

DANNY SMITH MEMORIAL PARK CORPORATION
TEE-BALL GUIDELINES

1. Participation and Sportsmanship Requirements

- a. Trash talking, abusive language, vulgarity, and unsportsmanlike conduct are unacceptable at Danny Smith Park. Players, coaches, parents, or fans engaging in this conduct may be removed from the Park or subject to other sanctions at the board's discretion.

2. Guidelines Rather than Rules

- a. These are guidelines rather than “rules,” because Tee-ball is a non-competitive introductory division. Coaches and parents are encouraged to adapt the games as necessary to provide the best experience for the players.
- b. Coaches, should not be so rigid with the rules that you forget the purpose of the league.**

3. Basic Goals

- a. The basic goal of Tee-ball is to introduce players to baseball and its most basic concepts, including:
 - i. Offensively
 - 1. How to grip a bat;
 - 2. Where and how to stand in the batter’s box;
 - 3. How to swing and hit the ball off a tee;
 - 4. How to run to first base when the ball is hit;
 - 5. How to run to subsequent bases when other players hit the ball;
 - ii. Defensively
 - 1. Wearing a glove and throwing overhand;
 - 2. Fielding grounders;
 - 3. The idea of playing a position in the field; (Placing bean bags in the field to show players where their positions are a useful trick)
 - 4. The idea that not every player should swarm to or fight for a hit ball;
 - 5. Making a play on a runner, either by tag or throw (this may be a bit advanced and could be saved for closer to the end of the season).

4. Game Conduct

- a. Bases should be set to the shortest distance on whichever field the game is on.
- b. Parents, Coaches, or other helpers of the team at bat may be stationed at each base.
- c. Soft baseballs, supplied to the coaches prior to the season, will be used for play. Batters will hit off a tee and should wear helmets.
- d. When a player hits the ball in fair territory, he/she will run to first base. The offensive coach assisting the batter should determine whether a ball is hit, or if the player hit primarily the tee. If the player hits the tee, he/she should get another chance. The at-bat shall continue until the batter hits the ball in fair territory.

- e. Baserunners should advance one base on each hit.
- f. In the unlikely event a batter or base runner is tagged out, he/she should be allowed to stay on base and continue to run.
- g. The half-inning shall continue until each player on the offensive team has hit once. When the last batter on the roster hits, his/her hit should be a “home run” and clear the bases. Teams then switch sides.
- h. Defensively, parents, coaches, or other helpers are encouraged to stand on the field with defensive players, help them find their position, etc.
- i. Games are allotted approximately an hour on the schedule. The length of games is subject to the Coaches. Weather or player enthusiasm may deem the need to shorten the allotted time frame.
- j. All players should be on the field defensively in the infield. They do not need to play traditional baseball positions. They should be lined up approximately as deep as the base paths, except for a pitcher player if a team chooses to use one.
- k. The home team is responsible for preparing the field for play before each game. This includes lining the field and placing bases. If it is the last game of the day on that field, the home team shall be responsible for storing field equipment, turning off lights, and locking equipment buildings.

The Board may interpret, change, modify, or suspend these rules as deemed necessary.