

**TRI-COUNTY
MINOR T-BALL PLAYING RULES
2008**

THE OFFICAL RULES FOR THIS DIVISION OF PLAY SHALL BE:

- (A) USSSA, NATIONAL LEAGUE RULES
 - (B) TRI-COUNTY LEAGUE RULES
1. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:
- (A) MINOR T-BALL; CANNOT BE (7) SEVEN YEARS OF AGE BEFORE MAY 1ST OF THE CURRENT YEAR.
2. EQUIPMENT:
- (A) DOUBLE EAR FLAP HELMETS ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL OFFENSIVE PLAYERS ON THE PLAYING FIELD. DEFENSIVE PLAYER-PITCHER MAY WEAR A HELMET WITH A PROTECTIVE FACE MASK, BUT IS NOT REQUIRED TO DO SO.
 - (B) CATCHER: CHEST PROTECTOR, SHIN GUARDS, DOUBLE EAR FLAP HELMET, FACE MASK WITH BUILT-IN OR EXTERNAL THROAT PROTECTOR AND PROTECTIVE CUP ARE REQUIRED EQUIPMENT.
 - (C) NO JEWELRY ALLOWED ON PLAYING FIELD.
 - (D) NO BAT OVER 2 ¼" MAY BE USED IN MINOR T-BALL GAMES UNDER TRI-COUNTY LITTLE LEAGUE.
3. PLAYING RULES:
- (A) BATTING ORDER: EACH TEAM SHALL BAT THROUGHOUT THEIR ENTIRE ROSTER FOR THE DURATION OF THE GAME. SHOULD A PLAYER BECOME INJURED NO OUT SHALL BE RECORDED IF HE/SHE IS UNABLE TO CONTINUE IN THE GAME. HOWEVER IF A PLAYER REFUSES TO TAKE THEIR TURN AT BAT OR OTHERWISE DOES NOT BAT, EXCEPT FOR INJURY, AN OUT SHALL BE RECORDED.
 - (B) DEAD BALL:
 - 1. THE BALL SHALL BE DECLARED DEAD (TIMEOUT) WHEN THE LEAD BASE RUNNER STOPS OR ABANDONS THEIR EFFERT TO MOVE TO THE NEXT BASE. **EXAMPLE:** IF A COACH HOLDS A RUNNER UP ON THIRD BASE, BUT SENDS THE RUNNER FROM 1ST BASE TO SECOND BASE TO DRAW A THROW, TIME SHALL BE CALLED, BECAUSE THE LEAD RUNNER IS THE ONE ON THIRD BASE. AT THE POINT OF TIME BEING CALLED THE OTHER BASE RUNNERS WILL BE POSITIONED ACCORDING TO THE LAST BASE TOUCHED OR HALF WAY POINT.
 - 2. THE BALL SHALL BE DECLARED DEAD (TIMEOUT) WHEN THE COACH-PITCHER INTERFERS WITH THE BALL. INTENTIONAL INTERFERENCE , PITCH COUNTS, UNINTENTIONAL INTERFERENCE PITCH DOES NOT COUNT, BATTER AND ALL BASERUNNERS RETURNED TO PREVIOUSLY HELD BASE/POSITION.
 - 3. SEE OFFICAL BASEBALL RULES FOR ADDITIONAL DEAD BALL SITUATIONS.

