



2019 T-Ball/Coach Pitch Rule Book

Updated 8.12.2019



BREC ATHLETICS
6201 Florida Blvd
Baton Rouge, LA
225.272.9200

THE RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSION FOR THE PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE

Dear Team Manager,

On behalf of the Recreation and Parks Commission for the Parish of East Baton Rouge, we would like to welcome you as a participant in our Adult Football Program.

Our goal is to offer quality sports programming at affordable prices and see that each participant has an enjoyable leisure experience.

Please read the rulebook at your first opportunity to familiarize yourself with our league's rules and regulations.

We now have an online registration system. You can establish your online account at www.brec.org. For additional information, you can contact athletics@brec.org or you can also visit our department's web site at <http://www.brec.org/index.cfm/subhome/athletics>.

All managers/coaches must take the SPORTSMANSHIP class. (NFHS Sportsmanship Course <http://nfhslearn.com/courses/37000>) Submit completion certificate with team registration form.

All manager/coaches must take the CONCUSSION training course (Center for Disease Control and Prevention Concussion Training Course <https://www.cdc.gov/headsup/youthsports/training>) Submit completion certificate with team registration form.

Again, welcome to our program. Wishing you and your team a very enjoyable and successful season.

Sincerely,

BREC Athletics

The Recreation and Park Commission for the Parish of East Baton Rouge reserves the right to make changes to this document as necessary during the season.



THE RECREATION & PARK COMMISSION FOR THE PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE

BREC T- BALL & COACH PITCH BYLAWS

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

Revised 8/2019

Article I

Article I. GAME

Game Time is Forfeit Time!

If a team has less than 9 players at game time, the game shall be declared a forfeit.

If a forfeit is declared, the game will be played for 'fun' and experience based on the Athletic Coordinator discretion.

-6U length of the game will be **1 hour or 4 innings. (T-Ball)**

-8U length of the game will be a **1 hour 10 minutes or 6 innings. (Coach Pitch)**

Clock Management

The clock will run continuously during the play of innings. During change of half or full innings, the clock should **stop** and the batter has **(30) seconds** to enter the batter's box to start a half or new inning.

Clock Stoppage Rules

Time outs by the teams or official time outs will stop clock for (1) minute after stoppage play will resume.

The Time Clock will stop between innings to preserve the integrity of play. All teams will have **(30) seconds** to place a batter in the box for play, after change of inning.

- **Time Warning Rules (Coach Pitch Only)**
 - If a batter hasn't reached the batter's box in **(30) seconds** from the change of innings,
 - First Offense: Verbal Warning to Coach/Manager
 - Second Offense: Batter will be called out.

AGE DIVISIONS

A. T- Ball – Age Division (4-6 years old)

- Children ages 4 to 6 years old. A child is ineligible if he/she does not turn 4 before May 1 of current year.
 - i. (Ex: A child turning 7 years of age prior January 1 of current year is ineligible.)

B. Coach Pitch – Age Division (5-8 years old)

- Children ages 5 to 8 years old.
 - i. (Ex: Any child turning 9 years of age prior January 1 of current year is ineligible.)

Players of younger division age may play/participate in older divisions, but an older division age player may not play in the younger divisions.

Players may not play on more than one team per league per season

Player Post-Season Eligibility: Any player on your roster must play in at least fifty percent (50%) or more of their scheduled league games for the regular season their team is currently playing in. If not, he or she will be deemed ineligible for any post-season games.



