

FOOTHILLS AREA YMCA

T-BALL RULES

YMCA mission statement: The FOOTHILLS AREA YMCA is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all.

Youth Sports Philosophy

- Every child plays equally
- Promote the benefits of fitness and healthy lifestyles
- Develop sports skills
- Promote teamwork
- Values education
- Encourage family involvement
- Provide a safe environment
- Improve self-esteem and social development
- Promote character development: Caring, Respect, Honesty, and Responsibility.

Equipment

- Tennis shoes or soft studded molded cleats recommended.
- Personal helmet and glove needed. (Extra bats and helmets will be available to be shared if needed)
- Illegal or dangerous apparel:
 - Metal cleats of any type
 - Sharp or badly worn cleats
 - Jewelry, hard hairpieces, exposed buttons, zippers, other hard objects
 - Splints or plaster casts are allowed at the discretion of the referee if sufficiently padded.
- Baseball pants preferred.

Number of Players per Team

- Minimum of 6 players per team and maximum of 13 players per team depending on the amount of players registered.
- Team rosters will be shared once regular registration has been completed.

Game Play

- One team will start on offense and one team will start on defense. All defensive players will be in the field. All offensive players will hit each inning and run to one base at a time with the last player "hitting a homerun" so bases are cleared.
- Then teams will switch and continue until game time has ended.

Umpires

- There will be no umpires for T-Ball games. Coaches will be encouraged to guide players through each inning.
- Each game will end in a tie.

Duration of Game

- All games will begin at 6:00 and end at 7:00. Please arrive 10-15 minutes in advance to meet with their team and go through a short warm up.

Field Size

- Field will be set to standard T-Ball size. With bases being 45 ft apart.

Washed-Out Games

- If games are canceled due to inclement weather, someone will be at the YMCA front desk at least 60 minutes before the first scheduled game with the necessary information.
- A decision will be made 60 minutes before your scheduled game. Each coach to play at that time will be contacted via phone with the update.
 - If you are in doubt of whether your game is canceled, please contact the YMCA front desk to obtain information.
 - Because it is raining at your location does not necessarily mean it is raining at the YMCA, so please call.
- In the case of bad weather breaking out within 60 minutes of your game or during a game, the Coordinator holds the right to cancel the games. If this happens, the games will be rescheduled on another date by the Sports Director, unless the first half is already completed. If the first half is completed, the game will stand as final.
 - **Games will be rescheduled during a practice day, if possible.**
 - the current YMCA policy is to schedule 8 games during a season. We will try our best at rescheduling games unless time/weather restrains us from doing so. We guarantee at least 6 games.

Abandoned Games

- The Coordinator reserves the right at any time to abandon a game (call stoppage of play and leave the field) under the following conditions:
 - A failure by a coach, spectator, or player to heed the warnings given by the Coordinator regarding improper conduct.
 - Extreme climatic conditions in which the playing conditions have become unsuitable, or the possibility of danger exists to players, coaches, spectators, etc.
- If a game is abandoned after the first half is completed, the game will be considered final.
- If a game is abandoned due to climatic conditions before the first half is completed, the game will be rescheduled.

Improper Conduct

Players are expected to:

- Show respect and sportsmanship to all participants, including teammates, coaches, opponents, and spectators.
- Follow team and league rules and guidelines.
- Maintain a positive and cooperative attitude.
- Refrain from using offensive or discriminatory language, gestures, or actions.
- Avoid engaging in disruptive, aggressive, or violent behavior.

Spectator Conduct

- **All spectators** must remain on the opposite side of their respective teams. "Team Parents" who are assisting the coach with drinks and snacks may sit on the team bench with the coach's approval.
- Positive team support is encouraged. **Offensive language or behavior will not be tolerated.** This includes making comments to the officials, players, or coaches.
- Each coach is responsible for the conduct of all persons on his/her team or supporting his/her team.
- A spectator may be warned by the T-Ball Coordinator at which time the Coordinator will also notify the coach that a warning has been given to one of their team's supporters. Further disruptive behavior improper conduct after a second warning will result in spectator ejection from the game and possible abandonment of the game by the Coordinator.

Entering Field of Play

- Coaches of the team playing defense will be in the field to help instruct the players in what to do with the ball.
- Coaches of the team playing offense will be helping set up the tee to make sure the area around the player is safe before they hit. As well as making sure that the players run to each base.
- **Only coaches will be allowed to be in the field of play.**