

PARAGOULD YOUTH BASEBALL

PLAYING RULES

5-6 YEAR OLD COMPETITIVE T-BALL

GENERAL RULES

1. A player may play in an older age group, but under no circumstances will a player be allowed to play in an age group younger than their own.
2. Players will be selected via a player draft in an effort to create equity amongst the teams. Tryout dates will be announced in mid-February each year.
3. Metal cleats are not permitted in 12 year old and younger.
4. Crowd control is the responsibility of first, the coach, secondly, the umpires, and thirdly, the league president. Fans demonstrating disruptive behavior will be asked to leave. Police may be called in an effort to restore a family-friendly environment at Bland Park.
5. Teams who cannot field a minimum of 8 players will forfeit.

5-6 YEAR OLD COMPETITIVE T-BALL

1. **Time Limit:** One hour and fifteen minutes or (5) Innings, whichever comes first. Ties will not be played out.
2. **Batting Order:** All teams will bat round robin. If a batter becomes disabled during a game and cannot bat, it is not an out. If a child is sick before a game, leave him off your line-up and inform the opposing coach and the press box. This player cannot enter that game.
3. **Defense:** Will consist of (9) regular fielding positions and (1) additional rover in the outfield grass. The pitcher must be on or behind the pitching rubber with both feet in the circle. Penalty: The batter will be awarded first base. This shall apply only if the batter is put out at first base, or by fly ball, or if a runner is forced out by the hit. If the batter reaches first base and continues to second, he is in jeopardy and may be put out at any time.
4. **Runs per Inning:** (6) runs per inning max. Defensive team will come to bat, regardless the number of outs, if the offensive team scores 6 runs in their half of the inning.
5. **Contact Rule:** Babe Ruth rule 6.05 shall apply.
6. **Dead Ball:** The Field Umpire will call "Time" when a player has control of the ball within the pitchers circle **AND** asks for time. When the lead runner is forced back to a base, all play is dead. Trailing runners' positions will be determined by their degree of advancement.
7. **Tee:** A tee, provided by the league, will be used at all times.
8. **Ground Rules:** The pitching rubber will be a distance of 46 feet from home plate. The pitchers circle will be a (10) foot circle measured from the center of the pitching rubber. There will be (60) feet between bases. An arc will be drawn (15) feet from the back of home plate, from foul line to foul line in fair territory. This area will be foul territory for the purpose of batted balls. A line will be drawn halfway between first base and second base, second base and third base, and third base and home plate. These will determine the runners' degree of advancement when time is called.
9. **The Batter:** All batters will wear a batting helmet when on the field of play, whether as an on deck hitter, a batter, or a base runner. Coaches are not allowed to physically position a batter in the batter's box.
10. **Bunting:** Will not be allowed.

11. **The Catcher:** Must wear a catcher's helmet with facemask. The umpire will place the catcher in an area, behind home plate, that he deems safe before the batter swings. After the ball has been put into play, the catcher will not be restricted on the field of play.
12. **Infield Fly:** Will not be in effect.
13. **The Fielders:** All defensive players must be positioned farther from home plate than the back of the pitcher's circle (exceptions: pitcher and catcher). **All outfielders must remain in the grass until the ball is put into play. Penalty: The batter shall be awarded first base if he is out on first, on a fly ball, or if a preceding runner is forced out.**
14. **Batter is Out:** After three strikes. If a batter slings his bat, a warning will be given to the team at bat. After one warning, any player on the warned team who slings his bat will be called out immediately. No runners will advance. The umpire will be the sole judge of whether the bat was slung or dropped. This is **NOT** an appeal play.
15. **The Runner:** Base awards will be determined by the lead runner's position. Runners who have reached the halfway line when time is called will be awarded the next base. Runners who are not halfway must return to the last base touched unless doing so would force a runner off of first base.
16. **Coaches:** A manager and three coaches will be allowed in this age group due to the extra help needed in the dugout during the game. On offense, a first base and a third base coach will be allowed at their prospective coaches' box on the field. On defense, coaches must remain in their dugout. **Exception:** One coach may stand directly in front of the dugout for the purpose of defensive instruction. **Penalty:** The coach will be restricted to the dugout for the remainder of the game.
17. **Base Awards:** All overthrown balls are live unless the ball leaves the field of play, in which case, a (1) base limit will be given to the runners. Any fair batted ball that bounces over, rolls through, or under a fence will be a ground rule double.
18. **Run Rule:** If a team is ahead by (15) runs after 3 complete (2 ½ for the home team) or (7) runs after 4 complete innings (3 1/2 for the home team) the game will be called.
19. **Game Time:** Be at the field at least (15) minutes prior to game time.
20. **Umpires:** (1) umpire will be responsible for maintaining the integrity of fair competition and calling time. That person will also call the game if needed due to unsafe playing conditions, inclement weather, run rules, or the inability of a team to produce a minimum of 8 players for a game.
21. **Line Ups:** Should be written out no later than (5) minutes prior to game time and exchanged with the opposing coach.
22. **Tobacco:** Prohibited
23. **Other:** Refer to the Cal Ripken Tournament Rules & Official Baseball Rules for situations not covered here.
24. **Rain Outs:** Park officials will be the sole judge of cancelling games due to inclement weather.

Rainout information will be posted by 3:00pm on the day of inclement weather on
www.facebook.com/paragouldyouthbaseball