

## Part D: Special Division Rules - Shetland (4, 5 and 6 Year Olds)



1. Any player may play if their age is 4-6. Playing age is defined under Section III, Part C, Rule 5 under the special league rules.
2. Baselines are 55 feet and pitching plate distance is 35 feet.
3. A team scoring five (5) runs in any one (1) inning before three (3) outs are made will be declared side-out and the sides will change.
4. Official and/or Unofficial scores will not be kept, and league standings will not be published.
5. The batting tee will be placed on home plate.
6. The coach is responsible for adjusting the tee to the batters' strike zone. Coaches cannot enter into the batters' box. If a coach makes contact with the batter in the batters' box the batter is out.
7. Each team must field at least seven (7) players and will play all of their players in the field at one time. No more than five (5) players, two (2) on each side of the pitcher and the pitcher are allowed on the thirty-five foot (35') arc. All other players on the field are to take defensive positions three feet (3') behind the base paths, NOT in the base paths. This doesn't mean all five (5) defensive players have to be on the line, but no more than (5). There will be NO benchwarmers.
8. There is no catcher in T-Ball. Therefore, NO plays will be made at home plate. A runner may be tagged on the way to home plate only if the play is made before the runner reaches the halfway hash mark. This should encourage throwing the ball instead of running and tagging out.
9. Each batter is allowed five (5) swings, with foul balls counting as a swing on every attempt. After the fifth (5th) swing and the ball is not put into play, the batter is declared out.
10. Batters must make a full swing; NO bunting is allowed.
11. NO base stealing will be allowed. If a runner leaves the base before the ball is hit, they will be declared out.
12. A game will consist of one (1) hour. No new inning will start after fifty-five (55) Minutes.
13. While playing in the field, each team will be allowed two (2) coaches on the field to help instruct the players. There will be no interference by the two (2) coaches once the ball is in play. The coaches are allowed to verbally instruct at any time but cannot physically assist while a ball is in play.

14. There will be an arc drawn from the 1st base line to the 3rd base line fifteen feet (15') from home plate. Any hit ball staying inside this line is a foul ball.
15. The pitcher's plate shall be thirty-five feet (35') from home plate and the bases fifty-five feet (55') apart. The circle will be fifteen feet (10') in diameter and clearly marked. The pitcher will receive all throws from the fielders. The coach will call time (dead ball) when a thrown ball breaks the plane of the pitchers' circle and a defensive player is inside the circle. The pitcher does not have to have possession of the ball for time to be called.
16. The pitcher may not play on any runner after the ball is returned to the circle while she is in the circle. Example: The pitcher may not run through the circle to make a play on a runner. As soon as the pitcher is in the circle with the ball crossing the plane of the circle, play is to halt. (This rule is for a throw ball not a batted ball in which the pitcher fields the ball, she can make a play on any base runner if she fields as a batted ball inside the circle).
17. The infield fly does not apply.
18. Overthrows: In the event of an overthrow into foul territory, it is a dead ball. Base runners will not advance. If the ball is overthrown and remains in fair territory, the runner may advance at her own risk until the ball breaks the plane of the circle.
19. The visiting team will provide the umpire in the case there is no umpire; TRYC is to provide an umpire be present by game time.
21. No base stealing is allowed. Runners cannot leave their base until the ball has been hit by the batter.
22. The entire roster must all play defensively. To encourage rotation of players, it is recommended that no player remain at the same defensive position more than two innings, and no player shall remain in the infield more than two innings. No player may play pitcher more than one full inning in a game. No player may play first base more than one full inning in a game.
23. The pitcher must stay behind the pitching rubber until the ball is hit. After the ball is hit, she is responsible for all areas of defense that are the pitchers responsibility. Other defensive players cannot play in front of the pitcher.
24. The coach will be responsible for adjusting the height of the tee at the batters desired level while at bat, and the coach will also clear the tee from home plate when there is a play at home. The coach will set the ball on the tee.
25. The batter may not swing at the ball until the umpire says "Play Ball."
26. Fair territory-same as regular play, and the ball must pass beyond the arc extending from the tip of home plate up each base line, and then connecting. The arc shall be chalked.

27. Reduced injury factor (RIF) 11" Softies ball will be used.
28. Batter's will be required to wear a batting helmet and chin strap.
29. A ten (10) game schedule will be played in the Shetland Division---Player fees are \$75 per player on the team roster.
30. The league will furnish t-shirts for each player in the Shetland Division.
31. Each player will be given a participation award at the end of the season. Since there are no scores kept in this division, no standings or team placement will be recognized.
32. Special t-ball bats or softball bats may be used.

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