



**Monroe Township
Baseball Association**

RECREATION TEE BALL RULES

2024



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SECTION 1 - GENERAL RULES

1. A player's age for the Spring Season will be determined by their age on April 30 of the current year (ex. Spring 2024 age is determined by age on 4/30/24).
2. A player's age for the Fall Season will be determined by their age on April 30 of the following year (ex. Fall 2024 age is determined by age on 4/30/25).
3. All players (Tee-ball through Pony) must wear a protective cup (boys) and heart guard.
4. No metal spikes are permitted in any division. Sneakers or rubber/plastic cleats must be worn.
5. No Jewelry of any nature may be worn on the playing field, unless considered medical or religious.
6. All players must wear their league provided uniform in full. The caps must be worn with the bill in front. Teach the children to look like baseball players.
Travel and School team players are not to wear their travel or school uniform, caps or jerseys.
7. No smoking in James Monroe Park, Thompson Park, Woodland School or Oak Tree School other than the parking lots.
8. To be on the playing field or in the dugout with the players, all volunteer managers and coaches must be: (1) Rutgers S.A.F.E.T.Y. certified, (2) must have taken and provided verification of the NFHS concussion training course and (3) must also have passed the preseason Background Check & Abuse Prevention Training as mandated by Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken Baseball. The MTBA will maintain a list of approved volunteers on our website (www.monroebaseball.com) verifying all its volunteers have fulfilled these obligations.
In addition, it is strongly suggested that all managers and coaches have their Rutgers S.A.F.E.T.Y. certification card in their possession (either physically or digitally) for every game and practice.
9. The MTBA will also make available to a limited number of its volunteers CPR/AED training and certification. While this is not mandatory, it is highly recommended that our Rec managers and coaches take advantage of any opportunities to receive certification.
10. An MTBA Executive Board Member, Field Supervisor, Umpire in Chief or The Monroe Twp. Recreation Department will declare the game cancelled based on weather or poor playing conditions before the start of any game. If a game is cancelled due to weather or poor field conditions, this is not an open invitation for a team to use the field for practice.

SECTION 1 - GENERAL RULES

11. 'No Contact Rule' - NO CONTACT specifically refers to commenting negatively or arguing calls with the Umpires once the game has started. This NO CONTACT rule not only refers to the manager, but also the coaches, the players and the parents of the players. Any game rules or special circumstances for certain players should have been discussed prior to the start of the game. Positive comments and questions about the game (count, # of outs) are ok. It is the responsibility of the manager to enforce this rule with their players, coaches & parents. If there is ever a problem with an Umpire, complete the game and notify the VP of Recreation Baseball. Any Manager or Coach that breaks this rule may be ejected from that game and would be subject to further disciplinary action as outlined in the Monroe Twp Recreation Baseball Codes of Conduct. Spectators breaking this rule may be asked to leave the bleacher area. There is no tolerance for breaking this rule.

12. A player who is ejected from a game by an umpire will be suspended one game. The player must leave the field immediately. The suspended player must show up to the next game in full uniform and BUT NOT PLAY. The player will not be able to play until he or she does show up in full uniform and sits out a game.

13. Any manager, coach or spectator yelling or harassing an umpire may be ejected from the game and must leave the field and stay in the parking lot for the remainder of the game so they can bring their child home after the game. As outlined in the Monroe Twp Baseball Codes of Conduct, they then must be addressed by the Executive Board and will be suspended for at least two games. If they decide to show up for those two games they must stay in the parking lot. If ejected a second time in one season they will be suspended for the rest of that season. If they decide to show up they must stay in the parking lot.

14. No foul language will be permitted. If a player, manager, coach or spectator uses foul language they may be ejected from the game and subject to further disciplinary action as outlined in the Monroe Twp Baseball Codes of Conduct.

