

Tball players are defined as of their enrollment in the **current school year from grades K – 3.**

Measurements:

Home plate to first base and third base — 60 feet

Foul arc line — 20 feet

Second base is located in a straight line from home plate; 60 feet from first base and third base

1. NO KEEPING SCORE!!! T-ball is about learning and teaching the fundamentals of the game. The tournament seeds will be decided by a random draw. **Tournament games will keep score and adhere to a 2 inning limit with the exception of the championship game which will be 3 innings.**
2. All games must start at 6:00pm unless scheduled and agreed upon by both coaches at least 48 hours prior to game time. Failure to field a team by 6:00pm shall constitute a forfeit by that team.
3. Each team shall field at least 8 players. Fielding less than 8 constitutes a forfeit unless other arrangements are made with the opposing coach in advance. All players on the roster can be played during regular season games regardless of equal numbers. However during tournament each team must play the same number of girls (so some girls may have to sit the bench). Each player must play at least one inning during tournament games.
4. All infielders must play a softball position, no players on the arc. Pitcher may be off rubber a few feet but all other infielders must play a position. All non-infielders have to be 10 feet behind bases when the ball is hit.
5. The game shall consist of 2 complete innings during season and tournament play; with the exception of the tournament championship game which will consist of 3 innings with no time limit.
6. The batting order will be continuous from inning to inning.
7. Free substitution on reinsertion into the lineup is legal so long as rule 2 is being observed. Time out must be called for substitution or reinsertion.
8. The ball shall be hit off a Tee that shall be set at Home Plate. The ball will be 11 inches. If the Tee is used every batter shall hit the ball. There are no strikeouts.
9. Base runners must stay in contact with the base until the ball has been hit. Leaving the base too soon is a judgment call and shall be made by the nearest umpire. When leaving the base too soon is called, all play is ruled dead. Runners return to their previous positions and the batter hits the ball again.
10. When the runners have advanced as far as possible without being out, the home plate umpire shall call time and the ball is placed on the Tee for the next batter.
11. The area inside the 20-foot arc shall be treated as foul territory. Fielding a ground ball inside the 20-foot arc is an automatic foul ball. It is illegal for the defensive team to field a ground ball inside the 20-foot arc; however there is no penalty for doing so. In case of a slow moving ball, the umpire shall make a judgment foul ball call if the base runner passes the arc before the ball does which gives the runner the advantage.
12. A fly ball caught in any area including the arc is an automatic out and retires the batter. Runners may advance after the ball is caught. If a player leaves the base prior to the catch, tagging the base she last occupied, unless she tagged up after the ball was caught, may put her out.
13. Coaches may stand near their batter or along the base line to instruct players but must not interfere with play. They are not allowed on the field when their team is on defense. Unsportsmanlike conduct by players or coaches is cause for ejection from the game.

14. All girls in the lineup must bat before the side is retired. Three outs do not retire the side. The offensive coach must notify the umpire and the defensive team of their final batter before her turn to bat. Only on the last batter does play continue until the defense has put the lead runner out by tagging them, touching the tee or putting the ball on the tee. If the last batter has a fly ball and it is caught they are out. If notification for the last batter is not made by the offensive coach, the side will retire as soon as the ball crosses the arc.
15. All catchers must wear a helmet.
16. Helmets with facemasks are **mandatory**.
17. Coach Pitch is an option! Any girl wanting to be pitched to may do so. **A maximum of 5 girls** (of any age) may be pitched to **per inning**. A maximum of 3 pitches can be thrown; the girl must either hit the ball in those 3 pitches or if they do not hit the ball in 3 pitches they will then get to hit off the Tee. Girls being pitched to cannot walk. Please remember there is a time limit to these games, try to speed up play so we can keep the coach pitch rule effective for the years ahead. Any girl(s) wanting to be pitched to, **must** be grouped together in the batting order. This way they are always together and will help speed up the process of the game. For tournament when using coach pitch option players will get 3 strikes, ruled by the umpire and then they are out.
18. Age limit rule: girls in T-Ball/Coach Pitch must have just finished 3rd grade or younger. Please observe these rules to prevent injury on both offense and defense. (Girls that have finished K-3rd grade and going into 4th grade this fall.)
19. Remember we are here to promote recreational play and to try and let all girls play.

We will operate under the **Official** USA Softball Rulebook.

Pigtail players are defined as of their enrollment in the current school year from grades 4 – 7.

Measurements:

Home plate to first base and third base — 60 feet

Second base is located in a straight line from home plate; 60 feet from first base and third base

Pitchers rubber — 40 feet from the *front edge of the rubber* to the *back point of home plate*

Please try to have the regulation size pitchers rubber, which are 24 inches long and 6 inches wide.

