

MURILLO MINOR ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION



T-BALL RULES & SAFETY TIPS

1. Players and Coaches should arrive at the T-Ball diamond by 6:00 pm to practice throwing, running and batting skills. Practice batting should not be occurring without the direct supervision of a Coach.
2. All players bat once each inning. All batters / base runners must wear helmets, even during practice time.
3. The back catcher must wear pads, chest protector and helmet with face mask.
4. Games start at 6:30 pm and are 3 innings long. The score is not counted.
5. There is no minimum or maximum number of players per team on the field. Let everyone play!

Field Positions

6. All players must be in position and ready before the play starts. This is particularly important for the pitcher position and back catcher position for safety reasons. Only base runners are permitted to be standing on the bases. Fielding players are not to stand on the bases.
7. Coaches may be positioned in the field to help their players and base runners. Parents are encouraged to stand in the field with the children and help them. However, Coaches / parents are not to interfere with the play.
8. A Coach from the batting team should be positioned beside the back catcher to instruct/ assist the batter and catcher as needed.
9. Players at the pitcher position must pay attention. For safety reasons, it is recommended that smaller children in the pitcher position play deeper toward second base.
10. Coaches should rotate players' positions regularly, either each inning or each game.

Throwing & Catching

11. Demonstrate to the players during warm-ups how to both underhand and overhand throw the soft ball. Educate the players to not throw the ball unless the receiving player is looking and prepared.
12. Demonstrate to the players how to get in front of and stop a rolling ground ball; and how to catch a ball.

Batting & Running

13. The Coach of the batting team must ensure non-batting players remain at the bench. For safety reasons, only the next batter is permitted in diamond area in the batter on-deck circle. The next batter should not approach the "T" until directed by the Coach, making sure the play has stopped, and any base runners have arrived at home plate.
14. The Coaches are to use their discretion as to how many attempts a player makes to hit the ball, and whether a hit ball's distance and direction (whether fair or foul) is counted as a hit.
15. If a batter swings and misses the ball, but makes contact with the "T", the ball will be replaced on the "T" by the catcher and the batter will try again.
16. Only the back catcher or pitcher may place the ball on the "T".
17. There are no "outs" unless the batter intentionally throws the bat – he/she is not permitted to run the bases. Educate the players on how to safely drop the bat after hitting.
18. The First Base is a safety base. Educate the runners to step on the orange side of the safety base.
19. Runners are allowed to advance on each hit. Normally this is one base for an infield hit and two bases for an outfield hit. Runners are not allowed to pass each other.
20. For safety reasons, instruct your player runner to not stop on the home plate "T", but touch it with their foot and run back to their bench.
21. When the last batter is up, the batting team's Coach will announce "**Last Batter**".
22. When the Last Batter hits the ball into fair territory, the runners will continue advance around the bases until they all reach the home plate "T" safely or the ball is placed on the "T" by the pitcher or catcher.
23. There is no stealing of bases or sliding.
24. The MMAA reserves the right to amend these rules if necessary.