

## **2024 BYL 6u (T-BALL) RULES**

**A.** T-ball is open to all four (4) to six (6) year olds born before May 1st.

**B.** All sportsmanship rules apply to coaches and players.

**C.** Coaches may choose to stand approximately half the distance from the mound to the plate for pitching. Coaches may pitch over or underhand. Batters are given the opportunity to swing at four pitches. The fifth ball will be played on the tee. If a batter hits the ball versus using the tee they may take two bases. All balls hit from tee take one base. All other runners on base take one base at a time unless someone hits the ball without using the tee and they are advanced two bases.

**D.** The batter, base runners, and on-deck batter must wear helmets while on the playing field. All other players are to be in the dugout or off the field. Players on offense should be taught to put gear where it belongs in the dugout and stay in the dugout during the game, not on the field or visiting outside the dugout. A parent helper in the dugout facilitates this. Neither gear nor players should be outside the dugout during game play for safety purposes.

**E.** Player positions must be rotated each game so that all children are given an equal opportunity to play as many positions as possible. Teach players not to “swarm” the ball. The person closest to the hit ball should field the ball and throw (not run) to one of the base players.

**F.** The scoreboard will not be used. No score is kept.

**G.** The entire line-up will bat each inning and will field a position each inning. The last batter in each half inning should run completely around the bases to clear the bases before switching to defense. Positioning players spread out on the in-field and baseline is more ideal than putting players in the outfield.

**H.** A time limit of 45 minutes or through the batting order two (2) times, whichever is less.

**I.** The catcher position will not be used in t-ball. Coaches may choose to have a coach behind the batter to assist batter and retrieve balls.

**J.** Please discourage players from digging holes on the field while their team is on defense. This damages the field and a player who is distracted may become injured. If a child is too distracted to play safely please move them to the farthest baseline position or dugout so they are not injured.