

Overview

This league is an introductory level league to learn the basics of baseball. This league allows your child to learn the fundamentals of the sport in a friendly, non-competitive environment. Children will learn the beginning concepts of hitting a ball off a tee, fielding a ball, running the bases and throwing a ball.

Player Eligibility

Child must be 5 on or before September 1

Team Overview

- One head coach and multiple assistant coaches are recommended based on parent volunteers.
- Each child will receive a team shirt.
- Child is responsible for their own mitt.
- Shirt must be worn during all games.

Players and Positions

- Every child will bat and play on the field during the game. No child will sit on the bench.
- A player will play the pitching position (standing on the pitching mound) for only one inning per game. This is a rotating position that within the season each player will have played at least one time.
- A player will play first base for one inning per game. This is a rotating position that within the season each player will have played at least one time.
- Six players may play in the infield. All other players are to be in the outfield and must stand at least 10 feet behind the baselines. No player will be placed in the catcher position.
- When your team is on the field, all coaches are allowed to play in the field with the players.
- When your team is batting, you must have a 1st base coach, a 3rd base coach and a coach at the batting tee.

Field and Ground Rules

- All players will hit off a batting tee. If you believe you have children who might be ready to be pitched to, you can offer these children 3 pitches each. If after those 3 pitches, the child has not hit the ball, please have them hit off the tee. A coach will be with the hitter and will place the ball on the tee. The player will be allowed to attempt to hit the ball until the coach deems the hit is appropriate.
- There are no walks or strikeouts.
- No stealing of base. Player stays on the base until next player hits the ball. When the last batter of the inning hits, the batter will be allowed to hit a home run, and all players on base will run the bases until they reach home base.
- The batting order shall be the entire team roster.
- No extra bases or overthrows. Each player will hit and one run base per hit.
- The defense can/should attempt to get an "out" (throw to first base for example) but the runner is not actually out and stays on the base.
- Batting Tee will be in the field box at the assigned field.
- The batting tee is the responsibility of the head coaches assigned to field for game.

Game Duration

- All games will last 1 hour or three innings, whichever comes first.
- An inning will end when all players on both teams have batted.

- All games will start within 10 minutes of scheduled start time. Exceptions are waiting for completion of earlier game or clearing of weather.
- No scores will be kept in this league.

Field Conditions/Rainouts

Rainouts will be called by the Tolono Park District. Rainouts will be communicated to the coaches, and they will text or email their players' parents.

Coach, Player and Spectator Conduct

- At time of registration each players family will be required to sign the Code of Conduct provided by the Tolono Park District.
- All coaches and spectators are expected to always show good sportsmanship.
- It will be the responsibility of the head coach to assure all players and assistant coaches are using proper conduct. Any issues or concerns should be brought to the Tolono Park District by emailing programsdirector@tolonoparks.org immediately.

Goals of League

- Players to enjoy the sport.
- Players will learn good sportsmanship.
- **Batting:**
Parts of the bat and bat safety
How to properly hold the bat
Stance at home plate
Swing through and run to First base
- **Running:**
Base location
How to run after hit
Which base to run to and when to run
Proper stance at bag
One player per base
Listen to coaches for when to advance
- **Throwing:**
Only T-balls will be used. These will be provided to head coach at beginning of season.
How to hold the baseball.
To look where they are throwing and visualize a target.
Wait until the player they are throwing to is facing them and ready
To throw overhand.
- **Fielding**
Where to stand in each position on the field.
Who should get the batted ball and when
Always pay attention.
How to wear their glove and hold their glove correctly.
How to properly field a ball and throw to first base.