



6U T-Ball Fairfield Sports Association Softball Rulebook

Commissioner's Note

Welcome to the season! We're thrilled to have you on the field. This is a youth recreational league, and the goal is to inspire a true love of the game and help the girls develop their athletic abilities. Let's make sure we focus on enjoyment, skill-building, and teamwork!

Code of Conduct

Fairfield Sports Association (FSA) is a volunteer organization dedicated to fostering a positive sports experience. Our mission is to encourage sportsmanship, teamwork, self-confidence, and physical fitness. Participation in this program is about helping our youth grow, have fun, and create lasting memories.

Coach's Code of Conduct

Coaches are role models both on and off the field. The following behaviors are expected:

- **Maintain self-control at all times.**
 - **Set a positive example for players and spectators.**
 - **Do not use profanity, offensive language, or engage in inappropriate actions.**
 - **Alcohol and tobacco use is strictly prohibited before or during games.**
 - **Refrain from raising your voice in anger or engaging in arguments.**
 - **Do not verbally abuse officials, coaches, players, or spectators.**
 - **Always remember that this is meant to be fun for the girls.**
 - **Play hard, play fair, and respect the spirit of the game.**
-

Team Event Limit

To promote player well-being, balance, and family time, teams are limited to a maximum of **three (3) events per week.**

An **event** is defined as **any organized team activity**, including but not limited to:

- Practices
- Voluntary practices
- Games
- Scrimmages
- Team meetings
- Any other time the full team or a portion of the team is required or expected to meet in person

No team may exceed three total events in a single calendar week, regardless of the type or combination of events. Coaches are responsible for ensuring compliance with this rule.

Eligibility

- Open to players who are 6 years old or younger and wish to participate in an instructional division.

Game Times

- Games last 60 minutes or 5 innings, whichever comes first.
 - No new inning will begin with less than 5 minutes left on the game clock.
 - **Rain Outs:** To be considered a full game, both teams must complete 2 full innings or 35 minutes of play.
 - Games stopped before the completion of 2 innings, or 35 minutes of play. will be rescheduled if possible, depending on field availability.
-

Equipment

- **Mandatory Softball Fielding Mask:** All players must wear a softball fielding mask while playing in the field.
 - **Catcher's Gear:** The catcher must wear either a batting helmet with face mask or a catcher's mask.
-

Batting

- All players present will bat every inning

Positions

- Every player must play at least one infield position each game. Infield positions include: 1B, 2B, 3B, SS, C, and P.
- If there are safety concerns, contact your league representative.

Reminder to Coaches and Players

- Focus on skill development and enjoy the game!

Playing Rules

- **No Score or Records:** No score or records will be kept for instructional T-ball.
- **No Tournament or All-Star Selections:** There will be no end-of-season tournament or All-Star Team selections.
- **No Umpires:** The offensive coach will determine safe/out calls and interpret rules.
- **Outs:** If an out is made, the batter/runner who is out must leave the base.
- **Three Outs:** A half inning is not ended by three outs. A half inning ends after the whole lineup has hit.

Beginning of Season

- **Hitting Off the Tee:** Players may start by hitting off the tee. Batters must take a full swing.
- **Coach Pitching:** Coaches are strongly encouraged to begin pitching the first game.
- **Attempts to Hit:** Each batter gets three attempts to legally put the ball in play. If unsuccessful, they will continue hitting off the tee until a legal hit is made. **No strikeouts** will be counted.

Restrictions

- **No:**
 1. Base on balls.
 2. Base awards for being hit by a coach pitch.
 3. Intentional walks.
 4. Infield fly rule.

5. Base stealing.

Runner Advancement

- **Infield Hits:** A runner cannot advance beyond first base on a ball hit in the infield.
 - **Outfield Hits:** If the ball is hit to the outfield, the runner can advance no further than second base, understanding they may be tagged out.
 - **Clarification:** A runner on first can only advance as far as the batter. For example, if the batter hits a single, the runner can advance to second base. If the batter hits a double, the runner may advance to third base (at their own risk).
 - **Overthrows:** Runners cannot advance on an overthrow to first base. Coaches should teach players to run through first base and return to the base instead of trying to advance to second.
-

Coaching Positioning

- **Coach at Home Plate:** The coach at home plate will adjust the tee height for each batter.
 - **Coach Pitcher:** The coach pitcher should remain out of play and must not interfere with the game. After the ball is hit, the home plate coach must remove the tee and bat to the backstop/fence until the play is dead.
 - **Fielding Players:** All players must play the field, with a maximum of 6 infielders allowed.
-

Defensive Rules

- **Coaches in the Outfield:** Coaches may stand in the outfield to assist with player positioning.
 - **Defensive Pitcher:** The defensive pitcher must be positioned within 10 feet of the coach pitcher, but no closer to home plate. The pitcher may leave this area once the ball is struck.
 - **Catcher Positioning:** The catcher will be positioned at the backstop and must wear a batting helmet with face mask or a catcher's mask. After the ball is put into play, the catcher may move into the field of play.
-