

# Liberty Youth Baseball

## Local League Rules (ROOKIE)

### Junior T-Ball Division (3-4) - Page 1

This is an introductory league to give our younger children an opportunity to experience the game of baseball and softball prior to them becoming age eligible for t-ball. In this league, players will be introduced to the basic fundamentals needed for the game of baseball and softball. Managers, coaches and parents will help introduce and teach the players on their team to catch, field, throw, hit and run the bases. There will not be a winner or loser of any game and we will not be keeping score. Each team will have a manager who is in charge of that team, along with three assistant coaches. These four individuals will be taking care of the primary functions of the team. Parents will be asked to assist during games and practices to help make everything go as smooth as possible. The idea is to introduce this great game with several rule modifications to accommodate the interests and abilities of our younger children.

- 1) Foul language, tobacco and alcohol will **NOT** be allowed on the field or in the park.
- 2) **NO** cell phones will be allowed on the playing field during a game by a coach or a player.
- 3) The league commissioner will reschedule rainouts. A twenty-four (24) hour notice will be given to each team for the makeup game. The Vice President has the final say as to if the rained out games will be rescheduled.
- 4) Each team will be allowed a manager and three (3) coaches.
- 5) Rosters will consist of a maximum of eleven (11) players per team.
- 6) Practice time may be for a maximum of one hour (60 minutes) per day. A team may not practice more than two times per week and **NO** team will be allowed to practice on Wednesday for league.
- 7) Managers and coaches are responsible for controlling themselves and their parents. This is supposed to be a fun game for our children. If a problem arises from coaches or parents that cannot be resolved, stop the game and get a board member.
- 8) A complete game will be three (3) full innings or sixty (60) minutes, whichever comes first. Both the "visitor" and "home" team will have the opportunity to bat three times each. A new inning will not start after sixty (60) minutes. **Exception:** If it takes fifty (50) minutes or more to complete two innings, the game will be called after those two innings are completed. If the third inning is started, we will finish that inning regardless of the time. The goal is to complete three innings if time allows.
- 9) Both teams will have a set lineup with all members of the team listed. This will be for your organization only and no copies will need to be given to the other team or the umpire.
- 10) For defense, there will be nine (9) position players. Four infielders, four outfielders and the pitcher position will need to be occupied. For junior t-ball we will **NOT** be utilizing a catcher. The pitcher will need to wear a batting helmet with a face shield (softball like face shields are approved and do not require wearing a helmet).
- 11) Coaches will rotate all their players and let them have the opportunity to play multiple defensive positions throughout each game and the season.
- 12) For this introductory league, defensive players can get base runners "out", but the base runners will be allowed to stay on that base and continue running when the next batter hits the ball.

# Liberty Youth Baseball

## Local League Rules (ROOKIE)

### Junior T-Ball Division (3-4) - Page 2

- 13) Parents can assist their child while their team is on defense. Helping them with where to stand prior to the ball being hit, reminding them where to throw the ball once they get it, etc. We encourage them to practice throwing the ball as much as possible. At minimum, one throw will be made to the pitcher so the pitcher can return the ball to the umpire.
- 14) All batters will wear a helmet. (Chin straps and face guards are not mandatory while batting)
- 15) All players on offense must remain in the dugout at all times unless batting, on deck, or base running. All offensive players not in the dugout must wear a batting helmet.
- 16) The manager and three coaches will be the only coaches who can be on the field while that team is batting. One of the four will be at the tee to assist the players hitting. The other three will be located as a first base coach, a second base coach and a third base coach to help the players run the bases in the correct order.
- 17) There will be **NO** sliding allowed at any base.
- 18) Base runners must stay in contact with the base until the ball is hit.
- 19) The LYBA will provide the tees to be used during all games.
- 20) Any regulation bat of twenty-six (26) inches or less may be used. It must be USA stamped and say t-ball on it.
- 21) Batting order will be continuous. All players will bat each inning. (10 players = 10 at bats per half inning)
- 22) When batting each half inning, both teams will start at a different spot in the batting order. This will allow a different player to start off the hitting and base running. See the example below for an 11-person team:

<b>1st Inning Batting Order</b>	<b>1st - 2nd - 3rd - 4th - 5th - 6th - 7th - 8th - 9th - 10th - 11th</b>
<b>2nd Inning Batting Order</b>	<b>5th - 6th - 7th - 8th - 9th - 10th - 11th - 1st - 2nd - 3rd - 4th</b>
<b>3rd Inning Batting Order</b>	<b>9th - 10th - 11th - 1st - 2nd - 3rd - 4th - 5th - 6th - 7th - 8th</b>

By doing this, it won't be the same kids starting off every inning. The hitting team will also need to make sure the defensive team knows when the "last batter" is about to hit.

- 23) The batter will be allowed (2) attempts to hit the ball fair on their own. For a ball to be fair, it must travel at least ten (10) feet from home plate. This area will be marked from foul line to foul line. If the batter is unable to hit the ball fair on their own, the home plate coach will assist them on the third attempt to make sure the ball is put in play. There will be **NO** strikeouts in this league.
- 24) Once the ball is hit, the base runners will move one base at a time until they score. The only exception to this is the "last batter" for that inning. Once the "last batter" comes up, the remaining base runners will run until they have crossed home plate and that batter has hit a "homerun".