

# Pee Wee League Rules

Revised March 2013

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The Pee Wee League is played with the combination of the batting tee and coach pitch. The tee will be used at minimum for the first inning of the all games.

All Managers, Assistant Managers, Team Members, Families, and their guests are subject to the Wasco Baseball Codes of Conduct. All players must meet the minimum age requirement of 5 years of age and maximum of 6 of age as of April 30th of that year for the spring season. Any players not meeting these minimum age requirements must attend a play-up tryout conducted by the league, and if they meet the league's designated safety and ability standards for play in this league, the league will permit them to move up into this next league level of play and pay all fees associated with this league, provided the player is no more than one year removed from that season's minimum age requirement.

## Field Dimensions

Distance between bases: 50 feet from back of home plate (point) to outfield side of bases at 1st and 3rd, from foul line side of bases at 1st and 3rd to center of 2nd base. All bases are inside the 50-foot square except 2nd base. Pitching rubber distance: 38 feet from the back of home plate (point) to the front of the rubber.

## Uniforms

Uniforms are conventional, with long-legged pants (no shorts) and sneakers or compositional baseball shoes (no steel spike shoes permitted) that the player provides. The league provides replica shirts, pants, socks, and baseball hats. Each player is responsible for wearing their entire uniform on game-day (with all shirts "tucked in"). It is expected that hats will be worn to both practices and games (the only exception being for the smallest players where their hat does not fit properly), however, shirts are to be worn to games only. No jewelry is permitted at games or practices.

## Regulation Game

All games will have a ninety (90) minute time limit from the original scheduled start time. No inning may be started after ninety (75) minutes from the original scheduled start time; the next inning starts when the final out is made (or the last batter in the lineup crosses home plate) in the prior inning. This rule applies whether or not a game is to be played on the field following the game in progress. This rule also applies to restarting an inning after a rain or weather delay; a delayed inning may not be restarted after ninety (90) minutes from the original scheduled start time. Pee Wee League games are to be a maximum

of 4 inning games. If rain, darkness or weather ends a game prior to 4 complete innings of play the game is ended and not made up. The offensive side is retired when all players in the batting order have batted once during the half-inning. NOTE – When the opposing team has more players present for a game, a team may be allowed to bat an equal number of players before it is retired, however, no more than three additional batters in the half-inning. Every attempt will be made to complete all games. In the event a team is unable to field eight players, for any reason, at the start or during the progress of a game, it is the responsibility of the managers to establish a timely and workable decision between them. When listing the batting order on your score sheets, give the player's uniform number as well as his name.

## **Lineup / Playing Requirements**

Continuous batting order shall be used and no batters and/or base runners are ruled off the bases for being put out. Each player shall play all 4 innings (unless an injury requires less playtime). All players are to play in the field each inning. The field positions are: Pitcher (must wear a batting helmet) 1B-2B-SS-3B and catcher LF-CF-RF (Any additional defensive players above these nine positions MUST play in the outfield.) No infielders shall be positioned in the base path or more than 10 feet in front of the base paths from 1st to 2nd or 2nd to 3rd. No position jumping shall be allowed. No player shall play the same position for more than 1 inning per game. All players must play a minimum of 1 inning in the infield. The inning / position requirement is superseded by time/weather/darkness/mercy rules of the league. Two coaches from the defensive team shall be permitted on the field to aid the defensive team players with instruction, position and encouragement.

## **Offense**

No lead-offs or stealing permitted at any time. No infield fly rule exists at the Pee Wee level. Runners may not advance on overthrows. A base runner must touch the base he is running to before he goes on to the next base and before the base runner behind him touches that base.

## **Batting**

The practice tee shall be used for the first inning of all games. No walks, strike outs, pinch hitting, bunting or half swings are permitted. The batter shall remain at bat until he either hits a fair ball pitched by the offensive coach or off the tee. Pitches shall be limited to 5 to 7 for each batter. If the batter has not put the ball in play after 5 to 7 pitches, the tee shall be used to keep the game moving.

A batted ball, which travels less than 15 feet from home plate, shall be ruled foul. Batters must assume a legal position within an imaginary batter's box. At no time should they be allowed to stand with either foot extending over a line parallel to and one inch away from the side of home plate. The manager or

coach at home plate shall warn batters who throw their bat. If after having been warned once, the same player throws his bat a second time, he shall be declared out and the ball ruled dead.

NOTE – Managers and coaches are cautioned that throwing the bat is a serious offense and players should not be penalized if their bat simply rolls a distance from the plate (as most non-wooden bats tend to do on a hard, dry field) but is actually thrown with enough force that they feel an injury could have occurred had contact to a player been made.

## Runs Scored

Runs and score are not kept at the Pee Wee level. On a ball in play, the base coaches should not attempt to “stretch an extra base” out of the play. This rule is for the safety of the players and to avoid the disorganization and frustrations that are caused by multiple errors on one play. On balls hit to the outfield the batter may run the bases until the defensive team throws the ball and it lands in the infield area. The runners can advance at their own risk only to the base they are headed. A runner proceeding beyond that base remains at risk and may be tagged out. However, if the runner safely proceeds beyond the allowed base they must return to that base after play is dead.

## Rule Questions

Managers, coaches, players, and fans may not argue or complain about calls. Any rule interpretation or question must be directed to the Commissioner and/or the Vice-President of Wasco Baseball at the e-mail address found on the league website in writing. Interpretations will be made by the Wasco Executive Board and a written response will be given. (This in no way will be considered a protest, as there are no protested games).

## Field Set-up

The home team is responsible for setting up the field, such as striping. At the end of the game, the home team is responsible for smoothing and filling any holes created during play especially in the pitcher’s mound, batter’s box and second base slide area. Each team is responsible for cleaning all trash from their respective dugout at the end of the game. The managers shall concur in the event a previous game makes the field setup impossible to be completed prior to the scheduled start of the game.

- The home team shall be required to surrender the field to the visiting team fifteen minutes before game time.
- The field shall be cleared of players five minutes prior to the start of the game
- Each team shall have a bucket of balls available for play at the pitcher’s mound and/or near the home plate for use with the tee.
- The home team will occupy the third base dugout.

## **Rainouts / Make-up Games**

There are no required make ups of rained out or cancelled games. Rainouts may be rescheduled if both managers agree on a date and confirm with the league commissioner.