

Pinckney Hamburg Baseball & Softball Association

2011 CO-ED T-BALL LEAGUE (4-5 YEAR OLDS) BASEBALL RULES

This league is an instructional league with emphasis on learning the basic skills and having fun. Two uniformed coaches are allowed on the field during defensive play. Any coach may briefly stop the game at the end of a play to explain the situation/strategy to the players.

Field Dimensions: 50 ft. base length (1st and 3rd from the back point of home to outfield side of bases)
 40 ft. pitchers mound (from the back point of home plate to front of pitcher's plate)
 10 ft. diameter pitcher's circle (PITCHING IS NOT ALLOWED)

ABSOLUTELY NO TRADING OF PLAYERS, ANY COACH VIOLATING THIS RULE WILL BE TERMINATED FROM COACHING.

With the following exceptions, official High School rules will be used as the rules of the T-Ball League.

1. Eligibility is determined by the player's age on April 30, 2011. Players must be 4 years on April 30, 2010.
2. Each team will supply one umpire.
3. All games will be started at 6:30 p.m. Forfeit time is 6:45 p.m. No inning may start after 8:00 p.m.
4. The two coaches, in consultation with each other, have the authority to call the game at the field at game time because of weather. If lightning is spotted, play will be suspended immediately.
5. The length of the game shall be three (3) innings minimum no inning may begin after one hour and fifteen minutes.
 - a. Coaches should strive to play all three innings and make sure both teams get three at bats. Home team must bat last.
6. All missed or stopped games may be made up within two weeks. It will be considered a forfeit for any team that does not offer the opposing team two (2) make-up dates. If either team does not accept a date, it will be considered a double forfeit.
7. Teams may play with a minimum of seven (7) players. If the minimum is not present for one team, the game will be forfeited if the other team has the minimum of seven (7) players.
 - a. Games may be rescheduled with the complete agreement of both coaches and umpire commissioner.
7. All players play defense on the field.
 - a. There will be a maximum of six (6) defensive players in the infield.
 - b. No player may play in the same infield position for more than one (1) inning
 - c. Each player must play one (1) inning in the outfield.
 - d. All outfielders must be placed beyond the base paths in fair territory,
8. Each team furnishes (1) one new Reduced Injury Factor level 5 (RIF5) game ball as approved by PHBSA.
9. All ballplayers must be in complete uniform as issued by the league. Players are not allowed to wear shorts for games. All shirts must be tucked in. No jewelry will be allowed.
10. Any player who has a disability shall be placed where they are able to compete. Placement will be with the consent of the player, coach, and parents of the player.
11. Batters, base runners, and players on deck must wear protective helmets. Teams in violation will receive one warning. The second infraction will be an automatic out.

Player's that are not in the on deck circle or in the batters box may not hold a bat at anytime.

12. All players who are not playing must be on the bench or out of bounds. The only people on the field are defensive players, offensive players on base, umpires, coaches, batter, the player in the on-deck circle, and the catcher backup.
13. All equipment must be in back of the out-of-play line.
14. Only a coach may be in the coach's box.
15. The ball is dead if any coach or spectator touches the ball whether on or off the field.
16. The infield fly rule does not apply.

BATTERS

17. The batter on deck must wait for the umpire to call him up to bat. If he enters the batter's box before the umpire's signal, the team will receive one warning. The second infraction will be an automatic out.
18. If a bat or helmet is thrown, the batter will be called out after one warning. No runners will advance.
19. All bats must have tape or rubber on the handle.
20. Pitching is not allowed under any circumstances. The purpose of a tee is to develop and practice proper swing mechanics. Hitting off a tee is so fundamental to hitting success that most major league baseball hitters still incorporate hitting from a tee in their daily practice. Note: The proper batters stance is to have the front foot aligned with (or behind) the vertical ball support.
21. Bunting is NOT allowed. A batter must take a full swing at the ball if he/she is physically able.
22. There are no walks or strikeouts. The inning ends once a team has batted through their entire team batting order.

RUNNERS

23. Base stealing is not allowed. A runner must be in contact with the base until the ball is hit off the tee. (no lead-offs). Infractions are outs.
24. A ball hit in fair territory is in play until the pitcher has the ball in his/her hand and is in the pitcher's circle. Base runners may advance to the nearest base. A base runner must have made the turn for the next base to be awarded that base. No further advancement will be made by the base runner unless the pitcher makes a play.
25. Overthrows that are out of play will award the runner the base he/she is going plus an additional base.
26. If the ball goes through, under, or gets caught in any fence, the ball is dead. Each runner may advance only to the base to which he is going.

PITCHERS

27. The pitcher must not leave the pitching circle until the ball is hit.

CONDUCT

28. No arguing is allowed on the field. Any person using profane language may be ejected from the game or asked to leave the ball park.
29. No player may be called by name, as harassment, by the opposing team.
 - a. Penalty against the offensive team - charged an out.
 - b. Penalty against the defensive team - award one base to runners.
30. Coaches may not smoke while coaching the bases or sitting on the benches. No alcoholic beverages will be allowed on the premises. No glass containers will be allowed on any field
31. No spectator is allowed on the playing area of the field. The ball is dead if any spectator or coach touches the ball whether on or off the field.

32. Spectators will be controlled by:
 - a. One warning to the individual.
 - b. Individual is told to leave the ball park.
 - c. If individual does not leave the park within a 10 minute time period, his/her team forfeits

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