

**BURLINGTON  
COACH PITCH  
RULES  
Revised March 2016**

T-ball is a game of participation, fun, and fundamentals. In order to promote these qualities, the rules have been revised to decrease the emphasis on winning and losing. It will be important that the players, parents, and coaches all work together and promote the fun of participation in sports.

**AGE:** Preschool and Kindergarten boys and girls. Must be 5 by September 1<sup>st</sup> of the calendar year.

**PARTICIPATION:** All players will be in the batting order and allowed to play the field each inning.

**TEAM:** The defensive team will set up a regular infield with no player closer to home than 35'. Six players may be used to play a game.

**BATTING:** Each team will bat until all of their roster has batted each inning. They will hit off a tee placed in front of home plate. The batter will get as many swings as necessary to hit a fair ball. The tee is to be removed after each hit so that it does not interfere with the play. Batters may have 3 swings at a coach pitched ball (from 30') if the player is ready. After 3 swings, the ball will then be placed on a tee.

**THROWING THE BAT:** If a bat is forcibly thrown (in the air or such that it may injure someone), a warning will be given to that player the first time. The next time this occurs, an out will be ruled.

**BASERUNNERS:** Runners must stay in contact with the base until the ball is hit. Stealing is not allowed. Once the ball becomes dead, the runners, if running towards the next base, may continue on to that base. Teams are encouraged to try to make outs by throwing to appropriate bases, therefore runners may only advance one base on any overthrow. Runners are responsible for avoiding contact with fielders trying to field a ball. They may run around them, provided they are not avoiding a tag.

**STOPPING PLAY:** The play becomes dead when the defensive team is in control of the ball in either the circle around home or the pitcher's circle. This includes plays on the last batter. On the last batter, the inning is over if the batter or a baserunner makes an out.

**BASE COACHES:** An offensive coach is permitted to be at 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> bases.

**DEFENSIVE COACHES:** One defensive coach is permitted behind the infield in order to help their defensive players.

**SCORING:** The score will NOT be kept. Therefore, it does not matter how many players each team bats.

**GAME LENGTH:** 4 innings or a 60-minute time limit.

**BASES:** 60' apart.

**BALLS:** A 9" reduced injury factor ball will be used.