

**INNISFIL MINOR BASEBALL ASSOCIATION**

**Official in-house t-ball division rules**

**(*1ST Edition January 2017)***

***(2nd Edition April 2019)***

**INNISFIL MINOR BASEBALL ASSOCIATION**

**T-Ball Division (In-House)**

Description

The IMBA’s in-house T-Ball league is intended to be an instructional and fun introduction to the game of baseball. T-ballers will play under modified rules that are designed to encourage fair play, fun and a positive environment to learn in. Game scores and results will be kept for fun, but game results/scores will not be emphasized. There will be no playoffs.

**Game Play Specifications**

* Number of defensive fielders: 11 (1B, 2B, 3B, SS, P, C, LF/CF/RF, 2 OF Rovers
* Base Length: 45 feet
* Home Plate: The Tee is to be placed on Home Plate
* Dead Ball Line: 25’ arc from home plate – should cover from 3rd base line to 1st base line
* Game Length: 2 innings or 1.5 hours (no new inning after 1.5 hours)
* Batting: The entire lineup bats each inning. Must be an equal number of players batting on each team.

**Rules**

1. Have Fun.
2. In T-Ball there is no pitching to the batter, therefore there will be no base-on-balls awarded, there is no bunting and the infield fly rule does not apply.
3. Every player on the batting team shall have one (1) at-bat each inning played. All players will be placed in a continuous batting order. If the teams do not have an equal number of players, the team with less players will continue batting until an equal amount of players have batted as the opposing team each inning
4. Games shall be two innings.
   1. It is recommended that each player play a minimum of one inning of an infield position.
5. Players, coaches or parents while participating or not in a scheduled game are not permitted to deliberately harass or direct discourteous remarks at the officials or any member of the opposing team.  Managers, coaches, players or parents of players engaged or persisting to engage in conduct contrary to the spirit, principles and objectives of good sportsmanship in Tee Ball shall receive a single warning from the umpires or coaches.   If the offences continue, the offender or offenders will be removed from the game.   Anyone removed from the game must leave the playing field and spectator area. Failure to do so will result in the forfeiture of the game by the offending team.
6. The "OFFENSIVE TEAM" shall have no more than three (3) coaches on the playing field (one batting coach, one near 1st base and one near 3rd  base) on the outer side of the 45 foot base lines.
7. All team members must bat in proper order as identified on the official scoresheet.  Changes to the batting order are only permitted upon injury to a player or a player has quit the game.   If a player quits the game he/she may not re-enter that game.
8. The field shall consist of 11 players, with a pitcher, catcher, first, second, shortstop, and third base players.  Including, left, right, and center fielders and left and right (outfield) rovers.
9. Have fun.
10. The infield will be a distance of 45 feet from home plate to first base, home plate to third base and 45 feet from 1st base to 2nd base and the same to 3rd base.
11. The batter shall hit the ball off the “tee” placed at home plate.
12. A strike shall not be called on the batter if they miss the ball or strike the tee. (The coach will help the batter if they miss the ball to the 25-foot mark after 5 swings).
13. If the batted ball does not travel a distance of more than 25 feet it shall be called a “dead ball”.  A “dead ball” is to be called by the batting coach as soon as possible, if there is any doubt the ball will not cross the 25-foot marker.
14. When a batted ball is hit past the infield, (45ft distance) the base runners may advance at their own risk and may only proceed to the base that they are advancing to.  Once the ball is thrown towards the infield by an outfielder, all runners must stop at the base to which they are going.
15. Assigned outfielders shall be positioned no less than 15 feet behind the base lines.
16. If a runner is passed while running the bases, they continue to the base they are going to, and the passing runner returns to the base behind the “passed runner” after the play has ended.
17. The pitcher must remain in a position 35 feet or more from home plate and in line with second base until the ball is fairly hit.
18. Base runners cannot advance a base unless the ball has been hit fairly.
19. To score a run the player must touch the tee or any part of the tee itself.
20. Have fun.
21. The inning is over when the entire roster has batted. The last batter must be announced before coming to bat.  The inning is over when a fair ball is thrown back to the catcher and placed upon the tee.
22. A batter is out when:
23. His/her fair hit, foul or fly ball is caught.
24. The batter throws his/her bat beyond the six-foot circle. (A circle with a six-foot radius drawn from the back of home plate).
25. A base runner is out when:
26. On a force play at any base
27. Removing their helmets while running the bases
28. Running significantly (coach’s discretion) off the base line to avoid a tag
29. Being thrown out at first base
30. Tagged out by a defensive player while trying to reach a base safely
31. The catcher places the ball on the tee after the 11th batter has hit.  All base runners are out at this time, if they have not yet crossed the plate
32. The catcher must wear a helmet, facemask and chest protector and shin guards.
33. The pitcher must wear a helmet with a face-guard
34. All players are required to wear a protective cup, commonly known as a jock.
35. No player shall be brought down to play tee ball from any other level.
36. A coach/manager may only communicate positive instructions to his/her players on the field. A coach is encouraged not touch a base runner while play is on.
37. Two field Coaches are allowed, at their discretion, on the field during the defensive fielding portion of the inning to help instruct the players, coaches are not allowed to make plays for the players on the field
38. Parent helpers are permitted to assist on the field. All parent helpers must have a criminal record check on file with the IMBA and be listed on the official team roster. Non rostered parents are not permitted to be on the field.
39. HAVE FUN!!!

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