Article II

GOVERNING RULES:

8U Coach Pitch League Rules

- A. If possible, A team can only have a maximum of 15 players and minimum of 12 players on any given team. *(If a coach has more than the maximum number of players for a team, he/she must receive approval from the Athletic Department to move forward with more than the maximum number of players.)*
- B. Maximum of 10 defensive players. Four out fielders must be 10 feet behind base path.
- C. **Coach Pitch Ball Size** -will be the Rawlings Official League baseball with a leather cover, raised seams, wound solid cork and rubber center ball suitable for eight (8) and under play. It should have an official size of 9 inches and 5 oz. weight ball.
- D. All teams MUST bat entire lineup, with free defensive substitution. All children MUST play in the field at least one (1) inning during any given game. If a player isn't allowed to play defensive during any given game at least one (1) inning and the team committing the violation wins, the team must **FORFIET** the game.
- E. Every player present at game time must be listed on lineup card and must bat in that order. Late players will be added to bottom of line up. It is the coaches/manager's responsibility to submit lineups (15) minutes before the start of each game.
- F. No bunting, slapping or base stealing.
- G. Catcher must squat behind home plate in full gear.
- H. Maximum of 7 runs per inning.
- I. 5 pitches or 3 strikes – Player may continue to bat if they continue to foul off pitches.
- J. No infield fly will be in effect.
- K. Defensive players must be 35+ feet from batter.
- L. Play is stopped when the progress of the lead runner is stopped. Umpire calls time as soon as lead runner is not attempting to advance
- M. Pitcher must have one foot in circle even or behind the pitching coach.
- N. Highly recommended pitcher wear face guard.
- O. Game length will be 1 hour 10 min or 6 innings.
- P. Base length will be 60 feet.
- Q. Pitching rubber set at 35 feet. Coach must have one foot on rubber when pitching.
- R. Base runner shall not leave the base until crosses the plate.
- S. If a thrown ball hits the pitching coach, it is considered a live ball, unless the Umpire determined the coach intentionally interfered. If Ump feels it was intentional, it will be a dead ball and the play is repeated (Do Over).
- T. If the Pitching Coach is hit with a ball leaving the bat, all runners will return to their previous base and the batter will bat again. (Do- Over).
- U. Defensive coaches may **ONLY** take a position in the outfield in foul territory.
- V. Run rules will be in effect for all games
 - 15 runs after 3 complete innings
 - 12 runs after 4 innings
 - 10 runs after 5 innings



T- BALL RULES

- A. For T Ball, coaches will provide a batting line up to the umpire. Teams must follow the batting lineup.
 - i. In Tee Ball, teams will bat 10 players. After the 10th player has batted, teams will swap sides.
 - ii. Every player present at game time must be listed on lineup card and must bat in that order. Late players will be added to bottom of line up.
- B. The umpire should adjust the tee height for each player, and then place the ball on the tee. The umpire makes sure everyone is ready and then says, “PLAY BALL”. If the batter swings before the ump calls “PLAY BALL”, the play is dead and one strike is called.
- C. **T- Ball (Ball Type)** - Rawlings TVB Soft Core T-Balls or similar with a Sponge/rubber center and official size of 9 inches and 5 oz. weight ball
- D. The catcher should retrieve all balls thrown in from the field and hand them to the umpire who will place the ball on the tee.
- E. Batters must take a full swing at the ball. If on the third strike the ball is batted foul, the batter is out.
- F. If the ball is batted fair but remains within the 20-foot semicircle the play is dead and a strike is called.
- G. A fair ball is any ball within the first and third base boundary lines and past the 20-foot semicircle, regardless of whether the batter hit the ball or the tee. A ball landing on the line is a fair ball.
- H. Safety line: infielders must stay 35 feet behind this line until the ball is hit (Penalty—if fair/dead ball all runners and batters ruled safe).
- I. A player is not permitted to steal or take a lead off a base (penalty player is called out).
- J. Once a player has secured possession and control of the ball and is in the infield area (inside base paths to home plate) and does not attempt to make a play on an advancing runner, play will be called DEAD by the umpire. The runner will be allowed to advance to the base provided he/she has crossed the halfway mark between the bases.
- K. If the ball is overthrown at first or third base, the ball is considered in play and all runners may advance at risk of being put out. An overthrown ball that goes out of the field is dead and allows runners to advance only one base.
- L. Coaches are permitted to assist any player while at bat or in the field.
- M. Players can slide into any base feet first.
- N. It is the responsibility of the umpire to remove the tee from home plate area any time a play may be made or any time a runner may attempt to score.
- O. Umpires will call “time” after every play and declare the ball “dead”. Time shall be called as soon as the lead runner is not attempting to advance. Time does not have to be called by the players.



