

Bridgeville Athletic Association

P.O. Box 91
Bridgeville, PA 15017



www.bridgevilleball.com

2016 PRE-T & T-BALL RULES

PRE-GAME

- The Home team is responsible for field preparation - the visiting team is welcome to assist if possible.
 - The infield should be dragged, the batter's boxes lined, and the first and third baselines marked.
 - Bases should be secured, 60' apart, with a safety base at first base, to the right of the baseline.
- Coaches are to keep the game fun and instructive for all players involved.
 - The role of the coaches is to develop the baseball skills and knowledge of all the participants in the game, and to encourage and demonstrate good sportsmanship.

PLAYING THE GAME

- 1) All defensive players will take the field. As many coaches as necessary may be in the field.
- 2) All players should rotate through all defensive positions, on an inning-by-inning basis.
- 3) All players on the offensive team shall bat each inning.
- 4) Batters may hit from a "Tee" or from a pitch thrown by a coach – depending on ability.
 - a. Coaches are encouraged to use the "Tee" for the first few weeks of the season and then try coach pitching if skill levels have improved. The "Tee" may be required all season for Pre-T players.
 - b. Do not throw more than eight (8) pitches to any batter. After eight (8) pitches, the batter shall hit from a pre-assembled "Tee" in order to keep the game moving.
- 5) A hit is considered a ball that lands in front of home plate and remains within the baselines. The ball must travel at least several feet from home plate. Coaches will use their judgement if the ball barely moves from home plate a "Foul Ball" may be declared and the batter may try again.
- 6) Until they have a better idea of what they are doing, players should be instructed to throw to first base on every play. Players should be allowed to remain on base even if the throw beats the runner to the base.
- 7) Runners may only advance on a hit ball and shall advance only one base at a time - "Station-to-Station".
 - a. The only exception is when the last batter is up. On a hit by the last batter, players will continue to advance bases until the last batter has touched home base (A Grand Slam).
- 8) Leading is not permitted and base runners may not advance until the bat contacts the ball.
- 9) Players are to remain on the bench while not batting. There may be one player in the "On-Deck" area only if a Coach is maintaining visual control of the player. Bats should not be in the hands of any player other than the batter or the player who is 'On Deck'.
- 10) There is no infield fly rule.
- 11) The decisions of the coaches, agreeing jointly where necessary, are final.
- 12) All batters and base runners must wear protective helmets.
- 13) No short pants are allowed.
- 14) Score will not be kept, except for the final game of the season.

ENDING THE GAME

- Games shall consist of three (3) innings maximum.
 - Pre-T games may need to be shortened to two (2) innings due to time constraints.
- Games shall not last more than 1 hour 15 minutes.
- The Home team is responsible for field maintenance after the last game of the day - the visiting team is welcome to assist if possible.
 - The infield should be dragged and the dugouts should be swept and cleaned of all trash.
- Teams should end the game with a cheer and should shake hands at the conclusion.

RAINOUTS

- Rain Outs on Saturday will be made up on the following Sunday in the afternoon.
- Should the weekend be a complete rain out, Coaches are encouraged to arrange make-up games (at their discretion and based on field availability). Make-up games may be an evening during the week.

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SUGGESTIONS:

- For the first three or four games, allow base runners to continue running the bases even if they are out. Explain to them that they will be out in the future but allow them to learn how to run the bases.
- Coaches should quietly correct the players immediately after a play. Keep them aware of what they should do if the ball comes to them. First base needs extra attention to keep them aware of the play and to maintain safety for both the batter-runner and first baseman.
- Coaches should draw a circle in the dirt so players know where to stand for their specific position.
- Correct the natural urge to all run to the ball wherever it is hit – teach the “position” concept where possible.
- Three coaches in the outfield works well – create areas of responsibility for each coach. Consider having each coach roll ground balls to various fielders in between hitters. Very few balls will reach the outfield, and this is a great way to keep the fielders engaged and to work on skills during the game – but ensure this is done with the safety of all players in mind, and make sure proper fielding and throwing technique are emphasized.
- A coach should help each batter set up, and coaches at first and third are usually sufficient.
- Ensure players running the bases are in the “ready” position and facing the base they came from (no “sprinter” positions when running the bases).
- Keep it fun. Let the players learn from their mistakes. Make note of areas to work on for your next practice, but don't try to fix everything during a game.
- If you have a rotating snack schedule, ask each parent to provide a snack and drink, but be aware of allergies and keep it nut free. Remind parents that they are responsible for insect repellent, water bottles, sunscreen and any other items their child requires for comfort.
- Notify parents that they are not permitted to leave the field unless another parent agrees to watch their child. The coaches in this organization are volunteers, not a sitting service - nor are they trained by the BAA in first aid. Injuries, although rare, do occur and when they do, your child does not want their Coach - they want their loved one.

Have a great season and “Keep your Eye on the Ball!”

Mike Mincin
BAA President

Gil Taylor
BAA Vice President