

T-Ball & 7/8 League Rules

Schaffer L.L.
Revised (4/1/24)

All Division Rules

- Our area games involve only the Schaffer League. It is important to follow these rules. If a question does arise, consult the Little League Rule Book and then these rules. 7/8 is Player Pitch, (Minor League rules in rule book refer to 9/10 Minor League)

Scores

- Score will not be kept in t-ball
- 7/8 league will keep score and record in their scorebooks.

Make-Up Games

- Games are recommended to be made up within 10 days of the originally scheduled game.
- Home team sets the make-up date, preferably Friday if feasible.
- Visiting team confirms the date.
- Field priorities for make-up games are 7-8 then t-ball.

Umpires, Managers and Coaches

- Maximum of 4 coaches in the dugout.
- Verbally assaulting an umpire is grounds for being removed as a manager or coach.
- Parents or Young Adults will be umpiring our games, be supportive of their efforts. 7/8s Player Pitch is a learning/transition division, coaches are encouraged to get parents, teenagers or family members to umpire.

Illegal Bat Rule 6.06

1. The batter is out if the batter enters the batter's box with one or both feet entirely on the ground with an illegal bat. (must have USA Baseball logo - see bat specifications rule 1.10) or is discovered having used an illegal bat prior to the next player entering the batter's box. The ball is dead. Runners must return if they advanced on the play.
2. First violation, the offensive team will lose one eligible adult base coach for the duration of the game.
3. Second violation, the manager of the team will be ejected from the game. And the following game. The player using the illegal bat will also be ejected and will miss the following game. Any subsequent violation will result in the newly designated manager being ejected.
4. If the same team is found in violation in multiple games the coach may be removed from coaching for the remaining part of the year.

Pitching Limits (7/8 Baseball)

- All Teams must adhere to the maximum pitches per day and rest requirements listed in the Little League Pitching Rules, Section VI – PITCHERS.
- Baseball Pitcher Eligibility Tracking Forms must be used and completed correctly.
 - Before each baseball game the home team manager and the opposing manager must share their pitcher eligibility data to ensure that each pitcher is legal to pitch in that day's game.
 - At the conclusion of a game, each manager must verify that the correct pitching data has been recorded and then sign the opposing team's form or book. ○ If a manager does not present his/her form prior to the beginning of the game, that game be considered a PITCHER PROTEST GAME. PITCHER PROTEST GAMES will still be played but will count as a loss for the team that failed to present the Pitcher Eligibility Form. All pitches thrown by a pitcher during a PITCHER PROTEST GAME will count against that pitcher for future games.

These rules and divisions are meant to get these kids accustomed to baseball and softball. Some of these rules will seem unnecessary because of the division age, but explaining and using these rules to teach these kids will get them prepared for the future. 7/8s Player Pitch is intended to introduce pitching mechanics, decision making and position awareness. This transition is especially vital to get these boys and girls prepared to pitch and motivated to work at it.

Baseball Co-ed T-Ball Division Rules

- The T-Ball division is designed to teach the fundamentals of baseball.
- The players will be taught the basics on how to catch, throw, bat, field, run the bases, positions, etc.
- Scores will not be recorded.
- **Any additions, directions, or changes of play related to actual baseball that the coaches agree upon before the game, may be played.**

- The infield is limited to 6 players, remaining players will be positioned in the grass in the outfield.
- All players on the team will bat each inning and **the sides will retire when each player has batted in the inning.**
- **Outs will be addressed but will not end the inning**
- The ball must be hit from the tee, which the ball is placed on.
- Any batter throwing the bat at anytime in the game will be called out. The batter throwing the bat is out and the ball is in play.
- Batter on deck will remain in the dugout (ready for play, helmet on) until ball is placed on tee. **No on deck batters**
- Runners must not leave the base until the ball is hit.
- **Players will play the ball in the field as desired, if there is an out on the bases the runner will be out and retire to the dugout.**
- Ball that is hit over the fence is a home run. Ball which bounces over or rolls under the fence is a ground rule double. **Every other hit is a single.**
- Runners will advance one base except on a ground rule double or a home run.
- Three innings are required for a regulation game, five innings maximum.

- Home team prepares the field, this includes: raking batters box and pitchers mound, laying down the chalk lines, unlocking equipment closets, etc.
- Mutual agreement on ending the game before finished must be made by both coaches.

- NO tobacco or alcohol allowed on the field or dugouts
- NO foul language on the field, in dugouts, in the stands or around fences
- SPORTSMANSHIP will be enforced by the coaches and all fans

Baseball 7-8 Player Pitch Division Rules

- 4 coaches are allowed in dugout, as 1 coach is pitching (when needed), 2 base coaches.
- Bats can be made from wood, aluminum or if laminated it shall bear the USA Baseball logo.
- 6 innings per game or 1 hour and 45 minutes maximum from time of first pitch. No new inning started after 1 hour and 30 minutes.
- Maximum of 10 players on the field during defense, 10th player must be in the outfield grass in an outfield position. Only 6 players will be in the infield
- No Coach may be on the field during a live ball other than to pitch. No Coaches behind home plate.
- **Coaches Options**
- Players will pitch the first 2 innings minimum; Coaches can pitch to their own team the remaining innings, if desired.
- **Pitching distance for baseball is at 40 feet and softball is at 35 feet.**
- Coaches must pitch to boys in an overhead motion and to girls in an underhand motion.
- **While the Coach is pitching the player pitcher must remain in the pitching circle and be ready to field the ball, for example off to the side but not in front.**
- Teams must Roster Bat. **No on deck batters**
- Minimum Play Rule, 6 outs in the field.
- After a Batter receives 4 balls:
 1. A coach will then pitch 2 additional strikes to that Batter. (If batter has 0 strikes when coach comes in to pitch then he gets 3 strikes) 2. The pitches may be called strike, a swinging strike or a foul ball.
 3. A hit ball is live and all runners may advance.
 4. No bunting while a coach is pitching.
- 10 is the maximum number of Batters per inning.
- No Dropped Third Strike Rule.
- Hit by a Pitch: If the batter is Hit by a Pitch being thrown by a player, that batter is awarded first base. If the batter is Hit by a Pitch being thrown by a coach, that batter is not awarded first base and must continue the batting process.
- Maximum of 1 Base on an overthrow error. For example, player running towards first or has already reached first and the ball is overthrown, the base runner is allowed to proceed to second base only. The ball is considered live and the defense is able to attempt to get the runner out at 2nd. Once the base runner reaches 2nd the ball is considered dead and no more advancing.

- With 2 outs, if the catcher gets on base he or she must be substituted with a courtesy runner. This gives the catcher time to get the gear on and moves the game along.
- 9-year-olds playing in the 7-8 division cannot pitch. May play with 8 players