

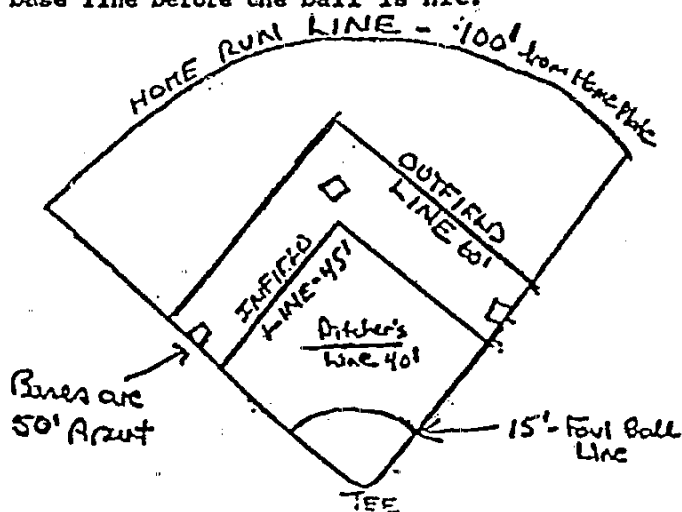
DEVON-STRAFFORD LITTLE LEAGUE  
TEE BALL RULES

PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES

1. Our most important objective is to conduct ourselves in a manner at all times which is the fairest and best for all players. Our objectives are to teach basic baseball/softball fundamentals, to teach good sportsmanship, and above all to give the players an enjoyable and positive introduction to the fun and excitement available through participation in team sports.
2. One of the primary purposes of the Tee Ball League is introductory training of young players. Accordingly, managers and coaches are encouraged to discuss plays with players after the ball is dead. Use the games and specific plays for teaching. Most importantly, offer continual encouragement to all players during the game.

FIELD LAYOUT

1. Bases are spaced 50 feet apart.
2. A home run line is drawn 100 feet from home plate.
  - a. Any ball hit past the home run line in the air is a home run unless caught by a fielder in the air.
  - b. Any ball hit past the home run line on the ground is a ground rule double, whether touched by a player or not. The ball is dead at this point and base runners advance a total of two bases.
3. The player playing the pitcher's position must be behind a line 40 feet from home plate and in line between home plate and second base before the batter hits the ball.
4. Infielders can play no closer than 5 feet from the base line toward the batter before the ball is hit.
5. Outfielders must play no closer than 10 feet behind the base line before the ball is hit.



#### ADDITIONAL RULES

1. Games last four innings or 1-1/2 hours, whichever comes first. The managers may agree to extend either the number of innings or waive the time limit on a specific game basis. In no case will a game last longer than 2 hours. A legal game is 3 innings (make-up not necessary) or 2-1/2 innings with the home team leading.
2. One-half inning is completed when the offensive team has scored eight runs or three outs have been made against them, whichever comes first.

#### PLAYERS

1. All players may be in the defensive line-up as follows: one pitcher plus five players in infield positions (the 4 regular infield positions, plus a short-fielder), and all of the remaining players in the outfield. There will be no catcher. A minimum of eight players must be fielded for an official game. In the event that a team is unable to field a full team for a game, it is suggested that teams split up players evenly and play a practice game.
2. Players bat in single rotation. All players bat whether they are playing in the field or not.
3. Pitcher and first baseman are to change each inning. Four different children should play pitcher every game and four other children should play first base. No child should be given a second opportunity to play pitcher or first base in a subsequent game until every other child has had an opportunity to play those positions.
4. We cannot monitor every game, but every child should be given an equal opportunity to play pitcher, infield and outfield. This can be done by dividing your team into odd and even squads (according to their uniform numbers) and alternate the infield and outfield positions by innings. For example, the odds get the infield positions in the first and third innings, and the evens in the second and fourth.

#### BATTING

1. The ball is hit from a batting tee. The batter must be in the batter's box to hit. The manager or coach may help align the batter. The batter's shoulder should always be pointed at second base.
2. All batters and runners must wear batting helmets.
3. Any batter throwing the bat will automatically be out. This call is left solely to the judgment of the home plate umpire.
4. Foul balls:
  - a. Any ball hit foul per regulation baseball rules;
  - b. Any ball which travels less than fifteen (15) feet from home plate in fair territory in the air or on the ground;
  - c. If the batter hits the tee with the bat, causing the ball to fall from the tee, it is foul.
5. There will be no strike outs. A child bats until he or she hits a fair ball.
6. Otherwise, outs are as in regulation baseball -- i.e., an out is made by tagging a runner, a force play or a fielder catching a hit ball in the air.
7. Double and triple plays are allowed.

### RUNNING BASES

1. No stealing bases.
2. There is no lead off from bases until the ball is hit.
3. A runner may not slide into any base.
4. Runners may not advance on an overthrow. All hits are singles, unless they are a home run or ground rule double by going over the outfield line, as described above.
5. The home plate umpire or manager must remove the batting tee when a runner is advancing to home plate.

### GENERAL RULES

1. Traditional baseball rules apply except as noted.
2. The infield fly rule does not apply.
3. Players may wear sneakers or rubber cleats only. Metal cleats are not allowed.
4. All players not on the playing field must stay in their respective bench areas during the game.
5. Home team is team listed first on schedule. The home team shall provide the batting tee, bases, and game ball for each game. Both teams should bring their equipment.
6. Free areas adjacent to the game diamond may be used for warm-up or pre-game practices (brief).
7. All games are to start promptly at the assigned time out of respect for everyone involved. Our fields are scheduled fully throughout the season.
8. Managers or coaches are to be notified if a player is unable to attend a scheduled game or practice.

### MANAGERS/COACHES

1. The team at bat should provide an adult base coach positioned at the traditional first and third base locations. These coaches shall be in addition to the coach who helps align batters.

### UMPIRES

1. Two umpires are required for each game consisting of one parent volunteer (may or may not be coach) from each team. The home plate umpire is responsible for the batting tee, placing the ball on the tee, calling foul balls along third base line, calling foul balls if the ball fails to travel at least 15 feet in fair territory in his judgment, and calling plays at third base and home plate. The first base umpire calls plays at first and second base, foul balls along first base line, and verifies that defensive players are positioned in accordance with rules.

### RESCHEDULING

1. Managers reschedule incomplete games or rainouts at a mutually convenient time. Rescheduling of games will not be mandatory but is suggested. Play rescheduled games at a mutually agreed upon date and location with the league director's concurrence to avoid conflicts.