

NORTH EDISON

BASEBALL & SOFTBALL

Rules and Regulations

T-Ball Spring Ball Baseball Rules

A. Game Setup:

- a. Field Dimensions: Bases will be placed 35 feet apart
- b. Defense: All children play the field. Children must be rotated to become familiar with all positions. Please keep this information in a scorebook to ensure that all children are moving to different positions in an equitable manner from game to game. It is a good idea to do this prior to the game. It will help you get the most out of your field time.
- c. There is a limit of 4 coaches on the field or in the dugout at any time.
- d. There is NO catcher at this level
- e. There is NO score kept at this level. All games end in a tie.
- f. There will be NO league standings at this level
- g. Game length: 3 innings
- h. Batting tees are primarily used
- i. There are no umpires used at this level.
- j. A safety ball is used.
- k. Time Limit: No new inning after 1:20

B. First Half of Season Game Play:

- a. The batting tee will be used for the first half of the season.
- b. Each team will bat through the entire lineup before the other team takes the field.
- c. All runners will stay on the bases even if they are put out. The last batter of the inning will circle all the bases (i.e. hit a home run)
- d. Game days will consist of a 3-inning game maximum and no more than one hour and a half (1 ½)
 - i. Please attempt to end the game with equal at bats per team.

C. Second Half of Season Game Play:

- a. For the second half of the season, managers will pitch to their team from a kneeling position. Please pitch overhand.
 - i. Based on your practice sessions, if there is a child who just can't handle pitching yet, use your best judgment and consider using the tee from the beginning of the at-bat.
 - ii. Balance the concepts of "self-esteem" with "trying your best" in these situations.
 - iii. If a child fails to hit the ball in the first 8 to 10 pitches, then allow them to use the tee.
- b. Each team will bat through the entire lineup before the other team takes the field.
- c. In the second half of the season, we introduce the concept of outs. Outs that are made will send the runner back to the dugout. This will help give the children a better understanding of the game. However, there are no strikeouts, and all offensive players in the order will bat, regardless of number of outs collected by the defense.
 - i. Managers it is important that we instill good sportsmanship in the children. Please encourage your team in this area.



- d. The practices are as important (many times more important) than the games. Practice will last for 1 to 1 ½ hours. Managers may split their practice time in half. The first half consisting of drills. The second half can be used by playing a “mock” game with the T-Ball team on the next field. Please note: this is not a scrimmage. The mock game should be used to reinforce skills your team is learning at practice. Stop players between plays to reinforce the skills/knowledge of the game.
- e. The offensive team will supply a coach to pitch and catch, the defensive team will supply up to four coaches positioned in the field, i.e., one in the RCF, one in LCF and two in the infield.