

Mecklenburg County Youth Sports

**Tee Ball (5-6 years) Condensed Rules Sheet**

**Note: Score is NOT kept. Official time is kept by Park & Rec. staff.**

**Field:**

- Bases -45', marked line at halfway point
- Pitcher's Mound – 36', 8' circle around
- Outfield – 8 'behind each base
- "In Play" Arch – 3 'in front of the plate (measured from rear point of home plate down each baseline)

**Balls/Bats:**

- Ball – RIF #1 Safety Ball (see attached acceptable list)
- Bat – can't exceed 2 5/8 inches in diameter

**Roster/Forfeits/Grace Period:**

- Min 6/Max 12
- There are no forfeits or grace period. The games begin with those players present at scheduled game time.
- Late arriving players enter the game on offense at the end of the batting order and on defense when their team is fielding.

**Game Length:**

- Min 3 complete innings or 55-minute max. time limit.
- Staff officials' discretion will determine game ending time as time limit approaches

**Offense:**

- Batters wear **sanitized** helmets and must remain in the batter's box while batting
- **Batters strongly encouraged to wear batting gloves on both hands when batting**
- Each player present bats in each inning
- 5 attempts to hit the ball before making an out (Coaches must assist players on the fifth swing)
- Balls hit must travel beyond the 3 ft. "in play" Arch to be fair
- It is permissible to pull the T from home plate so runners may touch home when running the bases (Coaches discretion)
- Play begins when the ump or coach shows the ball to the defense and places it on the batters T
- **Play stopped** when: 1) infield ball is possessed by a defensive player and/or 2) outfield ball is possessed by a defensive player in the infield (ump's discretion). "Call for time" by defensive players indicated by player holding the ball above their head with arm extended.
- 1 verbal warning (given to both teams) for throwing/slinging the bat; automatic out for all following infractions.
- No stealing: must have contact with base until ball has been hit.

- One base advancement for balls thrown out of field of play. Only 1 overthrow allowed per play. Halfway markers to determine runner advancement during stoppages in play \*ump's discretion)

#### Defense:

- **Infield** – pitcher (2 spots, 1 on each side of the circle)/first base/second base/shortstop/third base (6 spots). Hold position until the ball is hit.
- **Outfield** – left field, left center, center field, right center, and right field (5 spots). Hold position until the ball is hit.
- **Players rotated** – to promote opportunity for skill development.
- **Sharing of fielding equipment (gloves) strictly prohibited**

#### Must Play:

- \*Coaches must play all players. No player should be sitting on the bench except for player injury
- \*Defensive players should be rotated

#### Re-entry:

- The batting order must stay the same throughout the game, but players are allowed to change defensive positions.

#### Coaches:

- Each team is allowed a maximum of 3 coaches – Coaches are required to wear a face mask/shield/covering at all times. It is mandatory that at least one Coach is responsible for equipment and player sanitation (i.e. wiping down of bats and batting helmets before each use, sanitizing players' hands before his/her at bats if he/she is not wearing batting gloves) per COVID-19 safety guidelines.
- Coach ID badges required for all approved volunteer bench personnel.
- Base Coaches remain in coach's box; Hitting Coach (each team must have a Hitting Coach to assist their players) must remain off the field of play once the ball is put into play.
- On defense – coaches permitted on field for instruction, must remain out of base paths and not interfere with play. Maintain 6 feet social distancing from all players as much as possible.