

# Liberty Youth Baseball

## Local League Rules (A)

### T-Ball Division (5-6) - Page 1

- 1) Local league rules supersede all other rules. Consult the Dixie youth rule book for rules not listed.
- 2) Practice time may be for a maximum of one hour and thirty minutes (90 minutes) per day. A team may not practice more than five times per week and **NO** team will be allowed to practice on Wednesday for league.
- 3) Foul language, tobacco and alcohol will **NOT** be allowed on the field or in the park.
- 4) **NO** cell phones will be allowed on the playing field during a game by a coach or a player.
- 5) Only LYBA approved managers, coaches and players are allowed in the dugout and on the field. Failure to comply with this could result in punishment for the manager of the team as well as forfeiture of the game.
- 6) 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.
- 7) Each team will be allowed a manager and three (3) coaches during games.
- 8) Each manager will have three (3) copies of their lineup. One for the scorekeeper, one for the opposing coach, and one for themselves.
- 9) Home team furnishes the scorekeeper. The scorebooks are located in the concessions stands.
- 10) Protests must be made before the next batter to the umpire or they will not be recognized. Protests on an umpire's judgement call will not be accepted.
- 11) The league commissioner will reschedule rainouts. A twenty-four (24) hour notice will be given to each team for the makeup game. If the rainout does not affect the determination of the first place team for any league, the Vice President has the final say as to if the rained out games will be rescheduled.
- 12) If a team does not have enough players fifteen (15) minutes past game time it will be counted as a forfeit. If both teams do not have enough players it will be counted as a double forfeit. You can play with only eight (8) players. Exception: If the opposing team has enough players to allow for a pool player to avoid a forfeit.
  - 12a) In the event a team does not have enough players to field a team, pool players will be allowed to play in order to maintain the schedule and lower the possibility of a forfeit.
  - 12b) A pool player is described as an extra player on the opposing team (over the required 10) that may be placed on the opposite team in order to avoid a forfeit. The player must be from the opposing team.
- 13) Any player absent at the beginning of the game and is not there by their turn to bat and misses their turn, will not be allowed to enter the ball game or the dugout.
- 14) All batters will wear a helmet. (Chin straps and face guards are not mandatory while batting)

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- 15) The first half of the season will be played as noncompetitive. The second half of the season is competitive and the league commissioner will determine the date competitive play begins. This is an introductory league and should be played accordingly.
- 16) Rosters will consist of a maximum of thirteen (13) players per team.
- 17) A complete game will be five (5) innings or sixty (60) minutes, whichever comes first. A new inning will not start after sixty (60) minutes. There will be a fifteen (15) minute extension to finish the current inning if needed. If the inning is not completed within the fifteen (15) minute extension the score will revert back to the previous completed inning.
- 18) There is a seven (7) run rule in effect per half inning. This means that you can score seven (7) runs per inning and there will be a fifteen (15) run rule after three (3) innings. Unless the winning team is the home team then there is a fifteen (15) run rule after two and a half (2-1/2) innings.
- 19) An inning will be complete when both teams have acquired three offensive outs or scored a maximum of seven runs each.
- 20) No more than three (3) coaches will be allowed on the playing field at one time. One coach at the first base coaching box, one coach at the third base coaching box and one coach at home plate. The home plate coach may **NOT** instruct hitters after the ball is placed on the tee and at no time can they coach the base runners while the ball is in play.
- 21) The LYBA will provide the tees to be used during all games. No other tee will be permitted.
- 22) Batting order will be continuous. All players will bat.
- 23) Any regulation bat of twenty-six (26) inches or less may be used. It must be USA stamped and say t-ball on it.
- 24) 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.
- 25) The home plate coach will attempt to set the batter once per time at bat.
- 26) The batter will be allowed three (3) swings to hit the ball fair. A foul on the third swing will be called an out. 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. A batter will be allowed to make only two practice swings prior to approaching the tee.
- 27) Batters will not be allowed to bunt the ball. If the batter bunts the ball in the judgement of the umpire then the batter will be called out. The batter must have both feet in the batter's box. The batter will be called out if they sling or throw the bat after one warning is given to that player.
- 28) Infield fly rule does not apply for t-ball.
- 29) Base coaches may not touch a runner at any time while the ball is in play. Umpire must make the call. The runner will be called out as a penalty if this happens.

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- 30) **NO** head first sliding is permitted. Any player that slides into a base head first will automatically be declared out. This shall apply only to a runner attempting to reach the next base and does not apply to a dive or attempt to return to a base.
- 31) The base runner must slide at any base other than first base if the defense is attempting to make a tag. The defensive player cannot block the base or the baseline without possession of the ball. Obstruction will be called and the runner will be awarded an extra base.
- 32) Base runners must stay in contact with the base until the ball is hit. Leaving the base too soon will result in the defensive team having the option of keeping or rejecting any part of the play. (THE RUNNER IS NOT OUT)
- 33) There will be two (2) defensive coaches allowed on the field during defensive play behind the outfielders line.
- 34) All players will play a minimum of two (2) defensive innings per game (six defensive outs). Penalty for not doing this will be forfeiture of the game. If the bottom of the 5th inning is not required, it will not count as an inning played. The only reason a player will be excused from play will be due to illness or injury. Absent players must be reported to the other coach before the game.
- 35) There will be ten (10) defensive players with no more than six (6) players on the infield including the pitcher. The position of catcher **MUST** be occupied. The player at the catcher's position will not be down behind the plate, but will be positioned by the umpire and **MUST** wear a protective helmet with a face shield. The other four (4) players will play in the outfield.
- 36) If a ball is thrown to first base in an attempt to force out a runner from home and the play is not successful, the runner is able to advance to second base at his own risk. He will NOT be able to advance further than second base. Given there is not an attempted play to put the runner out advancing to second or any other base runner out. This rule is used to encourage the defense to throw the ball from the infield to first base.
- 37) Pitchers must wear a batting helmet with a face shield (softball like face shields are approved and do not require wearing a helmet). The defensive team will place a player in the designated pitching circle and have one foot inside the pitching circle until the ball is hit. PENALTY: The offensive team has the option of accepting a hit or taking no swing.
- 38) If the pitcher fields the ball and makes a baseball move towards first, third or home plate he can then tag the runner or touch the base. Second base is excluded from this play, they must throw the ball to second base. If the ball is hit directly to the pitcher, they should attempt to throw to first, second, third or home plate. The intent is to throw the ball and make a baseball play whenever possible. If the umpire determines that the "chase rule" has been violated the runner will be called safe and awarded that base.
- 39) The play will end when the pitcher has the ball in his possession and has one foot in the pitchers circle. Any runner that has reached the halfway mark prior to the pitcher having possession and at least one foot in the pitchers circle, is going to be awarded that base. If the pitcher has possession and has one foot in the circle before they reach the halfway mark, the runner will be awarded the last base touched. If the pitcher makes a play on the base runner, the ball is back in play. If in the umpires judgement the play has come to a standoff by holding the lead runner for three (3) seconds, they will call time and position the baserunners.