

## **2023 Rules of Play – T-ball League**

### **A. Overview**

This league is an introductory level league to learn the basics of baseball. This league allows your child to learn the fundamentals of the sport in a friendly, non-competitive environment. Children will learn the beginning concepts of hitting a ball off a tee, fielding a ball, running the bases and throwing a ball.

### **B. Player Eligibility**

1. Age is determined by the age of the child at the start of the playing season
2. Child has to be 4 by April 1, 2023

### **C. Team Overview**

1. Each team will consist of no more than 12 children per team
2. One head coach and multiple assistant coaches are recommended based on parent volunteers.
3. Each child will receive a team jersey and an Aurora baseball league hat. Child is responsible for their own mitt, plastic cleat shoes and batting helmet.
4. Jersey and hat must be worn during all games. Hats must face forward (not backwards, sideways or inside out).
5. Head Coach will attend mandatory coach clinic provided by Aurora Baseball League.
6. League Commissioner will create teams, practice and game schedules.

### **D. Players and Positions**

1. Every child will bat and play the field during the game. No child will sit the bench.
2. A player will play the pitching position (standing on the pitching mound) for only one inning per game. This player will wear the Aurora Baseball League provided batting helmet with face guard. This is a rotating position that within the season each player will have played at least one time.
3. A player will play first base for one inning per game. This is a rotating position that within the season each player will have played at least one time.

4. Six players may play in the infield. All other players are to be in the outfield and must stand at least 10 feet behind the baselines. No player will be placed in the catcher position.
5. When your team is in the field, all coaches are allowed to play in the field with the players. When your team is batting, you must have a 1<sup>st</sup> base coach, a 3<sup>rd</sup> base coach and a coach at the batting tee.

### **E. Field and Ground Rules**

1. All players will hit off a batting tee. The ball will not be pitched to any player. A coach will be with the hitter and will place the ball on the tee. The player will be allowed to attempt to hit the ball until the coach deems the hit is appropriate.
2. There are no walks or strikeouts.
3. No stealing of base. Player stays on the base until next player hits the ball. When the last batter of the inning hits, the batter will be allowed to hit a home run, and all players on base will run the bases until they reach home base.
4. The batting order shall be the entire team roster.
5. No extra bases or over throws. Each player will hit and one run base per hit.
6. Batting Tee will be in field box at assigned field. The batting tee is the responsibility of the head coaches assigned to field for game.

### **F. Game Duration**

1. All games will last 1 hour or three innings which ever comes first. An inning will end when all players on both teams have batted.
2. All games will start within 10 minutes of scheduled start time. Exceptions are waiting for completion of earlier game or clearing of weather.
3. No scores will be kept in this league.

### **G. Field Conditions/Rainouts**

1. Rainouts will be called by the Aurora Parks and Recreation Department. Rainout hotline is (330) 655 – 6410.
2. Field Conditions are the responsibility of the Aurora Parks and Recreation Department. Any questions or concerns should be made to League Commissioner to address.
3. Aurora Parks and Recreation will make base lines, batter box and pitcher mound marks on Tball field.

4. The League Commissioner will work with any teams to reschedule games that were cancelled for weather conditions.

#### **H. Coach, Player and Spectator Conduct**

1. At time of registration each players family will be required to sign the Code of Conduct provided by the Aurora Baseball League.
2. All coaches and spectators are expected to show good sportsmanship at all times. It will be the responsibility of the head coach to assure all players and assistant coaches are using proper conduct. Any issues or concerns should be brought to the League Commissioner immediately.

#### **I. Goals of League**

1. Players to enjoy the sport.
2. Players will learn good sportsmanship
3. Batting:
  - a. Parts of the bat and bat safety
  - b. How to properly hold the bat
  - c. Stance at home plate
  - d. Swing through and run to first base
  - e. All the above while hitting off batting tee
4. Running:
  - a. Base location
  - b. How to run after hit
  - c. Which base to run to and when to run
  - d. Proper stance at bag
  - e. One player per base
  - f. Listen to coaches for when to advance
5. Throwing:
  - a. Only Aurora Baseball League Tballs will be used. These will be provided to head coach at beginning of season.
  - b. How to hold the baseball
  - c. To look where they are throwing and visualize a target
  - d. Wait until the player they are throwing to is facing them and ready
  - e. To throw overhand
6. Fielding
  - a. Where to stand in each position on the field
  - b. Who should get the batted ball and when
  - c. Always pay attention

- d. How to wear their glove and hold their glove correctly
- e. How to properly field a ball and throw to first base