a non-competitive league.
- **Each game will consist of approximately 20 minutes practice & 1 hour of playing time (about 3 or 4 innings).**
- **All players will play defense in the field & change positions every inning.**
- **All players will bat.** It's helpful to use team shirt numbers to track batting order. All batters will be safe at first regardless of defensive outs made.
- **All batters will wear a batting helmet while both at bat and on base.**
- **Coaches are allowed at the batting tee to instruct the player at bat.**
- During the game, all players must remain in the designated team areas and on benches, except the batter at the plate.
- There is no on-deck circle. The on-deck batter will wear a helmet to be ready but will not have a bat in hand until at the tee. **THE ONLY PLAYER ALLOWED TO HAVE A BAT IN HIS/HER HANDS IS THE ONE CURRENTLY AT BAT.**
-
- **All batters will hit off the Tee. Resist the urge to pitch to more advanced players. It does more harm than good at this level.**
- **After hitting, players run one base at a time. Outs are not counted even if the defense gets the batter out. An inning will end after all team players have batted. The last batter shall run to all 4 bases.**
- No base stealing.

- **Coaches shall be positioned on the field throughout the game** for instructional purposes, such as working with the batter, re-positioning the fielders and ensuring players are prepared to field all plays and for injury prevention.
- The **home team is responsible for setting out the bases & Tee.**
- Both teams are responsible for cleaning up the area after each game.

Skill Sets:

- Learn bat, equipment & game safety.
- Learn to run the bases.
- Learn basic baseball grip & throwing skills.
- Learn basic stance & contact hitting skills.
- Learn basic fielding & catching skills.
- Introduction to positions (infield, outfield, bases)
- Introduction to team sports and getting along with others.