15. Any rules not listed in these rules will refer back to the Official Cal Ripken or Babe Ruth Rule Book.

SECTION 2 - TEE BALL RULES (AGES 4&5)

1. Games must be played on a little league-sized field.
2. No umpires will be utilized, as no outs are recorded.
3. The home team will occupy the first base dugout on all fields. The schedule will dictate the home team.
4. Games are three innings or 1:00, whichever comes first. Each team should have the opportunity to bat the same amount of times so move the game along accordingly.
5. The inning will be completed when all batters have had the chance to hit. No outs will be recorded, no score will be kept, there will be no official winner or loser and no standings will be kept.
6. All bats must have the USA Baseball mark and accompanying permanent text which reads: "ONLY FOR USE WITH APPROVED TEE BALLS". Specific Tee Ball bat standards can be found on the following Babe Ruth League website:
<https://www.baberuthleague.org/media/301774/USABat%20Tee%20Ball%20Sticker%20Program%20Overview.pdf>



A comprehensive list of approved bats and additional details can be found on this portion of the Babe Ruth League website (<https://www.baberuthleague.org/bat-rules.aspx>). Illegal bats must be removed from the game. Note: Solid one-piece wood bats are permitted for use. No laminated or experimental bats shall be used in a game.

Tampering or altering bats may violate certain federal and state laws and voids the USA Baseball certification, as well as all manufacturer warranties. Rolling is considered tampering and would void the bat's certification and make it illegal for play.

7. All batters will hit off the tee for the first 8 games of the season (or until a pre-determined date). For the final 4 games of the season (or after the pre-determined date), coaches may pitch to the more advanced players. The players get 3 pitches (not swings) and then the ball is placed on a tee. We cannot grind the games to a halt. Practices should be used to pitch to other players that are not pitched to in the games. All players bat each half-inning. All players play the field each half inning.
8. On all batted balls, each player advances one-base only except for the last batter of each inning.

SECTION 2 - TEE BALL RULES (AGES 4&5)

9. The final batter each half-inning will run all bases and those on base at that time will run all the way around to home ahead of the batter. Please rotate the last batter among the players on your team as the players really enjoy getting to run all the way around the bases.

10. All plays/throws from fielders are to be made at first base. Defensive players should be cheered and congratulated when getting the batting team out but the outs do not count - the batter gets to stay at first base. The batting team's turn at bat will end only after all players have hit.

11. Players who cannot defend themselves should play even with, or deeper than the base-paths. Players of better skill should play first base as balls will be thrown to them as the primary object base. Move players around the playing field each half-inning.

12. If the offensive team is hitting and has an exceptionally good hitter at the plate, warn the other manager and coaches to move their players back a bit for safety and to pay attention - the last thing we want is a good hitter to hit a ball that will strike an unsuspecting fielder.

13. If a player cannot make contact with the ball on the tee, after 3 swings, the coach may assist the player and help him/her swing to make contact with the ball off the tee.

14. Please try to maintain some control of the fielders - they should stay in their positional area. All of the players in the field should not be chasing after the batted ball. A good idea is to place two or three fielders near the pitcher's mound and they can be the primary fielders going after the ball - rotate players into that area so all get a chance to field the ball.

15. Try to limit the number of coaches while the players are on the field to 4 - a coach near first base, a coach near the pitcher's area, a left-side fielder's coach and a right-side fielders coach.

16. For the offensive team, there should be a coach at home assisting the batter, a coach at first, a coach at third and a bench coach who is getting players ready to hit and keeping order on the bench.

17. Extra help is good, but other coaches/helpers should be confined to the bench and back-stop areas as the field will already be quite crowded.

18. Each Manager should give out a "game-ball" each game - make sure all players receive one game ball during the season.

SECTION 2 - TEE BALL RULES (AGES 4&5)

19. Tee Ball is supposed to be fun. Remember, these are 4 and 5 year-olds, they will fool around, they will lose interest if you are not keeping it fun. When conducting practice, break into small groups to work on skills...don't just have 1 player hit while all the other players stand around waiting, you will lose control quickly. Do drills, base running, hitting, throwing and catching. Please pair off the players properly. Take note of each player's skill level and make sure like-skilled players warm up together.

20. The managers will decide when a game should not continue due to inclement weather or poor playing conditions during a game.

SECTION 3 - PITCHING RULES

1. Only applicable after the 8th game or a pre-determined date. Exact date to be communicated by the MTBA Executive Board.
2. A coach of the hitting team will pitch to the more advanced players.
3. The players get 3 pitches (not swings) and then the ball is placed on a Tee. We cannot grind the games to a halt.
4. Coaches who are pitching to the children should do so while kneeling, so the trajectory of the ball is coming straight, not "downhill".
5. Also, when pitching, throw overhand and with a little velocity. A lobbed ball is harder to hit than one that is coming in fairly straight.