

T-Ball/Softball Rules for Trophy Sports Club

(May 14, 2015)

Innings:

- Games will begin with coach prayer (home team coach or delegate prays).
- The home team for t-ball or softball does not need to wear vests.
- The game will begin when ready and will end with a horn blast.
- The visiting team will be up first.
- When the batting team reaches three outs, it has to take the field.
- If the batting team goes through its entire batting order in one inning (twice if the lineup is small), it has to take the field.
- The game will go for as many innings as time permits.
- The horn will sound to signal the mid-game devotional; remember the configuration; play will resume where it left off.
- If the visiting team has just taken the lead in the final inning, & the horn blows before the inning is complete, it's a tie.

Players/Positions:

- All players on the hitting team will remain in the batting order.
- All players on the fielding team can play in the field at all times (we've gone with smaller teams on purpose).
- For softball, the batting team's coach or delegate will pitch.
- The batting team will provide the catcher.
- The fielding team layout: 1st base, 2nd base, shortstop, 3rd base, & up to three outfielders (left, center, right).
- A fielding team w/ less than six players can be helped out by parents/siblings/coaches (outfield slots should be taken first).
- Parents/siblings/coaches who help out in the field are not part of the batting order & should not make heroic plays.
- The coach is encouraged to periodically rotate players to different positions.
- For safety reasons, a player will not be forced to play every position (e.g., 1st base receives a lot of fast throws).

Safety:

- Each batter and base runner must wear a helmet.
- Each batter can only swing the bat under direct adult supervision; make sure no one else is nearby.

Basic Play:

- The youngest group (preK-1st grade) will use a tee.
- When a tee is used, the batter can swing until the ball is hit more than a foot into fair territory.
- Here's how coach pitch will work (2nd-8th grade):
 - o No one strikes out; if three strikes are reached, the tee will be offered.
 - o No one walks.
 - o For any given player, particularly for the younger softball players, a tee can be requested at any time.
 - o If there is no dedicated ump, then the pitcher will call runners safe or out.
- Outs are made by throwing a runner out at 1st base, or via force out, or via tag out, or by catching the ball before it lands.
- Runners may not advance on an overthrow in this league.
- When a ball is hit into the outfield, runners must stop when the ball is thrown back anywhere into the infield.