



Game Day Rules:

T-Ball Division

This is a supplemental policy to both the By-Laws of Santa Teresa Little League and the official rules provided by Little League International.

The T-Ball division is the entry level of Santa Teresa Little League. This division introduces kids to baseball in a fun atmosphere. Basic player skill development is the primary focus in the division. It is the manager's responsibility to teach the fundamentals of the game, develop players, and provide a positive experience that will encourage the child to continue playing Little League.

Managers are responsible for providing a set of game day rules to each family at the team meeting in the beginning of the season. This document is a supplemental policy to both the By-Laws of Santa Teresa Little League and the official rules provided by Little League International.

1. Field Setup:

Both teams are responsible for setting up the field:

- Drag the dirt areas.
- Chalk the batter box and 1st/3rd baselines.
- Chalk an arc approximately 3' in front of the plate. Inside the arc is foul territory.
- If necessary, apply a layer of water to dampen the dirt.
- Home Team: PreT and TeeBall provide one (non-Coach/Team Parent) volunteer in the Snack Shack (Anderson or Frost). If the shack staff determines that not as many volunteers are needed (slow business, for example) then Pre-T/T-Ball volunteers are the first to be excused.

2. Starting the Game:

- The two managers conduct a plate meeting to exchange any information required for that game.

3. Tee Batting, Coach Pitch, and Gameplay:

All Season

- Place the tee on home plate. Position the batters so they make contact with the ball just in front of or inline with their forward leg (back leg is power leg).
- Each team bats through the entire lineup.
- The last batter of each inning is the homerun hitter. The batter and all runners touch all bases.

- Have a different lineup for each inning.

First 09 Games

- Use a tee for every at bat.
- Outs can be achieved by the defense and celebrated, but do not count. The baserunner remains on base.

Final 03 Games

- Batter receives a maximum of 3 pitches from the coach/manager who is kneeling 10' – 15' from home plate.
- Pitches should be flat and hittable.
- There are no called balls or strikes.
- If the player has not hit the ball after 3 pitches, the coach behind the plate places the tee for the batter.
- Base runners who are out on a defensive play return to the dugout. Three outs do not end the inning. The entire lineup bats.

4. Base Running:

- Batters advance 1 base with each batter (with the exception of the homerun hitter AB).
- Feet first sliding is permitted. Head first sliding is not permitted.

5. Coaching On The Field:

Only official members of the coaching staff are permitted on the field and in the dugout during the game. (A parent may be authorized to enter the field of play if an injury occurs but only after being authorized by a member of the coaching staff). Managers and coaches are encouraged to be out in the field teaching and instructing the players on the proper technique and correct baseball play.

- There must be at least (1) coach or approved volunteer in the dugout at all times. Players are not allowed in the dugout without an adult.
- Defense: Up to three coaches are on the field with the players, ensuring safety while gently guiding the gameplay.
- Offense: One coach is behind the plate to place and adjust the tee and coach their kids as they perform the AB. Two base coaches at 1st and 3rd help the baserunners.

6. Defense:

- Attempt to arrange the defense in standard baseball positions.
 - At Anderson the field is very small so players will be more clustered.
 - At Frost there's room for 'outfielders'.

- Managers are required to rotate their players to various positions. No player can play the same position for more than two consecutive innings.
- The managers will track the positions played by every player on the team. Use league-provided defense sheets to help with the tracking of the rotation of players.
- There are no on deck batters and warming up batters behind the dugout is not permitted.

7. Ending the Play:

- When a player fields a ball, they attempt a throw to first base.
- Fielders can also attempt force outs as the season progresses.

8. Thrown Bats:

- 1st time and 2nd time, a child is warned but is allowed to carry out the result of the play. The manager explains to them the dangers of throwing the bat.
- If it happens a 3rd time, the player skips their ABs for the remainder of the game citing the safety rule. They can still play defense.
- Only the batter can have a bat in their hand. All other bats must be idle.

9. Game Time Limit:

- Games are 60 minutes unless inclement weather causes the game to end.
- The next half inning can start up to the 59th minute of the game. The completion of the next half inning ends the game.
- There is no inning limit.

10. Behavior and Sportsmanship

- The Manager is responsible for the conduct of your team's players, coaches, and parents/spectators.
- Managers must communicate to the parents the goals of the T-Ball Division. Explain the season structure. T-Ball is full instructional and development baseball. Support all players and coaches during the game.
- No artificial or homemade noisemakers are allowed at any time.
- Walk up music played by spectators is not permitted.
 - Teams may play music during pre-game warmups and in between innings music is permitted if both Managers agree before the game.
 - Music must be age-appropriate
 - Playing music cannot slow down the game.
 - If during the game any player requests that the music end, both teams must abide for the remainder of the game.

- Spectators who encroach the field without permission, engage in negative commentary, curse, or otherwise engage with players during games is not permitted. Spectators who violate any of the above will be asked to move further away from the field, escorted off premises, and/or suspended from attending a future game.

<https://stlitleague.org/info/code-of-conduct>

This policy has been adopted by the STLL Board of Directors: FEB 2025