

PRE – KINDERGARTEN LEVEL I - (T-Ball) LEAGUE RULES

All coaches are expected to familiarize themselves with the rules regarding conduct of coaches, spectators and players toward paid FCBC Umpires.

RULE 1 -Players, Field and Equipment

- 1-1 There shall be **10 defensive players** on the field at a time: **4 outfielders, 5 infielders** and a **catcher**. All players are to play all positions during the season. Place no more than 2 coaches in the field to assist with coaching instruction and development of players as the game is played.
- 1-1-4 The catcher shall be positioned on the opposite side of the batting tee from the batter.
- 1-1-5 All fielders must stay behind the infield line, & outfielders must stay behind the baseline until the ball is hit. The infield line is an arc, 40 feet from the point of home plate at all points. In the event that such a line is not physically drawn on the field, coaches shall keep all players within such a distance in accordance with the spirit of the rule.
- 1-2-1 The diamond shall be 50 feet between bases.
- 1-2-9 Official throw down bases will be furnished by FCBC.
- 1-2-10 The batting tee shall be located 3 feet behind home plate in line with 2nd base.
- 1-2-11 There will be no pitcher's rubber or mound.
- 1-3-4 The official ball to be used is a safety ball furnished by FCBC.
- 1-4-1 No metal cleats will be allowed.
- 1-5-5 The catcher must wear a batting helmet, which includes ear protection at all times.
- 1-5-12 Jewelry shall not be worn (See 3.3.1d) except for religious or medical medals ... taped and worn under the uniform ...

RULE 2 - Player Terms and Definitions

- 2-8 Bunting will not be allowed.
- 2-19 There is no infield fly rule.
- 2-20-2 **A 1/2 inning is over when there are 3 outs or when the number of players in attendance of the larger team have batted. THERE WILL BE NO COACH to COACH AGREEMENTS MADE to CHANGE THIS RULE.** A coach shall announce the last batter prior to their at bat. . The last batter (and all runners on base) will advance 1 base (see rule 5). Do not have the runners continue running after the play has completed.

RULE 3 - Substituting - Coaching - Bench & Field Conduct-Charge Conference

- 3-1-1 On defense, free substitution shall be allowed; all players shall play at least every other inning.
- 3-1-4 On offense the batting order shall contain the entire roster of players.
- 3-3-1c A player who carelessly or unintentionally throws their bat or helmet shall receive 1 warning. Further infractions by the same player, or if the player intentionally throws their bat or helmet shall result in the player being called out (if not already out) & in forfeiture of their next turn at bat (with an automatic out).

RULE 4 --Starting and Ending the Game

- 4-2-1 A regulation game consists of six innings or 1 hour. No inning shall be started after one hour.
- 4-2-2 Ties will not be completed.
- 4-2-3 The league will not reschedule rainouts; managers may reschedule un-played games at their option.
- If a team has less than 8 players present at game time, it can borrow the needed players from the other team so long as the opposing team would still have at least 9 players.

RULE 5 - Dead Ball - Suspension of Play

- 5-1 Runners can only advance one base on any hit. They may not advance on any overthrows.

RULE 6 – Pitching

- 6-1 There are no pitched balls in 5-year old T-Ball.
- 6-1-1-3 There will be no balks or base on balls.

RULE 7 – Batting

- 7-1 All players shall bat continuously without substitution while on offense. There shall be no penalty for batting out of order.
- 7-2 Any batted ball that does not go at least ten feet from the point of home plate shall be treated as a foul ball. If such an arc is not physically drawn on the field, the home plate umpire shall determine if the ball passed such a distance.
- 7-3 A batter who misses the ball 3 times will strike out. Hitting the tee with the bat is also considered a strike and not a foul ball.
- 7-4 If 3 outs are recorded in the inning, the batting order resumes where it left off. The next batter in the lineup will start the next inning.

RULE 8- Base running

- 8-2-8 Runners must remain in contact with their bases until the ball is hit. The first time a player leaves too soon, a warning shall be issued to the player. The second time the player will be called out. Each player will be issued 1 warning per time on base. Warnings & penalties will be called immediately, and the ball will be considered dead before the play.
- 8-4-2 No sliding is allowed.

RULE 9 - Scoring - Record Keeping

- 9-2-1 Official game scores and team standings shall not be kept

RULE 10 - Umpiring

- 10-1-1 Each team shall provide one umpire for each game. The umpire must be at least 16 years old. If a team cannot provide an umpire then 2 umpires from the other team will be provided. The umpires shall trade positions after three innings. The Umpire-In-Chief shall make the calls at home & third base, keep track of the count & number of outs & shall adjust the height of the batting tee. The field umpire shall make the calls at first and second base in the Field, & determine that all base runners remain in contact with their bases until the ball is hit.
 - o The following diagram is a visual representation of field dimensions and player placement as outlined in Rule 1. The following rules also apply.
 1. Infielders 1-5 must assume a position similar to those used in traditional baseball.
 2. Outfielders 1-4 must assume a position approximately 70 feet away from home plate.
 3. Outfielders 1-4 must be evenly dispersed in the outfield.

The intent of this diagram is to ensure compliance with the player placement rule outline in Rule 1 and to simulate a defensive alignment similar to the alignment use in traditional baseball. FCBC considers placing players in positions not represented in this diagram to be a violation of FCBC Sportsmanship policy. Coaches shall chalk the home plate, foul line to 1st & 3rd, as well as mark off the 40 ft arch

