

Tri County League Rules & Regulations 2021

YOUTH RECREATION BASEBALL

Players range from age 7 to 15. The Tri County League will adhere to USSSA Rules for youth baseball. All players will be evaluated during the registration process. Teams will be formed through a “drafting” system. Coaches will contact their players after teams are formed. Once teams are selected, players will not be switched from one team to another for any reason. Age groups of 8U, 10U, 12U and 14U will be used.

Siblings: If you have siblings that are in the same age group, your children can be placed on the same team as long as it is requested on their registration forms. Players will not be moved after the draft. NO exceptions.

Friend Request: If you would like your child to be on the same team as his/her friend, each player is able to “friend request” one other player. This request MUST be done at registration. A request does NOT mean these players will be on the same team, however the director will try and accommodate as many requests as possible, while keeping teams as equal as possible. Both friends MUST request each other.

Uniforms and Equipment: Players must provide their own glove, pants, socks, cleats, bags, etc. Players are also encouraged to provide their own batting helmets, if possible. The Tri County “home” leagues will provide basic gear for each team that players are welcome to use. Metal spikes are not permitted except in 15U division and this may depend home town regulations when using pitching mounds.

Coaching: Each team needs a head coach and can have up to two assistant coaches. If you are interested in coaching a team, you will need to fill out the appropriate coaches form. All coaches will have background checks preformed on them. NO exceptions. This is done for the safety of all children and parties that participate. All coaches must attend draft, and rules meeting. This is mandatory. Coaches will be assigned by the home community.

Rules: All age groups will be governed by the USSSA Rules. Local rules can be implemented as needed. Any rule change must be done at annual meeting held prior to the season. Rules will NOT be changed mid season and all towns/teams will adhere to the same rules. 15 year olds are permitted to play if the league agrees to it, but if they turned 15 prior to the age cut off of May 1 they are not permitted to pitch or catch. Players turning 15 after the age cut off of May 1 are permitted to play any position.

Tri County League – Youth Baseball Rules at a Glance 2021

League	8U Boys	10U Boys	12U Boys	14U Boys
Time Limit (minutes)	75	90	90	90
Pitching Distance	30' – 42'	46'	50'	60'6"
Base Distance	60'	65'	70'	90'
Infield Fly Rule	NO	YES	YES	YES
Max. # of Pitches	6	N/A	N/A	N/A
One Day Maximum -Pitch Next Day(inning)	3	3	3	3
One Day Maximum -Rest Next Day(inning)	6	6	6	7
Three Day Maximum - (innings pitched)	8	8	8	8
Players on Defense	10	9	9	9
Batters per inning	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies
Minimum # Players	7	7	7	7
8 minimum to avoid out	If a team plays with 7 they must take an out in the 8 th position.			
Maximum Innings	6 Innings	6 Innings	6 Innings	7 Innings
Lead Offs	NO	YES* after home plate xing	YES	YES
Stealing	NO	YES* after home plate xing	YES	YES
Advance on WP/PB	NO	YES* all but home plate	YES	YES
Run on Dropped 3 rd Strike	NO	NO	YES	YES
*LIVE ACTION PLAY	A live action play consists of a play being made on the runner. A live ball does not include a throw back to pitcher, etc. Which is why umpires should call time once runners have stopped and ball is collected in infield.			
Bunting	NO	YES	YES	YES
Courtesy Runner (P/C)	YES	YES	YES	YES
Balk Rule	NO	NO	YES	YES
Metal Spikes Allowed	NO	NO	NO	YES
Continuous Batting Order	OPTIONAL	OPTIONAL	OPTIONAL	OPTIONAL
Umpires	YES	YES	YES	YES x2
Max Runs Per half inning	5	5	5	5
Official Game (innings)	3	3	3	3
Bat Rule	USSSA	USSSA	USSSA	USSSA
Standings Kept	YES	YES	YES	YES
Special Rules	YES	YES	NO	NO
Intentional Walks	1 per game	YES	YES	YES
Age Cut off date	May 1	May 1	May 1	May 1

