

COUNCIL GROVE RECREATION DEPARTMENT

T-Ball Rules & Regulations

Field of Play

Fields

T-Ball games will be played on the following Council Grove fields; T-Ball, Park, Trembly, and Nystrom Area towns; White City, Dwight and Alta Vista

Base Dimensions

50 feet recommended

Pitching Distance

35 feet required

Safety Arch

27 feet required

The Ball

9" Safety/T-ball

The Bat

Any bat currently approved by Cal Ripken or Babe Ruth including t-ball and wooden bats.

The Helmet

Any helmet currently approved by Cal Ripken or Babe Ruth, facemasks and chinstraps are encouraged but not required.

Team Rosters

Team roster sizes of 10 – 12 players are encouraged, with a roster maximum of 15 players.

The Game

A complete game consists of 2 full innings or approximately 1hr – 1 ½hr

Offensive/Batting team

Bunting is not allowed

Both offensive teams will bat their entire roster each inning (2 at bats/game)

Each offensive team will have 2 base coaches (1st base and 3rd base within coach's box.

The Batter/Base Runner

The batter will position themselves in the batter's box

Thrown bats, *coaches please encourage your players never to throw a bat*

The runner will continue on the bases even if they were deemed "out."

The runner may only advance 1 base at a time. *Exceptions 1. Last batter in lineup
2. A ball that is hit that goes over the outfielders or rolls past the outfielders will be a maximum of 2 bases (Coaches discretion/agreement)

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The Pitch

Each batter will receive 5 pitches, pitched by the coach, if after those 5 pitches the batter does not hit a ball in play he or she will hit the ball of the tee.

*If a team roster consists of 13 – 15 players the pitch number will be reduced to 4 pitches

*If the weather conditions are very warm the number of pitches will be reduced to 3 for all team roster sizes. (Coaches pre-game agreement)

*If 3, 4, or 5 pitches are thrown and the batter fouls off the final pitch the batter will continue hitting off a pitch until a ball is hit in play or a swing and a miss, at that point the tee must be used.

The Pitcher (coach)

The pitcher will position themselves approximately 20 – 35ft from the batter

The pitcher must remove themselves from the playing field once the ball is hit so they do not interfere with the defensive players making a play.

The Catcher (older player non-t-ball)

It is encouraged that an older player/coach position themselves in the catcher's position to catch or field pitched balls. Having an older player/coach in the catcher's position has dramatically sped up the game.

The fielding team/defensive team

All players on the team will take a defensive position. Coaches placing players in fielding positions need to make sure defensive players are not in the baseline that could cause collisions or impede the base runner. **Stopping runners:** getting in front of the lead runner or ball under control in center circle.

The Safety Arch

A safety arch will be marked 27ft from foul line to foul line. If a ball is hit within this area, the ball will become “dead” and will be pitched again or placed back on the tee to be hit again. (Coach discretion to allow as a hit.)

The defensive pitcher

The player pitcher may stand to the right or left of the coach pitcher but must be within the circle, when contact is made they may begin fielding the ball and making a play.

Defensive coaches

Defensive coaches may position themselves in the field of play to coach defensive players. Defensive coaches should not assist players by stopping/fielding or throwing a ball in play.

*Coaches remember this is for the participants and score will not be kept. Please remember t-ball must be fun at all times for the players, coaches, and the fans!