

St. Sebastian Junior Arrows Summer Baseball

T-Ball Rules

GOAL:

The intention of St. Sebastian Sumer Baseball/Softball/T-Ball Programs are to teach the players the proper techniques to prepare them for our CYO program at St. Sebastian.

This will include:

1. Representing and Teaching Good Sportsmanship
2. Teaching basic Fielding, Catching and Throwing skills
3. Teaching basic Batting and Base Running skills
4. Having fun!

GENERAL RULES:

Eligible players for Sandlot, T-Ball, Coaches and Players Pitch

Sandlot: COMBINED Boys and Girls Teams Ages 3-4

T-Ball: COMBINED Boys and Girls Teams Ages 5-7

Coaches Pitch*: Boys/Girls Ages 8-10 (Boys/Girls on separate leagues)

Players Pitch*: Boys /Girls Ages 10-12 (Boys/Girls on separate leagues)

**A minimum of (3) complete teams will be required in each league*

1. All **T-BALL** games will consist of:
 - Games will be a *minimum* of 45 minutes/2 full innings and a *maximum* of 55 minutes/6 innings.
 - **In order to end the inning, the offensive team must accumulate 3 outs or 6 runs, whichever occurs first. (No team will be allowed to score more than six runs per inning.)**
 - **The game will not begin the last inning unless both coaches agree that they can fully complete the inning before the 55-minute completion of the game.**
2. *Umpires have complete control of game.* If an umpire is not assigned to the game, the coaches will have control of the game.
3. **The Umpire can declare forfeit if a team cannot assemble at least nine players by 6:10 PM. This can include borrowed players from another team. But any borrowed player must be on the St. Sebastian Program Roster. So please BE ON TIME!**
4. Misconduct or harassment by any Player/Coach to any Player, Coach or Umpire will result in ejection from game and school grounds, and/or possible suspension for the remainder of the season.
5. Profanity, misconduct and drinking by the parent/spectators will not be tolerated.
6. Set up/Removal of Bases is the responsibility of the Home Team and their Coach.
7. HOME TEAM & Spectators to sit on the 1st base line
VISITING TEAM & Spectators to sit on the 3rd base line.
8. Each team is expected to clear their areas of litter following the game.
9. At the end of the game both teams will line-up and exchange handshakes.

BATTING and BASE RUNNING:

- A. **Each team's inning will consist of 3 outs or 6 runs per team or until the full lineup has batted.**
- B. **Each player will be instructed to hit the ball after the umpire says "Play Ball". The ball is in play if it is hit out of the ten foot circle and stays in fair territory.**
- C. *****IMPORTANT** Any player throwing their bat:**
 - 1st offense – Warning to player/coach**
 - 2nd offense - Automatic out**
 - 3rd offense – Removed from game**Players may carry their bat to first base if necessary.
- D. All players present must be included in the line-up and take their turn at bat even if not playing in the field. It is the obligation of the coach to insure that players bat in their proper positions at all times.
- E. There will be no strike outs, bunting, stealing, or lead offs.

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- F. A runner can continue to advance one base at a time until the ball has entered the infield or thrown in from the outfield, crossing a base line. This will be at the umpire's discretion.
- G. Coaches are allowed to help the batter set up his/her stance and practice swing but must the coaches remove their hands before contact with the ball is achieved.
- H. If a batter is unable to hit the ball from the tee after three tries, the coach may help hold the bat with the batter including contact with the ball in order to advance the play.
- I. A ground rule double will be awarded a batter if the ball was picked up by a player in another game.
- J. In the event of an injury on the field, time will be called immediately and all play will be halted. Once play has been restored, the game will continue at the point in which it was halted.
- K. A runner may not pass up a slower runner, the passing runner will be declared out.
- L. Two base coaches are allowed at first/third coaching boxes while their team is batting.

