



YMCA YOUTH T-BALL RULES

TEAMS & EQUIPMENT

Each team will consist of a maximum of 12 players. There will be 1 practice and 1 game each week. No score will be kept in games. All balls, bats, and helmets will be provided by the YMCA, but players will need to provide his/her own glove. Players will be required to wear helmets while batting and running bases.

UMPIRE

A YMCA staff member will serve as umpire to assist coaches and encourage the kids on the field. Coaches are still responsible for playing by the rules.

GAMES

A game will be 45 minutes in length, but the final inning will always be finished. A new inning will not begin after 35 minutes.

BATTING ORDER

All players present at the game will be placed in the order in which they will hit by the coaches. The batting order will remain constant throughout the game. In order to keep the game running smoothly please keep the players seated in batting order in the dugout.

BATTING

The ball is hit off of a tee; there will be no pitching. Each player will be allowed 3 swings before a coach is allowed to help. The ball must be hit at least 10 feet and within boundaries to be considered a fair ball. If the ball does not clear 10 feet the ball will be placed back on the tee. No batter will be called out while at the plate. Coaches will announce when the last batter is up and that player will "clear the bases".

INNINGS

Each player bats every inning. If a player is either forced or tagged out he/she must return to the dugout. The batting order will be completed regardless of number of outs. A half inning is complete when every player on offense has batted.

BASERUNNING

Players may take only 1 base per hit. Baserunners must not leave their current base until the ball is hit; i.e. no leading off or stealing bases. Base runners may not advance on overthrows at any time the ball leaves the infield playing area, even if it remains in fair territory in the outfield. No runner may advance on an illegal hit and must return to their original base.

DEAD BALL

The ball is declared dead when the player in the pitcher's position has possession of the ball and holds it.

DEFENSIVE POSITIONS

All players on the roster will be sent out to the field. Players will be assigned a position either in the infield or outfield. We recommend not assigning a catcher at this age as it is not a high volume position. Infielders must stay 20 feet back from home plate. A player may not play the same position for more than one inning.

COACHING

Coaches will be allowed to be on the field with the players during defense. They may not play the ball but are there to encourage and instruct the players. Coaches are also allowed to help runners at each base as well as home plate.

POST GAME ACTIVITIES

Both teams will line up to shake hands and offer congratulations for a good game at the end of each game. Good sportsmanship is to be encouraged by players, coaches, and parents.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

Practices and games will be held if the YMCA deems that the conditions are satisfactory. If a practice or game is to be cancelled the YMCA will post the cancellation on their website, <http://www.bismarckymca.org/>. A notice will also be posted on the Missouri River Valley Facebook page and an email will be sent out to coaches as well. Practices and games will not be rescheduled. Please note that practices and games may be cancelled on short notice due to severe weather.