CONDUCT RULES

We ask that you maintain a positive approach always throughout the league and adhere to the following guideline:

Game officials shall have the respect and support of the coach. The coach shall not indulge in conduct which will incite the players or spectators against the officials. Public criticism of the officials or players is unethical

The coach should respect his opponents, display gracious behavior during competition and require his players to conduct themselves in similar fashion. Before and after the contest, rival coaches should meet and exchange friendly greetings to set the correct tone for the event.

Coaches shall actively use their influence to enhance sportsmanship by spectators

Article II. PLAYER BEHAVIOR

Any coach, or player verbally or physically abusing a game official, opposing player, or any other individual, will be ejected from the game and must leave the facility immediately. Any player refusing to leave will cause his team to forfeit the game. In the case of physical abuse or extreme unsportsmanlike conduct, additional disciplinary action can/will be taken by BREC's Athletic Department including but not limited additional suspensions and/or removal from the league. **COACHES WILL BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ACTIONS OF THEIR TEAM MEMBERS AND FANS.**

Article III. SUSPENSIONS

A player who is ejected from a game will be required to leave sight and sound of the facility within **2 minutes**. If a player fails to leave after an ejection, the game will be forfeited by the umpire. Managers should see that your player leaves promptly. If any player is ejected from the game he/she shall be automatically suspended for a minimum of one game, additional punishment could be handed down pending review by BREC staff. If the player is ejected a second time, he/she will be suspended for the remainder of the season, or if circumstances so warrant, be suspended from participation in any program and/or facility of BREC indefinitely, pending review by staff

Article IV. EJECTIONS

All ejections carry a \$25.00 player reinstatement fee. If a player is ejected twice (2) within one playing season, they are not allowed to participate within the playoffs.

Article V. PROTEST

All protest must be made on site prior to play resuming. Only team captains can confer with the officials. Protest must be lodged only for misinterpretation of rules. Protest must be lodged properly in writing and must be submitted to Athletic Department **within two working days (Mon.-Fri.)** after protested incident. If the protest is upheld the **\$25.00 fee** will be returned. The protest fee will be forfeited if the protest is not upheld.



Article VI. CODE OF CONDUCT

- No manager, player, or spectator shall physically/verbally threaten, lay a hand upon, shove, or strike an official, field supervisor, staff member, player and/or spectator.
- No manager, player, and/or spectator shall be guilty of objectionable and/or disruptive verbal demonstrations of dissent at an official's or field supervisor's decision, or refuse to abide by official's or field supervisor's decision. No manager, player, and/or spectator shall be guilty of verbal abuse to include references to an individual or group's race, religion, gender, national origin, disability or age.
- Participants shall not use flagrant rough tactics against an opposing player.
- There shall be no unnecessary throwing of equipment, or any other objects.
- There will be no cause for defacement or destruction to any public facility or equipment.
- Participants (managers, coaches, players, etc.) may not falsify their own name or any other player's name on a team roster, scoresheet, or any other league document. The use of ineligible or illegal players is not permitted.
- Individuals and/or teams violating the Code of Conduct will be subject to league discipline action which may include one or more of the following actions: game ejection, game forfeiture, game suspensions, probation and/or seasonal suspension.

PARK POLICIES

No alcoholic beverages may be brought onto or sold on BREC property. (City Parish Ordinance, Title 13: Section 13:1010)

Pets must be leashed at all times and droppings removed. For information on our Dog Park locations, please call 272-9200 ext. 400. (City Parish Ordinance Title 14, Chapter 2, Sec. 14:204)

Firearms, explosives and weapons of any type are prohibited in all park areas. (City Parish Ordinance, Title 13: Section 13:1011)

Gambling or games of chance are prohibited on BREC property. (City Parish Ordinance, Title 13: Section 13:90.2)

Firearms, explosives and weapons of any type are prohibited in all park areas. (City Parish Ordinance, Title 13: Section 13:1011)

Please help keep your parks clean by placing all trash and litter in receptacles provided at all BREC parks. For safety purposes glass containers are prohibited within parks.

