

Mt. Lebanon Baseball Association

Tee Ball Rules and Coach Guidelines

2008

- 1) The primary purpose of this league is to create a fun/learning environment for all children ages 5 to 7. All players will learn the game of baseball along with learning to follow the direction of coaches. Insist on bench control and importance of paying attention in the field. Strive for a positive attitude in each player. Show excitement for each player and each play that is made.
- 2) This is a non-competitive level of baseball. There will be no score keeping.
- 3) We will focus on teaching the fundamentals of the game such as proper batting stance, batting grip, batting swing, base running, field positions and techniques, throwing techniques, batting order, bench behavior to name a few.
- 4) All games will last no longer than 1 hour and 15 minutes. Coaches reserve the right to cut games off at 1 hour.
- 5) There will be no set number of innings per game.
- 6) Limit pre-game warm ups to no longer than 15 minutes. Coaches may choose warm up drills.
- 7) Field positions: Since our teams consist of approx. 12 players we need to work hard to keep order on the field. Please stress to fielders that they should not hoard the ball. Keep an equal number of players in the infield and outfield. Players in the outfield in inning 1 will all play in the infield in inning 2. Switch positions every inning. Keep accurate record of positions so to allow all players to play as many positions as possible in every game. Keep only one player at every base position to avoid confusion in the infield. **No one will play in the catcher position for safety purposes.**
- 8) Try to keep at least 2 coaches on the field for the fielding team.
- 9) The hitting team should have a coach at first base, third base and a bench coach to keep track of batting/bench order.
- 10) Runners may not play off the base. They must keep a foot on the base until the batter makes contact with the ball.
- 11) Keep one batting order for the entire game to avoid confusion. Players should sit in that order on the bench.
- 12) Hitting team: Only 2 players should be standing. One at bat. One on deck in an area where swinging the bat will not endanger others.
- 13) Outs—before **May 16th** we will not play outs. Each team bats around the order then changes sides. The team in the field can go for outs but all runners will stay on base. Starting **May 16th** we **will use the three out –or – once around the order rule for the batting team.** In a three out situation, coaches should keep track of which player was last at bat. The next player in the order will start off at bat in the next inning.
- 14) Base runners may not take more than two bases on any one play.
- 15) Hitting--All batters will use the tee up to **May 16th**. This rule changes on **May 16th** to coach pitch as an option (or 2 innings using the tee and coach pitch for the

remaining innings) as the season progresses and the players are more comfortable with batting techniques. Coaches will be notified as to when we will progress to this level.

- 16) Please be sure that all bases and equipment are returned to the equipment boxes after each game. All head coaches will receive box keys. Please keep track of your equipment bags and the contents.
- 17) **All batters must wear a helmet with facemask when batting.**