

Marion-Walker Little League T-Ball Rules

I. Purpose

The Marion Walker Little League will operate a T-ball league, in which the primary purpose of the league is to introduce the fundamentals of the game of baseball in preparation for continued instruction at the 7/8 level.

II. Eligibility

- A. Any child of league age 5 or 6 may play in this league.
- B. A 7 year old may play at the T-Ball level upon parent request and the approval of the Board of Directors.
- C. A first year T-baller would be eligible to play on an end-of-season 7/8 tournament "B" team only if the T-ball season has been completed.
- D. At no time may a player member of this league participate on two team rosters at different levels of the league at the same time.

III. Length of Games

- A. All games are 3 innings in length.
- B. Both teams will cycle through their entire roster one time each inning when batting.

IV. Pitching

- A. A batting tee will be utilized in all innings of all T-ball games for the first six games of the season.
- B. After the sixth regular season game, **and only upon agreement of both coaches**, the last inning of a game can be coach pitched. Each batter in the inning will be given the option of hitting from the "T" or by coach pitch. After three "swinging" strikes, the ball will be placed on the "T" for the completion of the at bat.

V. Batting

- A. There are no walks.
- B. There are no strike outs.
- C. There is no "on-deck" area. Only the current batter should have a bat in hand. Likewise, all bats in the dugout should be hung on the racks provided or kept neatly organized near the dugout entrance and well supervised by an adult coach.
- D. Each batter and base runner may advance only one base per at bat. The only exception for this is made for the final batter of the inning who advances completely around all four bases, clearing the bases in the process. It is recommended that managers alternate the batting order each game (or even by inning) to give this base running opportunity to as many team members as possible.
- E. Each team will maintain a batting order which includes all rostered players present that day.

VI. Fielding

- A. All players will play defense each inning.
- B. Upon adequate time for practicing, each team will utilize a catcher, properly equipped, for each inning.
- C. The “pitcher” will be equipped with a protective helmet.
- D. All defensive players will be supervised in the field by at least two adult coaches at all times.

VII. Base Running

- A. Each batter / base runner may advance one base per at bat. The only exception is for the last batter of the inning as specified in section V.(D).
- B. Sliding, feet first, into home base is allowed.
- C. There is no base stealing at this level.

VIII. Scoring

- A. No team scores will be kept or published in local media. Likewise, no personal statistics or team standings will be maintained.

IX. Coaches

- A. During games, it is recommended that each team have at least four coaches present.
- B. The offensive team should have one coach supervising at home plate, two coaches at the bases, and one coach supervising the dugout.
- C. The defensive team should have at least two coaches in the field and at least one coach supervising the dugout.
- D. At no time should a dugout be unsupervised by an adult.

X. End of Season Awards

- A. All players at the T-Ball level will receive the same end of season trophy or award. The awards may differ only in color from team to team.

XI. All Star Play

- A. There is no All Star play at the T-Ball level.
- B. A T-baller would be eligible to play on an end-of-season 7/8 tournament “B” team only if the T-ball season has been completed. Such participation would be by invitation from the “B” team manager/coaches.

NOTE: The above specified rules apply to all T-ball games played at Marion Walker Little League fields. During interleague play on an opponent’s home field, the rules governing T-ball play within that league will supercede any rules described above.