

2019 LOCAL RULES and REGULATIONS - T-BALL DIVISION EAST GREENBUSH-CASTLETON YOUTH BASEBALL ORGANIZATION

The Board of Directors would like to express its appreciation for the time and effort that volunteers such as you are providing to make this another successful season for over 400 players from our community. However, in the interest of organization and uniformity, it is necessary for the Board of Directors to insist that certain rules and regulations are followed. It is requested that all Umpires, Managers, and Coaches of all divisions read the current Official Regulations, Playing Rules and Policies of Little League Baseball.

The following are the local rules of the EAST GREENBUSH-CASTLETON YOUTH BASEBALL ORGANIZATION. These rules modify the Official Little League Rule Book during local play where applicable. All Managers are required to read and maintain a working knowledge of both these rules and the Official Regulations, Playing Rules and Policies of Little League Baseball.

If any difficulties arise, contact the Division Representative, Vice President or Board Member on Duty for clarification.

FIELD DECORUM

The actions of players, managers, coaches, umpires and league officials must be above reproach. Players/managers and coaches should occupy the confines of the playing field and dugouts prior to and during the games.

MANAGERS

See "Duties and Responsibilities of the Little League Manager" as promulgated by the Board of Directors. We also suggest that you read Official Regulation XIV – Field Decorum and Official Playing Rule 4.06.

There is always someone responsible for each team. If a manager is absent, someone designated by the team manager is in charge. Players who are not playing are not allowed to leave the playing field or dugout without permission of either the team manager or the coaching staff and are not to create disturbances or "make fun" of other players. If you see misbehaving, correct that behavior responsibly. The managerial responsibility does not end when the game is over. It is requested that the managers do not allow their players to mob the refreshment stand. Each team is to be brought to the refreshment stand in an orderly manner. The Team Parent should place the total team order with someone behind the counter prior to the second-inning of the game. Managers should also request that parent(s) who need to see their child(ren) during the course of the game please come to the dugout area rather than call the child(ren) out of the playing field/dugout area. Except for the batter and the base runners, all players shall be in their dugouts when the team is at bat.

MISSION

T Ball is an instructional division. Emphasis by all managers, coaches and parents shall be on teaching the fundamentals of baseball. Skill development shall be stressed at both practices and games. Players shall be given an opportunity to play all positions.

Game scores and standings shall not be kept. No records of wins or losses for a team will be recorded. There will be no first place or championship or individual statistics kept.

Proper skill development shall be stressed at both practices and games. Teams are encouraged to make "the right play", and to "make the play the right way". Foot races to avoid making throws and stacking of infielders are not allowed. All players shall be given an opportunity to play all positions.

Although it is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to see that their child is at practices and games, it is the Manager's responsibility to make practices and games fun so kids want to attend.

LEAGUE AGE

Players of league age four (4), five (5), or six (6) may participate in the T-Ball program. Players of league age four (4) and players league age five (5) who have not played T-Ball before must play T-Ball.

League Age will be determined in accordance with Regulation IV (a) of the Official Regulations, Playing Rules and Policies of Little League Baseball. The Player Agent will certify all league ages.

SCHEDULES

The Board of Directors shall prepare the schedule of games for T-Ball. An appropriate number of games shall be scheduled in conjunction with field availability. There will be no more than two games per week.

EQUIPMENT

All protective equipment, bats and balls used in the program must meet Little League specifications. Beginning with the 2018 season, all bats must comply with the USA Baseball Bat standard (USABat) as adopted by Little League. Under the USABat standard, certified Tee Ball bats (26" and shorter) will feature the USA Baseball mark and text which reads ONLY FOR USE WITH APPROVED TEE BALLS. All Tee Ball bats must feature the USA Baseball mark and accompanying text. Tee Ball bats that were produced and/or purchased prior to the implementation of the new standard can be certified using an Approved Tee Ball Sticker via USA Baseball Tee Ball Sticker Program.

All batters and base runners must wear Little League-approved face mask or c-flap equipped helmets.

The league will provide T-shirts and hats as the official team uniform.

AWARDS

No awards shall be made on the basis of comparable skills or accomplishments.

PLAYERS

T-Ball rosters shall not exceed fifteen (15) players per team. One or more qualified adults should supervise a T-Ball team.

Assignment of players will be done by the T-Ball Representative in concert with team managers. Players will be assigned to teams based on a neighborhood (for transportation purposes) or parent/child preferences. Teams will have an equal number of players.

The T-Ball Division operates as an instructional division, and therefore, must dissolve at the conclusion of each season. All players are returned to the league's player pool.

GAME PLAY

An EGCYBL approved Manager, Coach or volunteer must be present at all EGCYBL practices and games.

It is the Manager's responsibility to control the actions of his/her coaches and ensure they are not distracting to the game or its players.

GAME TIMES

All games will be played on Sundays unless rainout dates are required. Warm-up times are to be 10 minutes in length, starting 15 minutes before game time.

The game's length will be determined by one of the following:

- 1) A minimum of 3 innings,
- 2) a maximum of 6 innings, or
- 3) end 1 ½ hours from the start of the game. Managers and Coaches are strongly encouraged to keep their players moving into position as quickly as possible to allow for a speedier game.

