



T-ball/Coach Pitch Rules 2013 Season

Standing Rules

1. The T-Ball/Coach Pitch Division will consist mainly of five (5), six (6), seven (7), and some (8) year old players.
2. Hitting Rules by age:
 - a. 5 year old players must hit off a tee (unless hitting skills determine otherwise)
 - b. 6 year old players have the option of hitting off a tee or being pitched to by a coach.
 - c. 7 & 8 year old players should be pitched to. (See rule 14 for further detail)
3. Teams should try to meet 3 times per week (3 practices or 2 practices & 1 game or 2 games & 1 practice). Games will be held on Thursdays and Saturdays.
4. Veterans Park in Gasport is not open until April 1st. Any practices before that date can be held at Royalton Ravine. T-ball/Coach pitch teams have priority over any other team at Veterans Park. If there is an issue please contact a division representative immediately.
5. Teams will use "Soft-T" balls for all practices and games.
6. All games will start per league schedule, except for rainouts, which will be made-up on scheduled rain dates or at the coaches' discretion. Coaches should come to a mutual agreement as to the decision to cancel a game or ask for the assistance of the league assigned representative.
7. Coaches should assign parents or other adults to help on the field during games. This does not mean having an additional adult at each position, use discretion as to the placement of adults on the field, as we want to keep the field as "open" as possible. In most situations, an adult pitcher, adult catcher and an adult in centerfield should be adequate.
8. Teams will play all players in the field, with 1 child fielding the pitcher's position and the balance placed in fielding positions. An assistant coach or parent and not a player will field the catcher's position. Any remaining players will be positioned at the discretion of the coach. Managers and/or Coaches should be on the playing field to explain to the players what they are doing wrong and to show them proper procedure or play. No defensive player shall play the same position for more than one (1) inning per game. All players must play at least one (1) inning in the infield per game.

9. All batters, either on-deck, batting, or running bases are required to wear helmets provided by the league. The child fielding the pitchers position shall also wear a helmet at all times while in the field.

10. All games will run approximately one hour, with as many innings being played as time allows. No new innings should begin after the hour. No score shall be kept.

11. Each team will bat through their entire line-up regardless of any outs being registered. If a batter is deemed to be out he/she shall be removed from the bases and returned to the bench.

*NOTE: It may be helpful to assign the first slots in the line-ups to the new players (Tee users), followed by the more experienced Coach-Pitch players (see Rule 14). Please do enforce the idea that it's OK to need some help, and that Tee users are not "Less Capable", just less experienced.

12. Batting:

a. Experienced Players: Each will receive 5 good pitches. THE COACH OR AN ADULT ASSISTANT WILL MAKE ALL PITCHES. THERE WILL BE NO PITCHING, DURING GAMES OR PRACTICES, BY CHILDREN TO CHILDREN.

i. Boys will receive an overhand pitch while girls will receive an underhand pitch. There are strikeouts in this division. If after the 5 good pitches the batter fails to put the ball into play, the batter's turn will be over. It is critical that each coach finds someone that can consistently throw pitches that are hittable, to the batters. If needed, it is acceptable to use a coach or an adult from the opposing team.

b. New or Inexperienced Player: (as determined by the coach) Use of the "Tee" can be implemented as the primary or a secondary means of learning to hit.

i. Primarily: use the Tee immediately

ii. Secondary: use the Tee after the 5 pitched balls have not been hit.

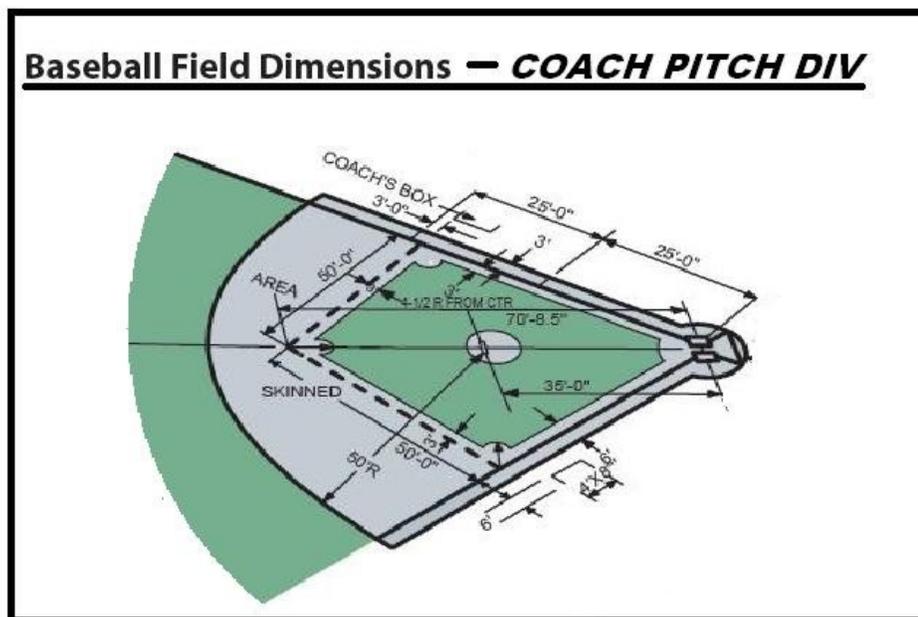
*NOTE: The more experienced players may need to ACCEPT a "strike-out" where the less experienced will most likely benefit from use of the Tee. Care needs to be taken to ensure that all the players receive fair treatment as you now have two levels of players to help learn and grow in the game. If the new and/or inexperienced player do not get proper attention, they will lose interest in the game. The goal of this division is to learn the basics and to have fun.

13. Returning the ball to the pitcher's mound will deem the play to be dead.

14. Only one base may be gained by an overthrow, whether in-play or out-of-play.

15. No bunting, stealing, leading-off, or wooden bats will be allowed. All bats used must clearly and legibly read official T-Ball to be used.

16. Games should be played at Veterans Park in Gasport, NY. The standard field base paths at Veterans Park are set 60ft, but the Coach Pitch layout should be set to match the field diagram at bottom of page whenever possible. If moving bases inside the fixed 60ft bases is deemed unsafe, then use of the fixed bases will be acceptable. Under no circumstance should fixed bases be temporarily altered if they might be damaged by doing so.
17. Strictly adhering to the rules above should eliminate any need for any grievances. Teaching the children to play baseball is the only concern coaches and parents should have. If it is necessary to file a grievance this should be done through the league representative.
18. Field Layouts:



APPROX LAYOUT- TO BE USED WHENEVER POSSIBLE

19. Any player, who represents a danger to the safety of the other participants because of size and/or ability, should be brought to the attention of the Division Representative, who will bring the matter to the board. The board will determine the player's possible re-assignment and inform the parents of the League's decision.