

Halfmoon Baseball League

T-Ball Division Rules



1.0 Administration

1.1 Division Coordinator

- A. The Division Coordinator shall be appointed by the Board of Directors.
- B. The Division Coordinator shall be responsible for establishing the number of teams based on the number of players registered for the Division. The goal is to establish teams of 11 to 13 players each.
- C. The Division Coordinator shall assign a Manager to each team from the list of parents who volunteer for the position through the League registration process. If an insufficient number of parents volunteer for the Manager position, those who volunteered as Coaches will be contacted.
- D. The Division Coordinator shall be responsible for coach and player conduct enforcement and shall report all violations of the League Code of Conduct to the Board of Directors for disciplinary action.

1.2 Players & Team Makeup

- A. This Division is intended for players age 4-1/2 or 5 years old as of May 1st each year. Players who were not 4 years old the preceding November 1st are not eligible.
- B. Players who are older than age 5 on May 1st may play in this Division at the request of the parents and at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
- C. The Division Coordinator shall assign players to each team based on previous player ratings in an attempt to create balanced rosters.

1.3 Conduct

- A. Players and parents shall conduct themselves at all times in accordance with the League baseball player and fan conduct agreement accepted at the time of player registration.
- B. The Manager shall provide a copy of the agreement to all players at the beginning of the season.

1.4 Scheduling & Rainouts

- A. Each team will be scheduled to play approximately 14 games per season.
- B. The Division Coordinator shall be responsible for coordinating team practice times and game schedules with the League scheduler.
- C. The Town of Halfmoon will be responsible for determining if the field is playable by 4pm during weekdays. After 4pm it is the judgment of the two Managers to determine if it's a rainout or not including after the game has started. Weekend game rainouts shall also be determined at the discretion of the two Managers.
- D. Rainouts will be re-scheduled at the request of the home team Manager through the Division Coordinator.

1.5 Standings & Awards

- A. This is a non-competitive Division, wins and losses will not be tracked.
- B. There will be no forfeits. If a team does not have enough players for a full defensive alignment, they shall borrow players from the other team to play the outfield.

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- C. There are no individual or team awards in this Division. Each player will receive the same participation award at the end of the season.

1.6 Uniforms & Game Balls

- A. Team shirts and hats will be provided by the League.
- B. Baseball pants and rubber cleats are recommended but not required. Metal cleats will not be allowed.
- C. The home team will provide game balls. Safety Balls only will be used in this Division.

1.7 Field Care

- A. Each team is responsible for cleaning up the area inside and around the dugout or bench. All garbage shall be placed in the receptacles provided by the Town of Halfmoon.
- B. The home team will be responsible for raking the area around the bases and home plate after each game to pull dirt back from the edge of the grass and to fill in holes.
- C. The home team will be responsible for covering the mound and home plate after each game with the tarps and sand bags provided.

2.0 Game Play

2.1 Length of Game & Innings

- A. Games will last a minimum of 2 innings and will be no longer than 3 innings.
- B. For weeknight games, no inning should start after 7:30 p.m.
- C. Innings shall last until the lineup has batted around. Recording 3 outs shall not end an inning.

2.2 Batting & Base Running

- A. All players will bat in the lineup. The Manager is encouraged to rotate players through the lineup to balance the number of at bats each player has during the season.
- B. Batters will hit off a tee. A ball that travels less than 10 ft may be re-hit at the Managers discretion.
- C. The last batter in each inning will be the "home run hitter" that clears the bases.
- D. Batters and base runners are not encouraged to run for extra bases on hits past the outfielders unless the ball is extremely well hit and at the direction of the base coaches.
- E. Runners shall stop advancing when a ball hit to the outfield is returned to the infield or the coach pitching.
- F. Base runners should not advance on an overthrow regardless of whether it is in fair or foul territory.
- G. No outs shall be recorded even when a legitimate out is made on a batter or base runner.
- H. No leading or stealing is allowed. The base runner must stay in contact with the base until the ball passes the batter.

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2.3 Pitching

- A. Coaches will pitch to the players the last four games of the season.
- B. Coaches will pitch from no closer than the front of the pitcher's mound circle.
- C. Pitches should be thrown over hand on a straight line trajectory. Rainbow or arching pitches are not helpful to player development.
- D. Each player will get seven pitches if needed. If a player fails to put the ball in play after seven pitches, the tee should be used.
- E. No walks or strikeouts will be recorded.

2.4 Defensive Play

- A. All players shall be allowed on the field including:
 - i. Pitcher with helmet
 - ii. Four infielders with the first basement wearing a helmet
 - iii. Four primary outfielders
 - iv. Balance of team playing rover positions in the outfield
- B. It is the responsibility of the Manager to rotate player's at all defensive positions for educational purposes and to ensure equal playing time for all players at each position.
- C. The Manager may elect to prevent a player from playing 1st base after consultation with the players parents and Division Coordinator if needed.
- D. Outfielders should play at least 20 ft behind the infield dirt and should be discouraged from running the ball back to the infield or covering bases. Outfielders should be taught to throw the ball back to the infielders. An out made on a throw from the outfield to a base will be counted as an out as defined herein.
- E. The child pitchers must stand to either side of the mound, with one foot on the dirt area of the mound (and no closer to the plate than the pitching rubber).
- F. Defensive players will be encouraged to throw the ball to the appropriate base. Running the ball to the base will be discouraged by the coaches.
- G. Players should be encouraged to field all balls hit to them. With this in mind please teach players to learn their responsibilities and respect others in their positions. Defensive players running all over the field to play balls regardless of where they are hit should be discouraged.
- H. The infield fly rule does not apply.

2.5 Coaches on the Field

- A. A maximum of four coaches will be allowed on the field for the batting team including:
 - i. Pitcher or Batting Coach
 - ii. Catcher backup (during Coach pitch only)
 - iii. First & Third base coaches

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- B. A maximum of three coaches will be allowed on the field for the defensive team. Coaches are encouraged to play behind the infielders and in between the outfielders to remind the players of proper positioning and where the play should be made.

2.6 Umpires

- A. No umpires will be used in this Division.

3.0 Playoffs, All Star & Travel Teams

3.1 Division Playoffs

- A. This is a non-competitive Division, playoff games will not be held.

3.2 All Star Teams

- A. All Star teams will not be selected for this Division.

3.3 Travel Teams

- A. Travel Teams will not be selected for this Division.