

# Magnolia Little League

## Teeball

Status as of January 22, 2011

### OVERVIEW

- MLL Loca ☐ League Age is 5 - 6
- MLL Loca ☐ Games are 3 innings of T-ball
- MLL Loca ☐ Teams bat the entire batting order each inning, with all kids batting each inning.
- MLL Loca ☐ No scores are kept during the games
- MLL Loca ☐ No standings are kept during the season

### Player Selection

- MLL Loca ☐ All kids of Managers and Coaches will be placed on Managers/Coaches Team
- MLL Loca ☐ Teams will have 8 - 10 kids per team.
- MLL Loca ☐ Players will be drafted to/assigned to teams by the T-Ball Commissioner
- MLL Loca ☐ Commissioner balances teams based on age, experience, skill level, and may make accommodations for player/coaches wishes (some kids want to play for a coach, with a player(s), assigned to team with classmates, on different team of another kid)

### MLL Local Rules - T-Ball

Coaches must have their team's medical forms at the field for every practice and game – just in case something happens. This is mandatory!

- ☐ Games are 3 innings long. A 60 minute time limit shall be in effect on games unless they are in the last inning.
- ☐ An inning consists of all players on both teams batting. Score is NOT kept. Last batter gets a grand slam and runs all the way around to clear the bases.
- ☐ There is no strike count for hitters (i.e. no 3 strikes and you're out). Each player must hit the ball in play. The home plate coach/umpire will use his/her discretion in calling fair/foul.
- ☐ Every player on the defensive team plays in the field. Coaches should spread defensive players out and rotate players through the different fielding positions during the game. Kids will want to play catcher so you will have to rotate this position thru the season.
- ☐ The batting order is changed from game to game (if not from inning to inning).
- ☐ Runners may advance, at most, one base on an overthrow – at their own risk.
- ☐ No sliding is allowed.
- ☐ Offensive team should have one coach at home, (helping the batter, placing the ball on the tee, etc.) and may have other coaches at first and third bases. A fourth coach, also an adult, can be positioned on the field near second base. Remember to have someone (perhaps two adults) watch the kids on the bench, keep track of who is up next and organize the kids so the games move along quickly.
- ☐ Defensive team is allowed two coaches on the field.
- ☐ No leading off or stealing is allowed.
- ☐ Offensive players must wear helmets while batting and while running the bases.
- ☐ No on-deck practice swings. The only person with a bat should be the batter – under the direct supervision of a coach.

### Uniforms and Equipment

- ☐ Don't handout jerseys unless all kids are present. The league suggests you organize your players based on size from smallest to biggest. Fit your smallest player with the smallest uniform and sweatshirt and work your way up. Coaches should have a marking pen present when distributing uniforms so that names can be put on hats, shirt tags and sweatshirt tags (initials are fine). This will make placement of lost items easier

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throughout the season.

- Bats, helmets, tees, and bases are kept in the Tee Ball equipment box.
- Each team gets a dozen balls. Safety balls issued by MLL (no hardballs) will be used for all games and practices. Save 4 balls for league games (the home team supplies the new game ball for each game). The remaining 8 can be used for practice.

### General

- Have one of your parents organize a game day snack and drink schedule.
- Be sure to clean up snack and drink garbage after your team is done celebrating
- Distribute List of all kids, parents and phone numbers on your team to facilitate carpooling on your team. On this list, include schedule for practices, games and pictures. Also include schedule for Snacks so parents can plan appropriately.
- Some Teams may elect to provide certificates of achievement or trophies for kids at the end of the season. It is up to each team to determine whether or not to recognize kids in this manner.

### Coaching Suggestions

- Typical Practice might include the following (these are just some suggestions that might help new coaches who have limited experience. Feel free to contact other coaches to get suggestions):
- Do Jumping Jacks and “stretches” so the kids get focused (they also will see other professional players doing this and will be able to relate).
- Have kids run bases starting at home, calling off the base name as they step on them (example: “first base”....”second base”....”third base”...”home plate”). Kids learn which way to run around the bases and what they are called...also get exercise.
- When Kids play in the field, place a paint can lid, hula-hoop or other marker in the field to show them generally where they should be standing. Careful as kids will take this very literal and will not move off the marker to get a ball 3 feet from them.
- Break Kids into 3 groups. One coach or parent with each group working on:
- Batting – set the tee up so kids hit the ball into the backstop. Repeat over and over this exercise so they get familiar with swinging the bat and coordinating with the ball.
- Throwing the ball – may want to have the kids throw balls to a bucket (line up 3 wide and throw toward a bucket). Kids get to throw more because they are spending less time chasing the ball.
- Catching the Ball – This is the tough one. Have them field grounders (thrown first by the coach and then lightly batted). Work toward having the kids catch the ball and ultimately catching and throwing to a coach.

### Goals for the Season

- Have Fun
- Introduce kids to the BASICS (run counterclockwise, catch the ball with the hand that has a glove on it, don't climb the fence, gain some knowledge of team work)

### Resources:

- How to Coach Tee Ball Without Going Insane - The complete guide for Coaches & Parents. Robert Doss (1998 Bullhorn Media Group e-mail: [teeball@insanebooks.com](mailto:teeball@insanebooks.com))