

**CONROE LITTLE LEAGUE
2024 FALL BALL LOCAL LEAGUE RULES**

T-BALL

This T-Ball program is intended to be non-competitive. It is designed to be an instructional league. Teaching the fundamentals of baseball and combining it with a fun experience for player, coaches, and parent should be everyone's goal.

1. GENERAL

- a. This division will consist of a league of 4, 5 and 6-year-old (with parent discretion and board approval).
- b. To ensure all players participate in at least half of every game. No player may sit out (2) two consecutive innings, and no player may sit out a second inning until all players have sat out at least (1) one inning with consideration of player's need.
- c. The batting order shall be continuous and will consist of every player's name. Players continue batting in proper order regardless of whether they are in field that inning. Those players who did not bat will lead off batting the next game.
- d. Late arrivals, which is the option of the manager are eligible to play, shall be placed at the end of the batting order.
- e. (1) one manager, (3) coaches and (2) team moms will be allowed in the dugout during the game. **NO UNAUTHORIZED PERSON(S) ARE ALLOWED IN THE DUGOUT.**
- f. Managers and coaches may coach the bases provided they comply with the Little League Rules.
- g. Each team shall field (10) ten defensive players. However, if a team is unable to field (10) ten players, then that team shall field (8) eight defensive players. **All players are strongly encouraged to play their position.**
- h. No defensive player, other than the catcher, may take a position closer to home plate than the pitcher.
- i. **EVERY PLAYER MUST PLAY (1) ONE INNING IN THE INFIELD AND NO MORE THAN (1) ONE INNING AT ANY GIVEN POSITION.**
- j. No outfielder will be positioned in front of the infield prior to contact of the ball by the batter.
- k. A Manager or Coach may physically position any player in the batter's box.
- l. Manager and Coaches **MAY NOT** Physically assist a player in the field.
- m. The proper place for the tee is in front of the home plate **NOT ON THE HOME PLATE.**
- n. Practice is only 60 minutes (1 hour).
- o. All managers, coaches, team moms and parents willing to help out either during practices and games **MUST** fill out a background form and wear their badge in order to participate.

2. PLAYING FIELD

Playing field dimensions shall be the same as provided in the Little League Rule book with the following markings:

- i. The pitching rubber shall be encircled by a circle of (10) ten feet in diameter, which shall be known as the “pitching circle”.
- ii. The grass will determine the outfield for the purpose of identifying the minimum distance from home plate that an outfielder may take a defensive position.

3. PLAYING THE GAME

LITTLE LEAGUE RULES WILL APPLY WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS:

- a. The ball shall be declared ready to play when the pitcher is in contact with the rubber and the manager or coach places the ball on the batting tee.
- b. **PITCHER MUST REMAIN IN THE CIRCLE UNTIL THE BAT CONTACTS THE BALL.**
- c. The ball should be declared dead and all play halts when the pitcher has control of the ball. The umpire should make sure that the defensive play has been stopped before making the dead call.
- d. If the ball is declared dead, then the advancing base runner must return to the last base legally touched. All batters/runners and base runners may advance one.
 - i. (1) base on an infield hit (and infield hit shall be a hit ball that does not go past the base path). A batter/runner and base runner may advance a maximum of (2) bases on any ball hit into the outfield the (past the base path).
- e. A batter is entitled to have (5) five swings. A batted ball not clearing the dead ball area shall be considered the same as a foul ball.
- f. The batter shall be declared out when the (5) fifth swing if he/she fails to hit the ball. A ball resting on the line will be considered a fair ball.
- g. A swing shall exist when the bat crosses the plate or knocks the ball off the tee.
- h. If a strike is attempted and the bat comes around twice, the second time will **NOT** be counted as a strike or hit.
- i. Any batted ball, which is fielded prior to clearing the dead ball area, shall be declared a **LIVE OR DEAD BALL** by the umpire, based on his/her judgment as to whether or not the ball would have cleared the dead ball area had it not been touched by the defensive player.
- j. There is a 5-run limit for the first 4th innings and 5th inning is open.
- k. **IF THE PITCHER FIELDS A BATTED BALL, THE PITCHER MUST THROW THE BALL TO MAKE AN OUT. THE PITCHER CANNOT TAG**

A RUNNER OUT AND MAY NOT RUN THE BALL TO THE BASE FOR AN OUT ON A BATTED BALL.

1. **THE OUTFIELDS MUST BE POSITIONED BEHIND THE INFIELD IN THE GRASS BEFORE PLAY CAN BEGIN. WHEN PLAYING IN THE OUTFIELD, THE OUTFIELDER MUST CATCH THE BALL IN THE AIR OR THROW THE BALL TO AN INFIELDER TO MAKE AN OUT. THE OUTFIELDERS MAY NOT MAKE THE TAG OR RUN IN FOR THE FORCE OUT. ALL HIT BALLS MUST BE THROWN TO THE APPROPRIATE BASE FOR AN OUT TO BE DECLARED, UNLESS THE PLAY IS FORCED PLAY.**
- m. **INFIELDERS ARE ALLOWED TO TAG THEIR BASE. THE SHORT STOP MAY TAG A RUNNER BETWEEN SECOND (2ND) AND THIRD (3RD) BASE AND MAY COVER EITHER SECOND (2ND) AND/OR THIRD (3RD) BASE.**
- n. The overthrown rule will be enforced as followed: On any attempted play at a base, the runner(s) will be permitted to advance at their own risk but not more than if the ball goes into outfield (grass) (1) one base. Award one (1) one base if the ball goes into the dead ball area.
- o. The ball must be **THROWN** back to the pitcher.
- p. The ball must be thrown over-handed. If the ball is thrown under-handed, the throw will be considered as a roll. **NO ROLLED BALLS ARE ALLOWED.**
- q. Under-handed throws will be allowed for the following situations only:
 - i. If the (2) two players are a short distance apart
- r. The game is no more than 60 minutes (1 hour)