

AMERICAN FALLS PARKS AND RECREATION T-BALL AND PITCHING MACHINE RULES

1. Games will last a minimum of 60 minutes or 3 innings. The 60-minute time minimum begins at the scheduled starting time of each game. Games will be stopped after 90 minutes regardless of game situation, in order to allow the next game to start on time.
 - a.) If the third inning ends before 40 minutes after the hour, a condensed 3 strikes/batter inning may be played if both coaches are willing.
2. Baserunners may not lead off from any base. Baserunners may leave their base only when the ball is hit.
3. Batting rules: No bunting of the ball is allowed. Hitting the tee more than the ball will be considered a foul ball. During scheduled games, T-Ball batters will have the option to hit 4-5 pitched balls. If they do not hit the ball in 4-5 pitches, they should use the tee.
4. There is no base on balls (walks) awarded in our league. Batters in T-Ball will bat until they hit the ball into play. Batters in Pitching Machine will be given 8 strikes with the pitching machine with a maximum of three pitches from coach or umpire before striking out.
5. Overthrown balls in Pitching Machine remaining in the field will be live balls and baserunners may advance at their own risk. Overthrown balls that leave the playing field become dead and baserunners will be awarded one base. In T-Ball, all overthrows that stay on the field or leave the field area are awarded only one base.
6. **THROWING OF EQUIPMENT WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!** People caught throwing equipment will be subject to ejection from the game. Repeated offenses of equipment throwing will cause dismissal from baseball. Teach this to your players early in the season and it will not be a problem later in the year.
7. Bat throwing is illegal and very dangerous and will not be allowed. A first offense will be penalized by warning the offender and his/her team. The second and any ensuing offense by any member of the same team will be called out. All batters and runners must wear helmets on the field.
8. Collisions at any base are dangerous and are illegal. Any collision in the attempt to jar a ball loose from a fielder's glove is an out. Repeated offenses of this rule by the same player will result in their dismissal from the game.
9. Each team's coach will determine defensive positioning. T-Ball teams may not have more than 10 players in the field on defense. All T-Ball players attending their game will play in the field at the same time as long as there are not more than ten. If teams do not have an equal number of players, then both teams will field the same number of players defensively. Players sitting out one inning will play the following inning on defense. Pitching Machine teams will be allowed 10 player on defense with 4 outfielders. Infielders must play in the infield and outfielders must play in the outfield. The coach will rotate players each inning to ensure equal playing time.
10. Parent participation is allowed at games only when requested or designated by the Baseball coach. Parents are not allowed on the field at games when we have

adequate coverage with our coaching staff. If there is a problem with a parent that doesn't understand this rule, please contact the Recreation Program coordinator so the situation can be resolved as soon as possible. Absolutely no more than 4 coaches may be on the field at one time and may not interfere with a live ball. (1 by catcher, 1B, 3B, and OF)

11. Special rules for Pitching Machine:

- a.) Any batted ball hitting the Parks and Recreation Coach or the Pitching Machine is a live ball.
- b.) If the batter does not get a hit in 5 strikes, they have the option of a coach pitching 3 additional pitches.
- c.) Players will have to sit if thrown out. Only T-Ball players stay on base.

12. All players attending the game will bat during each inning. The players will always bat in the same batting order throughout the entire game. Defensive positioning may change as desired by the team's coach.

13. Good sportsmanship is a requirement of T-Ball/Pitching Machine. The coaches are teaching the players to enjoy and play with good sportsmanship. It is a must that all players, coaches, parents, and spectators act accordingly. Please remember that Baseball is just a game and should be a fun activity for everyone. Players violating the good sportsmanship rule can be dismissed from participation in the Baseball program. Fans (parents and other spectators) violating the rule will be removed from the area for the remainder of the day. Please remember that the games are for the fun and enjoyment of the children in the program and that good sportsmanship will be first and foremost in our minds and actions.

14. Players must wear a hat on the field when playing defense. This is for their safety and is considered a part of their required uniform. All batters and baserunners must wear a helmet in the field of play (including while on deck)