

# WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

## Youth Baseball Program

### 2025 5 Year Old

### Tee Ball Rules

*\*\*Babe Ruth League rules will apply except for the following:*

#### **Uniforms:**

- Uniforms will consist of a team shirt, socks, and a hat.
- Appropriate footwear must be worn (no metal cleats).
- No jewelry of any type may be worn (rings, watches, earrings, etc.).
- It is the responsibility of the team managers to enforce these rules.

#### **Regulations for Games**

#### **Duration:**

- The games will consist of 3 innings or 75 minutes, whichever comes first.
- The game should be suspended in the event of lightning. Players should be immediately removed from the field.

#### **Innings:**

- All batters will hit from the tee in a consistent batting order that will not change throughout the game to complete half of an inning.

#### **Bases:**

- The bases will be set at 50 feet.
- The designated home team provides the bases, and a new ball.
- Pitching rubber will be aligned evenly with all bases, at a distance of 35 feet from home plate.

#### **Helmets:**

- All base runners, batters, first baseman, and the pitcher must wear protective helmets.

#### **Field:**

- It is the responsibility of both coaches to leave the field and bench areas in clean condition.
- Report any problems to the League Director.

#### **Coaching:**

- First Base Coach and Third Base Coach for the batting team are permitted.
- The Defensive team can have coaches on the field to keep players in position.
- All players and coaches in the field must keep the base paths clear.

#### **Score:**

- No official score will be kept.

## **Defense**

### **Playing:**

- All players will take the field on defense.

### **Positions:**

- The infield shall consist of a pitcher, first baseman, second baseman, shortstop, and third baseman.
- Once the infield is in place all remaining players will assume a position in the outfield.
- Outfielders must remain on the grass (outfield position if you are playing on a full-size field).
- No catchers will be used.

### **Outs at Bases:**

- The batter or base runner will not leave the playing field if he is thrown out, forced out, tagged out, or hit a caught pop fly.
- There will be NO double plays!
- All base runners will have a free right of way back to the base they came from in the case of a caught pop fly.
- Any fly balls caught in foul territory are not to be considered an out.

## **Offense**

### **Batting Order:**

- All players will bat in turn during the team's half-inning on offense regardless of outs.
- The batting order will remain the same throughout the game.
- If a batter cannot or refuses to bat, then his turn at bat will be skipped for that time at bat only.
- The last batter in the order will clear the bases (hit a homerun, regardless of where the ball is hit or fielded).
- It's the coach's discretion to alternate the last batter in order to give 3 kids per game the opportunity to hit a home run.

### **Batting:**

- There are no walks.
- There are no strikeouts.
- A batter will be permitted to continue his at bat until the time he hits ANY part of the ball and the ball is declared "fair".
- There is no minimum travel distance for any batted ball.
- It is the "at bat" coach's responsibility to ensure that his batters are on deck and ready to bat.

### **Base Running:**

- No bunting, stealing or infield fly rule.
- Runners must stay in contact with the bag until the ball is hit (NO LEADS).
- Runners and batters will only be permitted to advance one base at a time on any base hit.
- The batting tee must be moved off home plate prior to a runners advance from third base to home.

**Batting Coach:**

- The offensive team may station a batting coach near the tee to assist the batter in taking his position in the batter's box area and addressing the ball.
- The batting coach may adjust the height of the tee to place the ball at the proper position for each batter. The height of the ball when resting on the tee should be just above the batter's waist level.
- The batting coach may not assist the batter in swinging at the ball.

**General****Overthrows:**

- Any overthrow at any base is a dead ball and runners may not advance.

**Forfeits:**

- There are NO forfeits.
- A minimum of 8 players must be available to play the game.
- If a team does not have 8 players, the opposing team may lend the players necessary to play the game.
- If both teams do not have the required number, the game may be rescheduled.

**Home Team:**

- The home team is the second team on the schedule, i.e. AWAY vs. Home.
- The home team occupies the third base side of the field.

**Rescheduling:**

- It will be up to the coaches in conjunction with the League Director to reschedule games not played due to inclement weather or other extenuating circumstances.

**Coach Pitch:**

- There is to be no coach pitching the boys until the dates below:
  - May 15th - Coach pitch will begin.
    - Two innings of hitting off the Tee and the third inning will be coach pitch.
  - June 1st – First inning hit off the Tee and then coach pitch the last two innings.
- The boys will be given 3 chances to hit the ball and then the T should be used.
- Please remember this is a T-Ball league and the boys must first learn how to swing before they can hit a moving target. If you do not feel your team is ready for coach pitch, please wait to begin.