

WOODLAND LITTLE LEAGUE

DIVISION RULES

Tee Ball

OBJECTIVE OF LEAGUE:

The objective of the Woodland Little League Tee Ball division is to provide a noncompetitive atmosphere for the players while they are being introduced to the game of baseball. The managers and coaches are expected to teach the fundamentals of baseball to their players without the pressure of winning and losing. Success in this league is measured by how well each and EVERY player progresses throughout the season and how each coach embraces the objective of the Tee Ball division. The most important aspect of your season will be to make sure the players have fun.

Coaches are required to move players to all positions. Coaches should emphasize the importance of every position in baseball.

The rules for the Tee Ball baseball division are as follows:

Pitching and Batting

- The ball will be hit off a batting tee the entire season. The tee will be placed on home plate. The coach will remove the batting tee after the ball is hit. No bunting is allowed.
- The batter is allowed five (5) swings. If the batter misses the ball on his/her 4th swing, the batter will be placed at the bottom of the lineup.
- The offensive team will end its turn at bat when all team members present have had their turn at bat.
- Batters will bat top to bottom in the first inning, bottom to top in the second inning. Rotating back and forth for all innings played. Do not switch after 3 outs.
- Bats shall never be thrown.
- If players need assistance, a coach or parent may assist the players on the bases.
- It's up to the offensive coaches' discretion whether a ball should be re-hit should a player hit the ball and it trickles off the tee. All efforts should be made to allow players to hit the ball more than 10 feet.

Coaches

- One offensive coach is **REQUIRED** to set up the batting tee on home plate and place the ball on the tee.
- One coach is **REQUIRED** to be in the dugout at all times if there are players in the dugout during offense or defense.
- Two defensive coaches are permitted on the field.
- Defensive coaches are encouraged to draw a circle for a player's reference as to where to play infield positions.
- The offensive coach will make the safe or out calls on the bases.

Base running

- Base runners may only advance one base at a time.
- Base runners must stay in contact with the base until the ball is hit.
- Play stops once an out is recorded or all players arrive to their respective bases.
- Runners may not advance on an overthrow.
- Players can slide into any base or home plate permitting it is not head- first. You may dive head-first BACK to a base from which you came.
- The defensive player tagging the orange bag at first base is not an out. The orange base is for the batter that is running to first. The offensive player shall only touch the orange bag.
- Two base coaches are allowed. They must be in the coach's box.

Players and Player Requirements

- All players attending any game shall play every inning and maintain their position in the batting order. Any player that is late to the game shall be inserted at the bottom of the lineup.
- One player will be placed in each of the infield positions including the pitcher with the remaining players taking up positions in the outfield.
- The player playing the pitching position shall stand at least 30 feet away from the batter.
- Infielders shall be on the dirt area in the infield and not on the baseline. (For games played on the grass field, players should stand just inside the basepath).
- Outfielders shall be spread out evenly in the outfield no closer than 10 feet from the grass that starts the outfield. (For games played on the grass field, players should stand a minimum of 10 feet behind the bases).
- Charging from the outfield positions is not allowed. The players positioned in the outfield must wait until the ball is hit to move inward toward the batter.

Duration of Game

- No game will last more than 45 minutes. Any game reaching this allotted time shall be terminated at once.
- If at any time lighting for a game becomes too dim to safely continue a game, the game shall be called. Safety is your main concern.

League Rules

- You may play with less than 9 players without penalty if a replacement player is not available.
- The Home Team is responsible for installing the bases before the game.
- The Visiting Team is responsible for returning and securing the bases and Tee after the game, picking up the game balls before the game.
- Home Team is in the first base dugout. Visiting Team is in the third base dugout.

- The base coaches will make the call on fair or foul balls. Only call out “FOUL BALL”, and just point to fair territory on fair balls. The offensive coach will make the safe or out calls on the bases.

Safety Rules

- All players must wear a helmet whenever they have a bat in their hands.
- No warming up with bats or baseballs outside the fence. No practice swings are allowed.
- Only one player should have a bat in their hands at all times.

Coaching Tips

- Teach your players to play positions in accordance with the rules.
- Instruct them on how to make the correct play. Do not teach them to be a one player TEAM.
- Teach each player how to run the bases.
- Teach your players the techniques needed to play each position, where to put your feet, force out, tag out, cover their base.
- Teach them where to stand in the batter’s box, how to hold a bat, batting stance.
- Teach them how to slide correctly for safety.
- Enforce the safety rules above.
- Use good judgement and Sportsmanship when making decisions. Decisions should always be made based on what is best for the kids.
- PLAY BALL!