Sale of merchandise, food and beverage, solicitation of fees or donations, or conducting any type of business or event, including distribution of flyers, signs or other advertising mediums is prohibited without permit from BREC Commission. (City Parish Ordinance Title 3, Chapter 5, Sec 3:90- 93) For additional information regarding permits see Special Events.



Park patrons are advised to be cautious of purchasing any product or merchandise from a vendor in a BREC park not displaying a BREC Permit or not selling from a designated BREC concession stand.

Teams/Spectators may not play their own music inside of a BREC park before, during, or after games.

Teams/players violating any BREC park policy may be subject to forfeiture of the game and/or expulsion from the league.

RETURNED CHECKS

Teams will be eliminated from any further league play for non-payment of league fees.

Article VII. FORFEITS

Game time is forfeit time!!

- The field supervisor's or umpire's watch represents the official time. Any time eight players are on the field; the game must start.
- Teams with fewer than nine (9) players will be given a forfeit.
- The score of a forfeited game will be 7-0.
- In the event of a double forfeits each team will be credited with a loss with the score being recorded as 0-0.
- Forfeit Limits: A team which exceeds its maximum limit may be dropped from the league without a refund. Maximum limits:
 - Teams which play one game per week0 forfeits
 - Teams which play two games per week1 forfeits

Article VIII. REFUND POLICY

No refunds will be given unless a league is cancelled. In the event that rule violations result in a team being removed from the league, the following refund formula will be used.

- Teams expelled between the date of registration and the beginning of their leagues first game **will forfeit 100%** of their registration fee.
- Teams expelled after the start of their first game **will forfeit 100% of fee.**

Article IX. RAIN MAKE UPS

In most cases, teams will receive at least one week notice of schedule changes. In emergencies, teams may be asked to play with less notice. Managers will receive a rain make-up schedule through email upon games being rescheduled.



Article X. ROSTER CHECKS

BREC staff reserves the right to randomly check team rosters for player validity. The manager is responsible for keeping up-to-date team roster records. This practice can eliminate any question as to whether a team member is eligible to play. Players must present BREC staff with a form of photo identification upon request. Any player or team information which is not correct on a team's roster, and/or the use of illegal or ineligible players will result in league discipline.

Any child found intentionally giving false birth date information enabling the child to participate in the wrong division; will be ruled immediately ineligible for play the remainder of the season. All games he/she participated in will be ruled as forfeited in favor of the opponent.

Article XI. PLAY-OFFS

Play-offs will consist of the top teams from each league.

COACHES

All coaches and officials are required to take and complete a Sportsmanship Course offered through the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS). Coaches and officials are also required to complete a concussion training course offered through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The completion certificates for the Sportsmanship training as well as the Concussion training must be submitted when your team registration packet is submitted. If any coach does not submit his/her completed certificates will not be eligible to coach until the courses are completed and their certificates are submitted.

- Sportsmanship Course Link: <http://nfhslearn.com/courses/37000>
- Concussion Course Link: <https://www.cdc.gov/headsup/youthsports/training/>

Injury, Bleeding or Open Wound:

A player/substitute, manager, coach, trainer, or other team member or sports official who is bleeding or who has an open wound shall be prohibited from participating further in the game until the bleeding is stopped and the wound covered.

1. If treatment can be administered in a reasonable amount of time the individual would not have to leave the game. The length of time that is considered reasonable is umpire judgment.
2. If excessive time is involved, the re-entry rule would apply to players.
3. If there is an excessive amount of blood on the uniform/bandage must be changed before the individual may participate.

Concussion Protocol:

Any player that exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion, or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the game and shall not be returned to play.

Communicable Disease Procedures:

While risk of one athlete infecting another with HIV/AIDS during competition is close to non-existent, there is a remote risk that other blood borne infectious diseases can be transmitted.



