

## 2019 NRPRD NON – COMPETITIVE T –BALL LEAGUE RULES (COED)

55' Baselines

35' Pitching Distance

Before becoming involved in the specific rules, we believe it is important to understand the basic aim of this program. The real purpose is to instruct the youngsters in the fundamentals of baseball / softball, and anything that does not follow this aim is in opposition to our philosophy. We have made a provision for two adults to be on the field to assist these young ball players, and we believe that any advice from others, other than genuine encouragement, will serve only to confuse these children and thus do more harm than good.

### SECTION I: ELIGIBILITY

- A. To be eligible to play in the baseball / softball t – ball league, the player must be four (4) years old by May 1 of the current year and cannot be six (6) years old before May 1 of the current year.

### SECTION II: PLAYING RULES

- A. A time limit of one (1) hour as long as each team has an equal number of “at – bats”. No new inning shall start after one (1) hour from the beginning of the game. The League Supervisor or Athletic Coordinator will determine if a game should be called because of bad weather or darkness. Four (4) innings shall be considered a complete game. A regulation game is six (6) complete innings.
- B. No record of the score or standings will be kept. The purpose of the league is to teach the fundamentals of baseball / softball and good sportsmanship. The managers and coaches are expected to conduct themselves accordingly.
- C. A maximum of ten (10) players will be used at any time. Regular positions, with a catcher at all times, will be played with the exceptions of the outfielders. The four (4) outfielders will play in the grass in their fielding positions.
- D. Only team members shall occupy the benches and coaches box. No persons other than the two (2) adult advisors or managers for a team may be on the playing field. No spectators will be permitted behind the backstop.
- E. **EVERY PLAYER** will play a minimum of one (1) inning in the infield, and no more than two (2) innings in the same position.
- F. Coaches may not interfere with the batted ball. If interference occurs, the play will be replayed.
- G. Student employees will serve as umpire(s) in a fair and impartial manner.
- H. Each player will receive a maximum of five (5) swings. The ball must travel beyond the arc or it will be called a foul ball.
- I. The tee will be placed in front of home plate, and the coach will adjust the tee to the height for each batter.
- J. No leading off or stealing. A runner may leave the base after the ball has been hit.
- K. Sliding is not permitted.
- L. As a safety precaution, any batter who throws their bat will receive one (1) warning. Upon a second occurrence, the opposing manager may call the batter out.

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- M. **DEAD BALL:** A ball hit to the outfield will be considered dead when thrown into the dirt portion of the infield. For plays at 2<sup>nd</sup>, an errant throw / ball must be returned from the outfield to the infield dirt, it is then considered dead.
- N. Defensive infield players may line up no more than three (3) feet inside the base line.
- O. Defensive outfield players may line up no closer than five (5) feet to the infield base lines and must remain in their respective positions.
- P. Runners cannot advance on an over – throw.
- Q. Force plays or “tags” too close to call, the benefit will go to the runner.
- R. **On Deck Batter:** To ensure the safety of our players, coaches and spectators, there will be NO warm up area for the “next batter”. Players must remain on the bench until it is their turn to bat.
- S. Pitchers are required to throw the ball to either First Base or to Home Plate to complete the play. On specific “baseball plays” hit down the first or third base line where the pitcher fields the play. The pitcher is permitted to tag the opposing player out to complete the play.
- T. Maximum bat length is twenty eight (28) inches.
- U. All outfielders must make a baseball play when fielding the ball. They must make a throw into the infield or base.

### SECTION III: PARTICIPATION

- A. Each eligible player may participate on one team **ONLY**. Any player found playing on more than one team will cause forfeiture of those games in which he / she played. Managers will be subjected to disciplinary action by the parks and recreation department.
- B. Each player that attends a game must play in the field at least two (2) full innings except as follows:
  - 1. Any player that shows up late after the game has started, even though it may be the last inning, must be placed at the bottom of the batting order regardless of how many innings he / she might play.
  - 2. If the last half of the last inning is not played, players will be given credit for a complete inning. It is recommended that the players who are to play the minimum time be played in the first two (2) innings.
- C. An inning is three (3) complete outs per team or ten (10) batters per team.
- D. Unlimited free substitution is permitted as long as Rule 3B is observed.
- E. **ALL** players attending will be scheduled in the batting order for the entire game.

Revised on 03.25.2019