- (C) DEFENSIVE PLAYER POSITIONING : A COACH MAY POSITION HIS/HER DEFENSIVE PLAYERS AT ANY POSITION WITHIN THE FOUL LINES WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS:
- (1) PLAYER-PITCHER MUST HAVE ONE FOOT WITHIN THE CIRCLE.
 - (2) CATCHER MUST BE POSITIONED BEHIND HOMEPLATE.
 - (3) ALL DEFENSIVE PLAYERS (EXCEPT CATCHER AND PLAYER-PITCHER) MUST BE BEHIND THE 10' FT LINE AT THE TIME OF THE PITCH.
 - (4) THE FOUR OUTFIELDERS MUST BE BEHIND THE BASE LINES, THEY CANNOT PLAY AN INFIELD POSITION
- (E) A LINE-UP SHALL CONSIST OF 10 OFFENSIVE PLAYERS, HOWEVER BY LEAGUE RULE A TEAM MAY PLAY WITH ONE LESS PLAYER, AN OUT SHALL BE RECORDED FOR THE 10TH BATTER WHEN THAT POSITION IN THE ROTATION COMES TO BAT. IF A TEAM HAS ONLY 9 PLAYERS, THE OPPOSING TEAM HAS THE OPTION TO PLAY 9 OR 10 PLAYERS. A LATE PLAYER MAY BE ADDED TO THIS POSITION AT ANYTIME DURING THE COURSE OF THE GAME, ANY ADDITIONAL PLAYERS ARRIVING LATE BEYOND 10 PLAYERS SHALL BE ADDED TO THE BOTTOM OF THE LINE-UP.
- (F) FREE DEFENSIVE SUBSTITUTION SHALL APPLY, OFFENSIVE PLAYERS ARE LOCKED INTO A POSITION IN THE BATTING ORDER AND CANNOT BE CHANGED TO ANOTHER POSITION IN THE ROTATION DURING THE COURSE OF THE GAME.
- (G) ONCE REMOVED FROM THE GAME DUE TO INJURY , THAT PLAYER MAY NOT RETURN TO THE BATTING LINE-UP FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE GAME.(REMOVED FROM THE GAME IS WHEN A PLAYER CANNOT FULL FILL THEIR TIME AT BAT, NOT A DEFENSIVE POSTION)
- (H) A REGULATION GAME SHALL CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING:
- (1) MINOR T-BALL: 6 INNINGS OR 1 HR 15 MIN WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST.
 - (2) HOME SCOREKEEPER SHALL MARK THE SCOREBOOK WITH THE OFFICAL START TIME OF EACH GAME.
 - (3) DOUBLEHEADERS SHALL BE ONE INNING OR 15 MIN LESS, WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST.
 - (4) TOURNAMENT PLAY SHALL BE 1 HR 15 MIN, CHAMPIONSHIP GAME HAS NO TIME LIMIT.
- (I) A HALF INNING SHALL CONSIST OF 3 OUTS OR 7 RUNS SCORED, WHICHEVER OCCURS FIRST. THE NEXT INNINGS BEGINS AT THE THIRD OUT OF THE INNING, NOT WHEN THEY GET BACK ON THE FIELD.
- (J) EACH BATTER SHALL RECEIVE A MAXIMUM OF 5 PITCHES. A BATTER SHALL NOT BE CALLED OUT IF THE 5TH PITCH IS A FOUL BALL, UNLESS THE FOUL BALL IS LEGALLY CAUGHT BY A DEFENSIVE PLAYER. THERE SHALL BE NO STRIKES OR BALLS CALLED OR KEPT UP WITH JUST PITCHES.

THE COACH THAT IS PITCHING MUST PITCH IN A STRAIGHT LINE FROM THE FRONT OF THE CIRCLE TO NO CLOSER THAN 20 FT FROM THE FRONT OF HOME PLATE.

- (K) THERE SHALL BE NO:
 - (1) INFIELD FLY RULE
 - (2) WALKS, FOUR BALLS OR HIT BATSMAN
 - (3) BASE STEALING, BASERUNNERS CANNOT LEAVE THE BASE UNTIL THE BALL IS HIT BY THE BATTER, APPEAL PLAY, RUNNER IS OUT.
 - (4) BUNTING, AN ATTEMPTED BUNT IF BALL IS FAIR OR FOUL SHALL RESULT IN AN OUT.

- (L) SLINGING THE BAT: IF IN THE OPINION OF THE UMPIRE THE BATTER SLINGS THE BAT THE FOLLOWING SHALL APPLY:
UMPIRES NEED TO USE TOLERANCE WHEN MAKING THIS CALL AT THIS AGE GROUP:
 - (1) FIRST OFFENSE, A WARNING SHALL BE GIVEN TO THE PLAYER AND THE HEAD COACH, SCOREBOOK SHALL BE MARKED
 - (2) SECOND AND SUBSEQUENT OFFENSES BY THE SAME PLAYER SHALL RESULT IN THAT PLAYER BEING CALLED OUT.

- (M) ALL APPEALS SHALL BE MADE BY THE HEAD COACH. (NO ONE ELSE)

- (N) PROTEST, TRI-COUNTY LEAGUE RULES SHALL APPLY FOR ALL PROTEST.