FIELD POSTIONS:

1. Each team should have at least nine players to start the game, and no more than eleven* players out in the field during the game.
***Exception: Additional players may play in the outfield only by mutual consent of both coaches to avoid having to monitor each player's total playing time.*
2. A pitcher must remain behind the Pitcher's line until the ball is put into play. If the pitcher crosses the line too soon:
1st offense - warning to the player/coach
2nd offense - the player is removed from that position
3. A total of (6) Infielders, including the Pitcher/Catcher, will be allowed in the Infield. The remainder of the team can be placed in the outfield.
4. All players are not allowed to play more than two innings per game in the same position. It is encouraged to rotate infield to outfield and vice versa once every two innings to speed up play.
5. They cannot come any closer to home plate than the 1/2 way imaginary line between first and third base unless the ball is fair in the field of play
6. Infielders are not allowed to play their positions in the base paths. In the event of interference with the runner, the runner will be awarded the base.
7. For the Catcher, a chest protector and mask are not mandatory, but are available upon request.
8. **A maximum of (2) coaches are allowed on the playing field during the game when their team is in the field. They must remain in the outfield area.**
9. There are no overthrow plays allowed. If the ball is overthrown at first or third, the runner will not be allowed to advance. NO EXCEPTIONS. After the ovethrow, the ball is considered dead.
10. On any play at home plate, the defensive player with the ball must reach the 10 foot circle before the runner for the runner to be called out. The umpire will decide who reached the circle first. *In addition, the runner must touch home plate for the run to count as there is no sliding. Coaches should encourage their defensive players to throw to the catcher.*

EQUIPMENT:

- a. T-Shirts and hats will be given to the players to wear at the games. No bracelets or jewelry are allowed for safety purposes.
- b. All batters, base runners and players on deck away from the player at Home Plate.
- c. Players will supply their own gloves, baseball pants and soft spikes. Tennis shoes are also allowed.
- d. Helmets are available upon request
- e. Baseball, bases, helmets, bats and and emergency kit will be furnished by the St. Sebastian Summer Baseball Program. Each coach will be responsible for the equipment, which includes maintaining that equipment, and returning it at the end of the season.

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- f. If player would like to use his or her own bat, it **MUST** be t-ball approved and are the responsibility of the player, not the coach or St. Sebastian.

FIELD:

- i. The base paths will be 50 feet in length and pitcher's mound will be 36 feet from the home plate.
 - ii. A semi-circle (foul line) of 10 feet in radius will be laid out in front of home plate.
 - iii. An 8 foot line will be chalked in line with first and third base to designate the pitcher's mound.
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LEAGUE DIRECTOR:

- The league director will schedule the games prior to the season. The schedule will be balanced as much as possible.
- The League Director will schedule Team Drafts prior to the start of every league seasons
- The Director will also balance teams as they see fit to ensure teams are balanced in terms of skill levels to support a learning environment.
- Games will be called due to inclement weather by the league director or a designate, 30 minutes prior to game time. Each coach should have a parent or two to assist in calling players if the games have been cancelled.
- If lightning is seen, games will be immediately cancelled. The field must be cleared. Games can not start until 30 minutes after the last lightning strike was observed.
- In the case of heat, games will be immediately cancelled if the temperature is 100° F or higher at the start of the game.
- *In the event play has started, any coach can the decision regarding inclement weather.*
- Cancelled games will not be rescheduled

COACHES:

- Coaches must always set a good example of GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP for all players and spectators.
- Coaches will meet before the beginning each game to go over ground rules and cover any questions.
- Injured player **MUST** be attended to immediately. You are supplied a first aid kit and ice packs, use them. If necessary, accident report forms can be supplied by the League Director and should be filled out immediately following the injury.
- Coaches are responsible for forwarding all practices, games and events to the players in a timely manner.
- Remember to keep it simple. Every coach should be more concerned with the players learning how to play the game rather than who wins or loses. There are NO losers, we are all winners!

Always use ENCOURAGEMENT AND ENTHUSIASM!

AMENDMENTS:

These rules may be amended by a majority decision of program members (coaches, coordinators, and director) at the beginning of the season or at the Team's Draft.