In the interest of safety, warm-up time is not to consist of batting practice.

CANCELLATIONS AND SUSPENSION OF PLAY

The cancellation of games due to darkness or rain will be called at the discretion of the division representative or in his/her absence, a Board Member, or by a consensus of the managers. Games may be canceled in cases of excessive heat or cold. If the Managers agree that the fields are not playable and no board representative is available to offer a decision, the Managers will be responsible for canceling the game and notifying the division representative.

All games will be discontinued at the first sign of lightning and will not be continued until it has safely passed.

UMPIRING

Managers and coaches may be used as umpires.

PLAYING TIME

DEFENSIVE: All players will play defense each inning. The positions will be the same as those in the upper divisions, except no catcher or pitcher. Extra players shall be evenly distributed, but not placed directly on a base

OFFENSIVE: This division utilizes a continuous batting order whereby the entire roster of players available for that game bats.

GENERAL PLAYING RULES

The playing field should be identical dimensions to a Little League field.

The Home Team's manager will supply the game balls as given to them by the equipment manager at the beginning of the season.

All players must utilize the "batting tee" rather than the pitched ball.

When all defensive players are in proper position, the defensive managers will indicate to the offensive team manager that his/her team is ready. The offensive team manager or coach will then place the ball on the tee and say "Play Ball!"

Side Retired: The offensive side is retired when all batters have batted each inning.

Foul Ball Identical to conventional baseball with two exceptions (1) The ball is foul if the ball travels less than 15 feet in fair territory from home plate, and (2) the ball is foul if the batter hits the tee with the bat causing the ball to fall from the tee.

Base runners must stay in contact with the base until the ball is hit. When runners have advanced one base without being put out, then the play ends, unless it is the last batter. Batters / Base runners who have made an out, must leave the base. The last batter is allowed to run continuously around the bases. All defensive players must stay on the field until the last batter crosses home plate.

Managers and coaches may stand near the batter and defensive players to offer advice, but shall not interfere with play. The manager or coach shall request time out before demonstrating a technique or explaining a situation to the players during the progress of a game.

All players must:

- wear a full uniform in orderly fashion during games
- wear Little League approved face mask equipped helmets when batting, or running the bases,

Infield Fly: Will not be enforced

Bunting: Will not be allowed nor shall half swings. If the batter does not take a full swing, he/she may be called back to swing again.

Stealing: Will not be allowed

Striking Out: Will not be allowed

Protests: Will not be allowed

Forfeits: Will not be allowed

There is no catcher and outs are not permitted at home plate.

FIELD OF PLAY

The following are prohibited from all fields and dugouts: on-deck batters, bat weights; bat boys/girls; non-game personnel (defined as Managers, Coaches, player, umpires and board members as may be necessary from time to time) including siblings and family members of players. Players are not to eat while on the field or in the dugout. Players are not to leave field of play / dugout without the permission of the Team Manager or coaching staff. Players may be removed from the dugout and forfeit playing time if s/he is found to be creating a disturbance with the approval of the Board Member on Duty.

INJURIES

In ALL cases of injury, the welfare of the player is of primary importance. Managers will decide if a game needs to be stopped in the case of an injury to a player. Under no circumstances will play begin until the injured player is removed from the field or judged well enough to remain in the game. The name of the injured player is to be reported by the Manager to the Division Representative within 24 hours. The Division Representative will then contact the Safety Officer for the appropriate paperwork and course of action. All Managers are urged to carry cold packs in their equipment bags at all times. (Note: Cold packs should not be fastened to one spot and should not be allowed to remain in any one position for an extended length of time to avoid frostbite. Do not place chemical cold packs on the facial area).

If a player requires emergency treatment, hospitals will not act in the absence of a parent, legal guardian or without a proper consent form. Hence, parental consent forms must be completed prior to the start of the season.

In cases of injury to a player that cause the player to miss two (2) or more games, the Manager will notify the Division Representative of the injured player's name and the number of games that the player will be missing due to injury immediately upon this realization. If a Manager has an injured player fails to meet the above criteria the Board of Directors will impose disciplinary actions on that Manager.

No player who misses two or more games or practices due to injury may resume playing without a medical release from the player's doctor being filed with the President.

VOLUNTEERS

Since the safety and the welfare of the kids is of utmost importance, all Managers, Coaches, and Volunteers are required to undergo background checks prior to the start of organized league activities. Managers shall complete a Volunteer List and submit it to the Division Representative who will then ensure that all named volunteers have had a background check completed by the League and will return the form to the Manager. Any Manager/Coach/Volunteer not listed on the form is prohibited from helping and it is the Manager's responsibility to ensure they do not participate in activities with the kids. An infraction by the Manager will result in referral to the Grievance Committee and repeat offenses may lead to possible Board action, including but not limited to game suspensions for the Manager. If any member of EGCYBL has any problems or difficulties on any matters, relate them to any member of the board whose names and numbers are available at the concession stand. Please report any problems within 24 hours of the incident.

The EGCYBL Board of Directors reserves the right to change or modify rules during the season as deemed appropriate and necessary.

Updated: April 2019.