



MTBSA "A Rookies" Division Rules

This level of baseball is to introduce the full aspect of the game by increasing play time. While the main goal of all age groups is to have fun while learning, the Rookie division is expected to continue focus on hitting as well as developing pitchers and catchers.

Age Group – 6 years old

The Playing Field

1. The base paths will be 60 feet in length and pitching rubber will be 46 feet from the home plate.

Equipment

1. Players at this level are expected to have a glove. Gloves will not be provided by the league and are required to play in the field.
2. All bats used in Rec games and practices MUST have the USA Baseball logo.
3. It is the responsibility of the player to bring their own helmet to every game and practice. If a player forgets their helmet, they will not be permitted to bat during the game or practice unless a replacement is found.
4. The baseball used in this division of play is a T-ball. This is the only ball to be used at this level of play.
5. Cleats are not required at this level of baseball. Metal cleats will not be permitted and only rubber cleats are allowed.
6. Athletic cups are highly recommended, but not required at this level. Catchers are REQUIRED to wear cups at this level.
7. No shorts or jewelry should be worn during practices or games to ensure player safety.
8. Coaches/Managers
9. Coaches and Managers as well as any helping parents must always set a good example of sportsmanship for players and spectators.
10. Coaches will meet before the beginning each game to go over ground rules and cover any questions.
11. Injured players MUST be attended to immediately. If necessary, emergency forms must be filled out and can be found online under coach resources. Coaches should have these forms printed out at games and practices to ensure full details are enclosed. Commissioners should be contacted if an event like this occurs. First aid kits and ice packs will be provided to coaches prior to the season. Additional kits will be in the field boxes. If items are needed, please contact the commissioner.
12. Coaches are responsible for communicating all practices, games, and events to their team and parents in a timely manner.
13. Remember to keep it simple. Every coach should be more concerned with the players learning how to play the game rather than who wins or loses.
14. Each Team is allowed: One manager, two assistants, and a scorekeeper on the bench during games.
15. Coaches should be in the field of play coaching during games.



16. Managers have the right at any time to eject a parent, player, or spectator from the field and/or complex at any point. If any ejections take place a form must be filed with the commissioner for future notice. Recurring events could result in permanent ejection from any field or park.

The Game

1. Rainouts will be cancelled and rescheduled by the commissioner and can be viewed on the website. Players MUST show up to their scheduled game/field time (unless notified beforehand) and any cancellations may occur up to 15 minutes after the start time of the game.
2. Game length will be 90 minutes maximum or 4 innings, whichever comes first (weather permitting).
3. Score will not be kept at this level of play.

Offense

1. All players will bat one time in each inning. Coaches can change the lineup each inning or have a lineup remain the same for all innings. If a player cannot bat his/her turn, the batting order continues without penalty.
2. This age group will be coach pitch, with each child getting 5 chances to make contact. If no contact is made, the Tee should be placed to hit.
3. All balls in fair territory are in play.
4. When the ball is hit into the outfield, the batter may advance to second base to get a double.
5. If the batter throws the bat, he/she should be given a warning.
6. Runners should advance as many bases as the batter, depending on the hit.
 - a. We want to teach the kids the right way to run the bases – running hard for a double, going from 1st to 3rd on a ball in the gap – but only in legitimate situations. Once an outfielder throws the ball, no further advancement is allowed.
7. No advancing on an overthrow.
8. Bunting will NOT be allowed at this level of play.
9. Stealing will NOT be permitted at this age group.
 - a. Players must slide, give themselves up or avoid contact when going into any base.
 - b. Remember SAFETY is a priority.
10. The following is NOT ALLOWED:
 - a. Leading off base
 - b. Pinch hitting
 - c. Infield fly rules or protesting.



Defense

1. Coaches may not be used to assist the defense.
2. The defensive team will field all players. Pitcher's mound position can have two players, with one defensive player on each side of the mound. Catchers should not be used at this level.
3. Players must play at least 1 inning in an infield position per game. Players who are unable to protect themselves are not required to be rotated into pitcher and first base positions.
4. Runners on base may be forced out or tagged out per regulation baseball rules. If a player is tagged out, that player should return to the bench and all other runners will remain on the bases.
5. The following is NOT ALLOWED:
 - a. baseline interference or protests.
6. Outs are now permitted at home plate. To ensure safety of the players, catchers may not block the base for any play at the plate.

Pitching

1. Pitching will be done by the coaches.

Any issues regarding rule clarity will be settled by managers of the game and later reviewed by the commissioner and VP of Baseball. No rule should hold up progress of a game, compromise.

Any rule not specified in the above sections, may resort to Official MLB regulations.