For example, Hepatitis B can be present in blood as well as in other body fluids. Procedures for reducing potential or transmission of these infectious agents should include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. The bleeding must be stopped, the open wound covered and if there is an excessive amount of blood on the uniform it must be changed before the athlete may participate.
2. Routine use of gloves or other precautions to prevent skin and mucous-membrane exposure when contact with blood or other body fluids is anticipated.
3. Immediately wash hands and other skin surfaces if contaminated (in contact) with blood or other body fluids. Wash hands immediately after removing gloves.
4. Clean all blood contaminated surfaces and equipment with a solution made from proper dilution of household bleach (CDC recommends 1-100) or other disinfectants before competition resumes.
5. Practice proper disposal procedures to prevent injuries caused by needles, scalpels and other sharp instruments or devices.
6. Although saliva has not been implicated in HIV transmission, to minimize the need for emergency mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, mouthpieces, resuscitation bags, or other ventilation devices should be available for use.
7. Athletic trainers/coaches with bleeding or oozing skin conditions should refrain from all direct athletic care until the condition resolves.
8. Contaminated towels should be properly disposed of/disinfected.
9. Follow acceptable guidelines in the immediate control of bleeding and when handling bloody dressings, mouth guards and other articles contain body fluids.

The referee shall not permit any team member to participate if in his/her judgement any item constitutes a safety concern, such as, but not limited to, a player's fingernails or hairstyles.

BREC reserves the right to re-evaluate the rules and place improvements in place for any current rules and/or violations. BREC reserves the right rule on any items not covered in the document and to expand the rule basis. Rules that are not covered in the BREC rules and operating code, will automatically defer to NIRSA rules and procedures.





PARENTS CODE OF ETHICS

I hereby pledge to provide positive support, care and encouragement for my child participating in youth sports by following this Code of Ethics.

I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches and officials at every game, practice or other youth sport events.

I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my child ahead of any personal desire to win.

I will insist that my child play in a healthy environment.

I will provide support for coaches and officials working with my child to provide a positive, enjoyable experience for all.

I will demand a drug, alcohol and tobacco-free sports environment for my child and agree to assist by refraining from their use at all youth sports events.

I will remember that the game is for children and not for adults.

I will do my very best to make youth sports fun for my child.

I will ask my child to treat other players, coaches, fans and officials with respect regardless of race, sex, creed or ability.

I will promise to help my child enjoy the youth sports experience within my personal constraints by being a respectful fan, providing transportation or whatever I am capable of doing.



COACHES CODE OF ETHICS PLEDGE

I hereby pledge to live up to BREC's Coaches Code of Ethics.

I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my players ahead of any personal desire to win.

I will remember to treat each player as an individual, remembering the large spread of emotional and physical development for the same age group.

I will do my very best to provide a safe playing situation for my players.

I promise to review and practice the necessary first aid principles needed to treat injuries of my players.

I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all my players.

I will lead, by example, in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all players.

I will insure that I am knowledgeable in the rules of each sport that I coach, and that I will teach these rules to my players.

I will use those coaching techniques appropriate for each of the skills that I teach.

I will remember that I am a youth coach, and that the game is for children and not adults.



COACH & SUPPORTER CODE

NO COACH or SUPPORTER who is associated with your team is allowed under no circumstances to say (shout/criticize/heckle) anything to a BREC Sports official (Court/Scores Table). Any coach/parent/supporter who is cited with saying anything to a BREC Sports Official will be the result of a technical foul (2 shots) called/charged against the team (issued to the Head Coach) in which the erratic supporter is affiliated. In the event that a second (2nd) technical foul is called/charged against the team of the coach/parent/supporter, the team with two (2) Fan/Supporter Technical Fouls will forfeit the game immediately and the Head Coach will serve a one (1) game suspension. Coaches are responsible for the actions of their supporters.





