

# Tball Rules

Last updated 5/24/2024

## **I. Player Eligibility**

1. Players may not be 7 before **September 1**.

## **II. Field and Equipment Requirements**

1. Bases are set at 60' apart. Batter's box must be drawn and enforced.
2. Official ball size: Tball
4. Coaches will be the umpires unless a volunteer is available
7. Players must wear batting and running helmets.

## **III. Lineups and Fielding Positions**

1. Teams will bat their entire lineup.
2. All players participate in the field each inning
3. Only 7 players, including the pitcher and catcher, are allowed to play in front of the baseline. All other players must play behind the baseline. Only 2 players may play the pitcher position and must be behind the pitching rubber until the ball is hit.
4. After three (3) swings or seven (7) pitches, the batter will hit off a tee. If a batter hits a foul ball on the last pitch, they will get another pitch. The batter at no time may intentionally bunt the ball.
5. The coach (pitcher) will do his/her utmost to get out of the way of a batted ball. If a batted ball hits the coach, it will be a live ball. If the coach does intentionally touch the ball, it will be considered a dead ball and the batter will resume last ball count, and all runners will return to their bases.
6. Adult coaches are allowed on the field when their team is in the field. To speed up the game, it is recommended that an adult be stationed behind the catcher to assist in ball retrieval
7. Players should stay out of the baseline to try and avoid any injuries
8. Offensive team bats until there are 3 outs or they score 5 runs in an inning.

9. Coaching the bases may be done by adults so long as they remain off the field of play. There should be at least 1 coach (or parent) present on the bench/dugout at all times to help and supervise safety.

10. Thrown bat: If a bat is thrown for any reason except an accidental slip while swinging at a pitched ball, the coach shall issue 1 warning per player. On any subsequent offense, the batter will be called out.

#### **IV. Game Play**

1. Play 5 innings or 1 hour.

2. 5 run limit per inning.

3. Stealing bases is not allowed.

4. Players may advance a maximum of two bases during a single at bat **unless** the ball is hit into the outfield (reaches the outfield grass) **without** touching the infield diamond (pop fly) then the runners may advance until the ball is returned to the infield. A ball is considered returned to the infield when **the ball is possessed by a fielder inside the baseline. Once the ball is possessed inside the baseline, runners more than halfway to the next base may continue to that base otherwise they must return to the previous base.**

5. One base on an overthrow

#### **VII. Conduct and Process**

1. It is expected that these rules will be understood and adhered to by all coaches. Every attempt should be made to work out any differences and clarify ground rules prior to the beginning of each game to minimize any difficulties which may ensue.

2. GYSA requires coaches to follow these rules. The rules will help ensure that kids are understating the games of baseball and softball and will have a better understanding when going into 8U and playing in a league. Changing and altering the rules does not help the kids or coaches when advancing to 8U in the future.

3. If fans are using profanity or offensive words towards the coaches or players ask them to leave and report the incident to GYSA.