

Round Lake Malta Youth Baseball League 2024 Division Rules

Rules applicable to all Division:

Schedules:

- Teams will normally play 2 times per week. However, rainouts can result in more games per week as the season goes on.
- The season will typically end by June 30th.
- Players are to be at the field by 5:50 for weekday games and at 9:50 or 10 minutes prior to gametime on Saturdays.
- Rainouts will be played as close to the week of the scheduled game as possible. Rescheduling will occur automatically on the first available rainout slot. The VP of Coaches and Community will post all rescheduled games.
- The Round Lake Board will decide if a game may be played at all fields after it rains. The website will be updated for rainouts by 4pm, and we try to post this information on our facebook page, as well.
- If weather or field conditions require it, coaches may call a rainout at the field.

Field Decorum:

- **Parents may help on the field and at the team bench with the coach's permission.**
- Defensively, there will be **six (6) players on the infield** as follows:
 - 1) Pitcher
 - 2) 1st base
 - 3) 2nd base
 - 4) shortstop
 - 5) 3rd base
 - 6) Catcher -- (Baseball only -- no catcher in t-ball)
 - 7) **All other players must be in the outfield**, 8-10 feet behind the base path. If you have a 10th player, they cannot be in the infield or within 8 feet of the infield.
- **Each team is responsible for trash around the team bench. Please be considerate and help to keep these areas clean.**
- **Players, coaches, and spectators must conduct themselves in a manner that expresses good sportsmanship at all times!**
- **Players should stay in the dugout with their team**, unless there is a reasonable need to leave (bathroom, getting a drink, got hurt etc.). Players should not be floating between their dugout and their parents. Exception: if coaches have a player who is misbehaving in the dugout, at their discretion, the coach may send that player to sit with their parents. This may result in the player missing an at bat. If the player has repeated behavior problems that are not easily resolved with the parent, coaches should report this to a board member.

Uniforms & Game Balls

- Team shirts and hats are provided by the league, and must be worn during all games.
- Baseball pants are provided to all 7U-12U players, and should be worn for games and practice (as opposed to shorts).
- Cleats are not required, and metal cleats are NOT permitted.
- Players must bring their own baseball gloves.
- The league is selling bats and gloves. All players must bring their own bat and helmet.

General Rules

- All players must be registered with the league and have paid their fee, in order to be placed on a team and covered by insurance. No walk-ons or late additions unless approved by the president and added to the registration and insurance.

DEVELOPMENTAL//TEE-BALL (4-6) Rules and Regulations

Introduction:

The T-ball program is a training process by which youngsters can learn, develop, and practice fundamental baseball skills at an early age and receive maximum enjoyment from the experience. The learning experience must be coupled with developing fundamental skills of hitting, throwing, fielding, and running. The basic concept should be total team participation in a congenial environment under the direction of caring and competent adults. Remember, that the value of the tee-ball program is the learning experience. There are no winners or losers, and no standings are kept. All games are considered ties. This Division is not meant to be a competitive division. Awards are given to all players.

The Divisions:

Developmental T-ball division is for players age 4
T-ball division is for players ages 5 and 6.

The date used to determine eligibility is May 1.

Teams:

Teams are co-ed. T-ball rosters shall not exceed 10 players.

Games:

Coaches will start skills drills promptly at 6:00 and games will commence at approximately 6:20 pm. Players should be in attendance for practice if they wish to play in the game.

Skills Objectives:

- Learning each position
- Base Running: Running the bases in the correct order; tagging the bases; running within the baselines;
- Hitting: Comfortably hitting off the tee, introduction to hitting pitches, if ready
- Outs: Learning that outs are made by (1) catching a hit ball; (2) tagging a base runner when not on base; or (3) tagging a base to which a base runner is forced. Celebrate any

outs made, but the runner will not sit if thrown out. (Outs rarely happen in this division as it is)

- Throwing: Learning the mechanics of throwing and learning where to throw for an out (players are generally encouraged to throw to 1st base for the out, or make the out if they are immediately next to another base).
- Catching: Learning to anticipate where the ball is going, keeping the ball in front of you.
- The idea is to teach the players where to throw the ball to make an out, and as such, running the ball to a base will be discouraged.

Batting/Pitching:

- **All players may use the tee for all games. Coaches should agree on when players will have the option of hitting off of a tee, or having a coach pitch to them.**
- All players will bat each inning.
- The ball must go at least halfway to the pitcher's mound to be considered a fair ball.
- No one strikes out in T-ball, even when you switch to pitched balls.
- If pitching, you may switch to hitting off the tee after 5-6 unsuccessful swings.

Base Running:

- The batter may only advance as far as first base on a hit.
- Base runners may only advance one base at a time.
- Base runners must stay in contact with the base until the ball is hit. (No stealing bases, no leading)
- Last batter is the "home run hitter" and clears the bases - rotate this batter every game.
- Offensive base coaches are encouraged. Coaches and parents from both teams may assist with the coach's consent.

Defense:

- Outs are encouraged, but not recorded (i.e. the entire lineup will bat regardless of the number of outs). If a player is tagged as out, celebrate the out, but the runner stays on the base. Explain the importance of an out.
- Defensive coaches are encouraged, especially at 1st base. T-ball players will need a lot of direction to tag the base and then return the ball to the pitching coach.