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1. The game will start immediately after the T-ball game or 7:15 unless otherwise designated. Lineups should be exchanged during the latter part of the T-ball game, so that the game can start immediately following the T-ball game. No infield practice allowed between games. Failure to field at 7:15pm or immediately following previous game constitutes a forfeit for that team.
 2. No inning will start after 75 minutes after beginning of play. After the conclusion of play if there is a tie, international rules will be in effect. *Tournament – same rules apply except for the championship game which may be played to the 5 full innings. After the conclusion of play if there is a tie, international rules will be in effect.
**INTERNATIONAL TIEBREAKER After the completion of 7- innings, or when time limits have expired and the score is still tied, the tiebreaker procedure will begin. The player, who had the last completed at bat, assumes a position on 2nd base. This procedure would be done at the beginning of each half inning; until a winner is determined.*
 3. Before each game the umpires and coaches will meet and discuss the ground rules and when the time of play begins. The home team will provide both the home plate and first base umpires.
 4. Stealing: Runners may leave the base when the pitch leaves the pitchers hand. If a runner leaves a base before the pitch leaves the pitchers hand the runner is out. No pitch (dead ball) is then called. STEALING HOME IS ALLOWED.
 5. Dropping a third strike is an automatic out.
 6. 6 runs or 3 outs per inning. After 6th run, offense retires.
 7. Optional 15 run rule after 3 innings.
 8. 10 players shall be used. You must have a minimum of 8 players to start the game. In case of 8 players on one team, that team must take an out when the empty space comes up to bat. We will not have a batting order consisting of all girls on the bench. Girls re-substituted must enter in the same batting position.
 9. Softball to be used is a yellow option ASA ball for games.
 10. If a game has to be called it shall be a legal game after 2½ innings if the home team is ahead.
 11. Helmets with facemasks are mandatory.
 12. Pitchers CAN step backwards off the mound.
 13. All pitchers must wear a softball pitchers facemask. These masks are **optional** for other field players.
 14. The rover needs to play in the outfield at least start 10 feet behind the baseline.
 15. Sliding is a judgment call by official; please avoid contact.

16. A team roster must be turned in to the league tournament town to be eligible for tournament play. **Bring all score books to tournament in case of question.** *Girls must play in at least 50% of the games in order to be tournament eligible. Towns must have an equal (or lesser) number of teams throughout their divisions starting in the **2024** season (e.g if a town has 2 pigtail teams they cannot have 3 or more tball teams, their tball teams must be 2 or fewer in order to guarantee having a team to follow within their own organization).

Twin Valley Little League Rules — Girls Ponytail Division (Revised 4/25/2023)

We will operate under the **Official** USA Softball Rulebook.

Ponytail players are defined as of their enrollment in the **current school year from grades 8–12.**

Measurements:

Home plate to first base and third base — 60 feet

Second base is located in a straight line from home plate; 60 feet from first base and third base

Pitchers rubber — 40 feet from the *front edge of the rubber* to the *back point of home plate*

Please try to have the regulation size pitchers rubber, which are 24 inches long and 6 inches wide.

1. Each team will play 9 players. We will not have a batting order consisting of all girls on the bench. Girls re-substituted must enter in the same batting position.
2. You are allowed to steal home.
3. Dropped 3rd strike does not mean an automatic out.
4. No inning will start after 90 minutes from beginning of play. After the conclusion of play if there is a tie, international rules will be in effect. *Tournament – same rules apply except for the championship game which may be played to the 7 full innings. After the conclusion of play if there is a tie, international rules will be in effect.
 - a. **INTERNATIONAL TIEBREAKER After the completion of 7- innings, or when time limits have expired and the score is still tied, the tiebreaker procedure will begin. The player, who had the last completed at bat, assumes a position on 2nd base. This procedure would be done at the beginning of each half inning; until a winner is determined.*
5. Before each game the umpires and coaches will meet and discuss the ground rules and when the time of play begins. **The home team will provide both the home plate and first base umpires.**
6. Softball to be used will be the yellow optic ASA Ball.
7. Infield practice before a game is at the discretion of the teams due to time.
8. 15 run rule after 3 innings or 10 runs after 5 innings.
9. Pitcher CAN step backwards off mound.
10. **All** pitchers **must wear** a softball **pitchers facemask**. These masks are **optional** for other field players.
11. Helmets with facemasks are **mandatory**.
12. A team roster must be turned in to the league tournament town to be eligible for tournament play. Age limit rule: Must have completed 12th Grade or younger (17 year olds that graduated the year prior are not eligible). **Bring all score books to tournament in case of question.** *Girls must play in at least 50% of the games in order to be tournament eligible. You may include girls from 7th & under if they have played in half of their games on corresponding town team. **Towns must have an equal (or lesser) number of teams throughout their divisions starting in the 2024 season.**