Youth Sports Coach Registration Form Recreation and Park Commission for East Baton Rouge Parish

Personal Information: {Please Print}

Applicant's last Name _____ First Name _____ Middle Initial _____

Applicant's Address _____ City _____ State _____

_____ Zip _____ Date of Birth _____ Social Security# _____

_____ Email Address _____

Home Phone# _____ Cell Phone# _____

Team Information:

Team name _____ league/Age Division _____

Are you the head coach? Yes No **If not, who is?** _____

Liability Waiver/Photo Release:

I understand that there is an element of risk involved in activities of this nature and that BREC assumes that I am covered by personal liability insurance. By signing this wavier my permission is granted to BREC personnel to provide basic first aid and to secure emergency medical services if needed.

During our league events, a photographer will often be on BREC premises taking photos of the participants. Pictures will be used in marketing brochures, program guides, advertising, etc. By signing this wavier, I permit myself to be photographed for the above-stated purposes.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Background Check Consent:

I authorize and give consent for BREC to obtain information regarding myself. This includes the following:

- Criminal background records/information
- Sex Offender Registry Checks
- Addresses

I, the undersigned, authorize this information to be obtained either in writing or via telephone in connection with my volunteer application. Any person, firm or organization providing information or records in accordance with this authorization is released from any and all claims of liability for compliance. Such information will be held in confidence in accordance with the organization's guidelines.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Policy Receipt Acknowledgement:

I have received and read BREC's Volunteer Credentialing Policy and agree to abide by the policy guidelines as a condition of my volunteer status at BREC. I understand that if I have questions, at any time, regarding the Volunteer Credentialing Policy, I will consult with BREC's Volunteer Coordinator.

Please read the attached policy carefully to ensure that you understand the policy before signing this document.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

BREC Office Use Only:

Received. / /	Entered / /	Badge Y N
	eCord <input type="checkbox"/>	League
	SSCI <input type="checkbox"/>	File#



**The Recreation and Park Commission
for the Parish of East Baton Rouge
Youth Sports "Play Up"
Release of Liability and Assumption of Risk**

The Recreation Commission for the Parish of East Baton Rouge Athletic Department -Youth Sports Leagues is comprised of various age divisions, in which players of similar ages, developmental levels and overall skill sets are grouped together to form teams and leagues. The primary concept is to create a safe, fun recreational experience, in which uniformity and consistency contribute to the overall best possible learning environment, thus fostering skill development. Participants registering in the BREC Youth Sports Programs are strongly recommended to register within their corresponding age group according to their chronological age as determined by the "cut off" date. Before requesting for your child to "play up", we urge you to deeply consider your child's maturity, size, coordination, muscular development, attitude and social development levels in comparison with children in the age division you are considering asking your child to participate with. The request to allow the child to "play up" an age division directly conflicts with the recommendation put forth by BREC, its professional staff and several other reputable professional organizations/agencies. By "playing up" your child will be participating with older children, who are typically larger or more physically developed, more mature and in most cases more aggressive.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY and ASSUMPTION OF RISK

In regard to the request for my child _____, to participate in the _____ league in an age division outside the recommended and designed age division provided by BREC. I am requesting my child to play in the _____, age division INSTEAD OF the recommend _____, age division.

I hereby acknowledge, appreciate and agree that:

1) The risk of injury, permanent paralysis/disability and or even death exists and becomes increasingly inherent in regards to this request, and while particular rules, equipment and personal discipline may reduce the risks, these risks do exist; and; 2) I KNOWINGLY AND FREELY ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS, both known and unknown, and assume full responsibility for my child's participation; and, 3) I willingly agree to comply with the stated and customary terms and conditions of participation; and, 4) I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, HEREBY RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS the Recreation and Parks Commission for the Parish of East Baton Rouge Athletic Department , their officers, officials, agents, and/or employees, other participants, sponsoring agencies, sponsors, advertisers, and if applicable, owners and leasers of premises used to conduct said program/event, WITH RESPECT TO ANY AND ALL INJURY, DISABILITY, DEATH or loss or damage to person or property, WHETHER ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEE(S) OR OTHERWISE, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT, I FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS TERMS, I UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND I SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.

I acknowledge that BREC reserves the right to review and deny any request for a youth to "Play Up".

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

DATE