Run Rule	15 after 3 8 after 4	15 after 3 8 after 4	15 after 3 8 after 4	15 after 3 12 after 4 8 after 5
No New Inning with 5 min. or less remaining	YES	YES	YES	YES
Cups for catchers are REQUIRED	YES	YES	YES	YES
Dead ball is ruled once runners stop trying to advance (USSSA RULE)	YES	YES	YES	YES
Once the coach gets the ball back, it is dead and players either go to next base or go back depending on if they were more than halfway or not	YES	NO	NO	NO
*Overthrow at bases – ball remains live until the defense either puts the runner out or gets it back to the pitcher or in the pitching circle (SEE LIVE ACTION DEFINITION & DEAD BALL RULE)	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A
Pitching coach cannot coach from the pitching position	YES	N/A	N/A	N/A
Batters get 6 pitches or 3 swinging strikes	YES	N/A	N/A	N/A
Coaches must have one foot on or straddle the pitching line (30' - 42') when pitching	YES	N/A	N/A	N/A
Player pitcher must have one foot inside the pitcher's circle when coach is pitching	YES	N/A	N/A	N/A
May steal home -ON WILD PITCH OR PASSED BALL	NO	NO	YES	YES

YOUTH MODIFIED BASEBALL

The Tri County League offers a Modified Youth Baseball league for boys ages 7 -15 years old. Age groups of 8U, 10U, 12U and 15U will be used. The Tri County League will adhere to USSSA Rules for youth baseball.

Registration: All teams in this division are teams that have been pre-selected. Communities may vary as to whether you are required to register as a team or as individual players. Modified teams must provide rosters prior to registration opening.

Uniforms and Equipment: All uniforms and coaches will be provided by each team. The home league will not provide any equipment or uniforms to modified teams, this includes baseballs (game balls are provided). Metal spikes are not permitted except in 15U division.

Coaching: Teams will provide their own coaches in this division.

Rules: All age groups will be governed by the USSSA Rules. NO exceptions. These rules will be effective for league play as well as tournament play.

Tri County League – Youth Baseball Rules at a Glance 2021

League	8U Boys	10U Boys	12U Boys	13U Boys	14U Boys
Time Limit (minutes)	75	90	90	90	90
Pitching Distance	30' – 42'	46'	50'	54'	60'6"
Base Distance	60'	65'	70'	80'	90'
Infield Fly Rule	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
Max. # of Pitches	6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
One Day Maximum -Pitch Next Day(inning)	3	3	3	3	3
One Day Maximum -Rest Next Day(inning)	6	6	6	7	7
Three Day Maximum - (innings pitched)	8	8	8	8	8
Players on Defense	10	9	9	9	9
Batters per inning	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies	Varies
Minimum # Players	7	7	7	7	
8 minimum to avoid out	If a team plays with 7 they must take an out in the 8 th position.				
Maximum Innings	6 Innings	6 Innings	6 Innings	7 innings	7 Innings
Lead Offs	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
Stealing/Lead offs	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
Advance on WP/PB	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
Run on Dropped 3 rd Strike	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
Bunting	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
Courtesy Runner (P/C)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Balk Rule	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
Metal Spikes Allowed	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Continuous Batting Order	OPTIONAL	OPTIONAL	OPTIONAL	OPTIONAL	OPTIONAL
Umpires	YES	YES	YES	YES X2	YES x2
Max Runs Per half inning	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited
Official Game (innings)	3	3	3	3	3
Bat Rule	USSSA	USSSA	USSSA	USSSA	USSSA
Standings Kept	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Special Rules	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
Intentional Walks	1 per game	YES	YES	YES	YES
Age Cut off Date	May 1	May 1	May 1	May 1	May 1
Run Rule	15 after 3 8 after 4	15 after 3 8 after 4	15 after 3 8 after 4	15 after 3 12 after 4 8 after 5	15 after 3 12 after 4 8 after 5
No New Inning with 5 min. or less remaining	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Cups for catchers REQUIRED	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES

Dead ball is ruled once runners stop trying to advance	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Once the coach gets the ball back, it is dead and players either go to next base or go back depending on if they were more than halfway or not	YES	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
*Overthrow at bases – ball remains live until the defense either puts the runner out or gets it back to the pitcher or in the pitching circle (SEE LIVE ACTION DEFINITION & DEAD BALL RULE	YES	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
*LIVE ACTION PLAY	A live action play consists of a play being made on the runner. A live ball does not include a throw back to pitcher, etc. Which is why umpires should call time once runners have stopped and ball is collected in infield.				
Pitching coach cannot coach from the pitching position	YES	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
No dropped third strike	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
Batters get 6 pitches or 3 swinging strikes	YES	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Coaches must have one foot on or straddle the pitching line (30' - 42') when pitching	YES	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Player pitcher must have one foot inside the pitcher's circle when coach is pitching	YES	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Verbal warnings for balks	N/A	YES	YES	NO	NO
Balk rule is in effect	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES

YOUTH RECREATIONAL SOFTBALL

The Tri County League offers a youth softball Recreational league for girls ages 7 -15 years old. The Tri County League will adhere to USSA Rules for youth softball. All players will be evaluated during the registration process. Teams will be formed through a “drafting” system. Coaches will contact their players after teams are formed. Once teams are selected, players will not be switched from one team to another for any reason. Age groups of 8U, 10U, 12U and 15U will be used.

