



5u T-Ball Rules

The Waxahachie Youth Baseball Association (WYBA) has adopted the rules outlined by USSSA Sporting News Rules were stated otherwise by the WYBA governing body.

Field Dimension:

- Base Paths- 60 feet
- Pitchers Mound- 42 feet from the front of the pitching rubber to the back of home plate

Equipment:

- Ball Type- MacGregor 56 Tee Ball or manufacturer's equivalent
- Bat Type- T-Ball bats only
- In age divisions 5u-12u, non-metal cleats shall be worn

Game Length, Scoring & Lineups:

- Game Length
 - Each game will 50 minutes or 5 innings, whichever comes first.
 - If a new inning has been started before the 50 minutes expires, the inning will be completed. Unless it is not possible for the home team to win or tie.
- Scoring
 - 5 Runs Per Inning
 - Mercy Rule: 15 run lead after the 3rd inning or 8 run lead after the 4th inning.
 - Ties are allowed.

- The home team is responsible for keeping the official score book and working the scoreboard.
- Lineups
 - Lineups will be completed by each team's coach and exchanged before each game.
 - Each team is required to field 7 players to start the game.
 - 1 out will be assessed for each time the 8th and 9th player would have batted until the team rosters at least 9 players in the game.
 - Players that arrive late must be rostered at the end of the batting lineup
 - If a team cannot field 7 players, it will forfeit the game and be scored as a loss.
 - A scrimmage may take place between the teams upon declaration of the forfeit. If a scrimmage takes place, the umpire will not be present.
 - Game time will not be delayed more than 5 minutes for a late player.

Batting & Base Running:

- Batting
 - Batting Order- All players will bat in a continuous batting order (all players will bat) and play under free substitution rule.
 - Batting order will remain the same unless a player is injured, then the player is scratched from the roster.
 - Pitch Count- A batter shall be declared out after failing to hit a fair ball after 6 swings off the tee.
 - Walks are not awarded in 5u
- Base Running
 - No Lead offs or stealing allowed.

Defensive Rules:

- Defensive Alignment- no more than 10 defensive players may play the field on defense.

- Infield- every infield position must be filled, and the catcher must setup in the catcher's box no more than 4 feet behind home plate. Catcher's helmet required or Helmet with cage attached must be worn.
- Outfield- 4 outfielders must be used if 10 or more players are present at the game.
 - Outfielders must play at least 15 feet behind the base path in the outfield.
 - A force out will not be awarded to the defensive team if the ball is fielded by an outfielder who was lined up too close prior to the batter's swing.
- Player Position Rules
 - The pitcher is not allowed to tag a runner or a base for an out. The Pitcher MUST THROW the ball to get an out.
 - No player can sit out defensively more than 2 innings.
 - Each player MUST play 1 inning in the infield every game. 2 innings if the game is 5 innings or longer.
 - The WYBA will allow for a player to skip infield rotation for the safety of the player, if deemed needed. However, the player will not be allowed to sit more than one inning if infield rotation is skipped.
- Play Stoppage
 - Play stoppage is at the umpire's discretion and is not Subject to appeal.
 - Play stops when the ball is thrown back to the pitcher circle.
 - Play will also stop on an overthrown ball to 1st base.
 - A thrown ball hitting the coach anywhere on the field (whether in fair or foul territory) results in a call of interference and the batter will be out and dead ball declared.

Coach Rules:

- Coaches- a total of 4 coaches (head coach/assistant coaches) per team may be positioned inside the fence perimeter.
 - All 4 coaches must always have their badges on and visible. No exceptions will be made. If a head coach or assistant coach does not have a badge visible, you will be asked to leave the field.

- Defensive Coaches
 - 2 coaches may be arm's length away from the dugout and 2 coaches may be in the outfield. NO coaches will be allowed in the infield or behind home plate.
- Offensive Coaches
 - 1 coach down left field foul line, or 3rd base coach
 - 1 coach down right field line, or 1st base coach
 - 1 coach at home plate for batting
 - 1 coach in dugout

Sportsmanship:

- All players, coaches and spectators will conduct themselves properly and with respect for all others at the Optimist Fields.
- All players, coaches and spectators will abide by the rules of the Optimist Fields, at all times while on the premises.
- Profanity, assault (whether verbal or physical) or any other abuse of any person by another at any WYBA-sanctioned event is strictly prohibited.
- The Waxahachie Police Department will be immediately Summoned should any player, coach or spectator become involved in a fight.