

## **Avon Little League**

### **T-Ball and Tot Ball Baseball Rules**

This league shall be primarily governed by the “Official Rules of Little League Baseball,” as published by Williamsport, PA. The following exceptions and modifications to the existing rules have been generated and Board approved in the interest of safety, fair play, and more even competition.

All games and practices shall take place on Avon Little League sanctioned fields (Little League Park and Veterans Park). At no time shall a coach/parent helper move a practice to any location other than those mentioned above. Any coach/parent helper found in violation of this rule is subject to disciplinary action set forth in section IV.C, below.

Avon Little League encourages all coaches to have players be active participants at this age level. Some of these rules have been modified to keep the attention of kids and have them all hit, score, and field. T-Ball and Tot Ball is not competitive baseball, it is meant to teach kids the fundamental aspects of baseball while they learn the game.

#### **I. Pre-Game and Post-Game Rules:**

##### **A. Home Team Duties and Responsibilities**

1. Uses the 1<sup>st</sup> base dugout.
2. Furnishes a game ball.
3. Gets out the tee from the storage shed before the game.
4. Responsible for cleaning any trash from their respective dugout.

##### **B. Visiting Team Duties and Responsibilities**

1. Uses the 3<sup>rd</sup> base dugout.
2. Furnishes a good back-up ball.
3. Puts away the tee in the storage shed after the game.
4. Responsible for cleaning any trash from their respective dugout.

##### **C. Dual Responsibilities**

1. Visitors will be listed first on the game schedule unless otherwise noted.
2. All players and equipment not directly involved in the game must remain on the bench.
3. Batting practice is NOT permitted on the field within 1 hour before the start of any game on a lined field
4. Soft toss into the fence is NOT permitted any time.
5. Soft toss into hitting nets IS permitted but can only take place in the outfield.
6. Each team is responsible for cleaning trash from their respective dugout.

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**II. General Rules and Avon Little League Rules**

**A. Equipment**

1. 9" Soft Baseball Incrediball will be used.
2. Batters must wear a helmet.
3. All players must wear their League provided t-shirt.
4. No player is allowed to wear necklaces, bracelets, or earrings.
5. Bats must feature the Little League or USA Baseball Logo and the barrel of the bat cannot exceed 2 ¼".

**B. Game Play**

1. Managers will NOT be allowed to cancel any games.
  - a. Any cancellations due to inclement weather will be decided by the League President or "his/her designee", in consultation with the Avon Parks and Rec Dept.
  - b. If a conflict exists with a school function affecting several members of the team, the manager must contact the GM, not less than 7 days before the assigned game, to request a change of schedule.
2. There are no call-ups for T-Ball Baseball. If not enough players are available to field an infield, teams are encouraged to use players from the other team.
3. There will be no tracking of wins and losses.
4. Time limit will be 1 hour and 15 minutes from the start of the game. Once the time limit has been reached, the current inning should be finished. This is the actual start time, not game time.
5. Score will NOT be kept.
6. The maximum number of innings played will be 4 innings.
7. Outs will NOT be counted, praise and celebration is necessary when a player(s) makes good fielding plays.
8. Players will not be removed from bases when there is an out.
9. The tee will be used for the entire game.
10. The ball must travel 5ft or be declared a foul ball.
11. All players will play the infield and outfield evenly. It is the manager's responsibility to be sure that all players have had a chance to play each position throughout the season.

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**C. Offensive Game Rules**

1. The offensive team is allowed 3 coaches on the field – a 1<sup>st</sup> base coach, 3<sup>rd</sup> base coach, and one coach/parent helper manning the tee and acting as the catcher.
2. All players present will bat in a continuous batting order.
  - a. The half inning is over when all batters have batted.
  - b. Coach will allow ALL players to be given the opportunity to bat first and last in the lineup at least once throughout the season.
  - c. If a player shows up late, he will assume the last position in the original batting order.
3. There is NO on-deck position in Little League. No batter may warm up on the field or outside the field of play and take warm up swings.
4. T-Ball is a station-to-station league. There will be NO extra bases allowed on fielding or throwing errors.
5. There will be NO steals.
6. Leading off is NOT permitted.
7. There are NO walks.
8. Sliding is NOT permitted.

**D. Defensive Game Rules**

1. Avon Little League encourages all players to be active participants at this age level. The defensive set up will be as follows.
  - a. Infield will consist of 5 players, NO catcher. All infielders must assume normal defensive positions (P, 1B, 2B, SS, 3B)
  - b. Outfield will consist of the remainder of players, set up to cover areas.
2. The defensive team is allowed 2 coaches on the field, typically one on the right side of the field and one on the left side of the field.
3. No player will be permitted to play the same position more than 1 inning in a game. It is encourage to rotate players through the infield and outfield each inning.
4. Defensive players must not be moved during an inning except for an injury or other emergency.

**III. Umpires**

**A. Umpires are NOT used in T-Ball.**

1. The first base coach will call outs at 1st base.
2. One of the defensive coaches in the field will call outs at 2nd base
3. The 3rd base coach will call outs at 3rd base
4. The coach/parent helper manning the tee will call outs at home.

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**IV. Rules Violations or Disciplinary Issues**

- A. All league officials can recommend disciplinary action to the President for all off-field violations by players, managers, coaches, parents, etc., while on Little League property at any time.
- B. At the recommendation of the GM and at the discretion of the President or his/her designee, a player, manager, or coach may be disciplined or suspended for rules violations or conduct detrimental to Little League Baseball.
- C. The following disciplinary measures have been established by Avon Little League Board of Directors.
  - 1. First incident – Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA) self-assessment and completion of PCA on line course.
  - 2. Second incident – One game suspension and a second PCA online course.
  - 3. Third incident – Removal as manager for the remainder of season and possible permanent removal from coaching.

**V. Lightning**

- A. If a lightning strike occurs 30 minutes prior to the start of a game or during a game, ALL games being played at the park where the lightning occurs (Veterans Memorial Park or Little League Park) shall be immediately cancelled and rescheduled as set forth under the General rules and Avon Little League rules section.
- B. The official Little League rule pertaining to a 30 minute wait between lightning strikes is suspended in this instance and not adhered to by Avon Little League.