Siblings: If you have siblings that are in the same age group your children can be placed on the same team as long as it is requested on their registration forms. Players will not be moved after the draft. NO exceptions.

Friend Request: If you would like your child to be on the same team as his/her friend, each player is able to “friend request” one other player. This request MUST be done at registration. A request does NOT mean these players will be on the same team, however the director will try and accommodate as many requests as possible, while keeping teams as equal as possible. Both friends MUST request each other.

Uniforms and Equipment: Players must provide their own glove, pants, socks, cleats, bags, etc. Players are also encouraged to provide their own batting helmets, if possible. The Tri County “home” leagues will provide basic gear for each team that players are welcome to use. Metal spikes are not permitted except in 15U division.

Coaching: Each team needs a head coach and can have up to 2 assistant coaches. If you are interested in coaching a team, you will need to fill out the appropriate coach’s form. All coaches will have background checks preformed on them. NO exceptions. This is done for the safety all children and parties that participate. All coaches must attend draft, and rules meeting. This is mandatory. Coaches will be assigned by the home community.

Rules: All age groups will be governed by the USSSA Rules. Local rules can be implemented as needed. Any rule change must be done at annual meeting held prior to the season. Rules will NOT be changed mid season. All towns and teams will adhere to all rules.

Tri County League – Youth Softball Rules at a Glance 2021

League	8U Girls	10U Girls	12U Girls	14U Girls
Time Limit (minutes)	75	90	90	90
Pitching Distance	35'	35'	40'	43'
Base Distance	60'	60'	60'	60'
Size of softball / 375lbs/.47 core	11"	11"	12"	12"
Infield Fly Rule	NO	NO	Yes	Yes
Max. # of Pitches	6	N/A	N/A	N/A
Players on Defense	10	10	9	9
Run Rule 12/3, 10/4, 8/5	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Maximum Innings	6	6	6	7
Stealing	No	No	Yes	Yes
Advance on WP/PB	No	No	Yes	Yes
Run on Dropped 3 rd Strike	No	No	Yes	Yes
Bunting	No	YES	Yes	Yes
Courtesy Runner (P/C)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Metal Spikes Allowed - PER LOCATION	No	No	No	Yes
Continuous Batting Order	YES	YES	YES	YES
Umpires	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes x1 IS FINE
Max Runs Per half inning	5	5	5	5
Official Game (innings)	3	3	3	3
Bat Rule	LEGAL BAT			
Standings Kept	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Special Rules	Local	Local	Local	Local
Intentional Walks	1 Per Inning	Yes	Yes	Yes
Coach Pitch	Yes	YES W/EXCEPTIONS	No	No
10U Coach Pitching exceptions	*Exceptions include when the coach comes in the count must remain as was when the batter reached 4 called balls. Max of 3 pitches, but honor count first. Must hit in the 3 or less pitches or batter is out.			
Minimum # Players	7	7	7	7
8 minimum to avoid out	If a team plays with 7 they must take an out in the 8 th position.			
Age Cut off Date	MAY 1	MAY 1	MAY 1	MAY 1
No New Inning with 5 min. or less remaining	YES	YES	YES	YES
Pitcher REQUIRED to wear mask	NO	YES	YES	YES
Face Masks for Infielders Recommended	YES	YES	YES	YES
Dead ball is ruled once runners stop trying to advance	YES	YES	YES	YES

Once the coach gets the ball back, it is dead and players either go to next base or go back depending on if they were more than halfway or not	YES	N/A	N/A	N/A
Overthrow at bases – ball remains live until the defense either puts the runner out or gets it back to the pitcher or in the pitching circle	NO	N/A	N/A	N/A
Pitching coach cannot coach from the pitching position	YES	N/A	N/A	N/A
Batters get 6 pitches or 3 swinging strikes	YES	N/A	N/A	N/A
Coaches must have entire body inside circle when pitching	YES	YES	N/A	N/A
Player pitcher must have one foot inside the pitcher's circle when coach is pitching	YES	YES	N/A	N/A
Pitching Circle Rules:	When the pitcher controls the ball in her hand or glove, and she steps foot inside the pitching circle including the line, and she makes no attempt to make a play on a runner the play is dead. If a runner is off a base, they must return to that base and remain on it. If the runner was advancing without any hesitation they may advance. If the runner stops or hesitates or changes direction, they will be called out. (See Look Back Rule)			