

PLANO BASEBALL ASSOCIATION

LOCAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

4-5 Year Old Tee Ball League

The [Major League Baseball Official Rules](http://www.usssabaseball.org/) will be the prevailing rule book except where superseded by the USSSA national by-laws or by these PBA local rules. USSSA national rules and by-laws can be found online at <http://www.usssabaseball.org/>.

All PBA regular season games are governed by these rules.

1. Eligibility:

1.1 All players play as a league age equal to their actual age on April 30th and are eligible for league as defined in the table below. Example: A player that turns 5 years old on April 30th is eligible to play in 5 Tee Ball. However, if the player turns 5 years old on May 3rd, then he is eligible to play in 4 Tee Ball.

Age as of April 30th	League Eligibility
4 years old	4 Tee Ball
5 years old	5 Tee Ball

1.2 No player may play on two different teams within the same PBA League (“League” is defined as A, AA, or Premier divisions within the same league age) at any time.

1.3 A team (including each of its coaches) must be in good financial standing with PBA and its sponsors to be eligible for scheduling.

2. League Rosters:

2.1 Players must be on the official team roster on file at PBA office, and have paid their PBA registration fee in full. No substitute (non-roster) players may play in any game, under any circumstances.

3. League Age Exceptions:

3.1 Any player may advance up one league age level with a signed Parent/Guardian Consent Form on file at the PBA office.

3.2 Players may “play up” one year, and two years only with the PBA President’s approval. For example: a league age 4 year old player may play up in the 5 age division but a 3 year old cannot without PBA Presidential approval.

4. Selection of Players:

4.1 Managers have the option to bring an open or closed roster. For open roster teams, PBA can assign players to these teams so that all registered players are placed with a team. For closed roster teams, the team must register and pay for 13 roster spots, and PBA will not assign other registered players to that team.

4.2 PBA reserves the right to add players to any team with an open roster in order to place players on a team.

5. The Playing Field:

5.1 There are no "on-deck" batters allowed. Other than the batter, no player may handle a bat once play resumes on the field. Players may warm up under coach's supervision between innings.

5.2 The distance between the bases will be 50 feet. The distance from home plate to the nearest outfield fence will be approximately 150 feet. The front side of the pitchers rubber to the back of home plate will be 38 feet.

5.3 Players warming up during the game shall do so inside the playing field in outfield foul grounds.

5.4 Home team shall occupy the first base dugout.

5.5 The use of the any part of the infield for pre-game warm-ups is prohibited.

5.6 Players are not allowed to practice hitting regulation baseballs during pre-game warm-ups, except into a net.

6. Equipment:

6.1 Base runners and batters are required to wear helmets.

6.2 Official sized RIF (Reduced Injury Factor) balls will be used for game play.

6.3 Bats cannot exceed 2 ¼ inches in diameter.

6.4 Players are not allowed to wear jewelry. Jewelry must be removed or covered to correct the situation (i.e., a religious bracelet must be taped).

7. The Game:

7.1 Definitions:

Regulation Time = 50 minutes running time. Time can be reduced for up to ten (10) minutes if the start is delayed waiting for team(s) to field minimum number of players as described in 8.2.

Walkoff Time = 1 hour

Complete Game = 5 innings or Regulation Time, whichever comes first.

7.2 No new inning may start after the Regulation Time.

7.3 Teams must exit the field at the Walkoff Time so that the next game may begin as scheduled.

7.4 Coaches participating either on the field or in the dugout are required to present their current season, PBA issued identification badges to the umpires prior to the game start or upon arrival to the game.

8. Game Minimums:

8.1 All teams must have a least six players to start the game.

8.2 A team will have 10 minutes from the scheduled start time to allow the minimum number of players to arrive. This time will reduce the official play time by the number of minutes that it takes for the last players to arrive.

9. The Hitter:

9.1 NO OUTS ARE RECORDED.

9.1 A complete batting order is one with at least nine players. The batting order shall be composed of all non-injured players present at the game and will proceed continuously through the same order for the duration of the game. There will be no penalty for interruptions of the batting order if a player has to leave the game early or in the event of injury, whether he continues to play in the game defensively or not.

9.2 All players will bat one time during the teams' offensive half of the inning.

9.3 A batter is allowed six swings. If the batter has not put the ball in play after six swings he is awarded first base.

9.4 Bunting is not allowed. Any hit ball that does not travel 10 feet from home plate is considered foul.

9.5 The batter is responsible for ensuring that he releases his bat in a safe manner after swinging.

10. The Base Runner:

10.1 Lead-offs ARE NOT allowed in this league.

10.2 Runners are allowed to advance one base at a time on a ball hit in the infield and two bases on a ball hit in the outfield.

10.3 A base runner is not out if hit by a fair ball before it passes through the infield unless the runner intentionally interferes with the ball. If the runner intentionally interferes with the ball, the ball is declared "dead", and the batter is awarded first base.

10.4 No sliding is allowed in this league.

11. Defensive Play:

11.1 Fair Play Rules

11.1a No player can play the same defensive position more than twice in a single game.

11.1b No player can be positioned in the outfield for two consecutive innings.

11.1c No player may sit out two consecutive innings.

11.1d No player may sit out two innings until every player has sat out at least one inning.

11.2 Fair Play Enforcement

11.2a Enforcement During the game--If a violation of this rule is alleged, the game officials will call time, and require the head coach of the player to document his player rotation or explain why the violation occurred. The coach may make substitutions at this time to comply with the rule, if the second inning that the player has sat out is still in

progress. In this case, there will be no forfeit but the matter will be reported to the League Director. The coach may also rely on an exception (as defined in **11.3**) to justify the violation. The game officials will make a judgment based on the information provided.

11.2b Enforcement After the Game: If a violation of this rule is alleged after the completion of the game, the matter will be brought to the attention of the League Director in writing, within 24 hours. The League Director will require the head coach of the player in question to document his player rotation or justify the violation by exception (as defined in **11.3**). The League Director will then either excuse the matter or enforce a forfeit, based on the weight of all the information presented.

11.3 Fair Play Exceptions

11.3a Exceptions: The coach of a team may violate the fair play rules under the following conditions if the coach first notifies the opposing coach:

- 1) The player is ill or injured, and the player's parent or guardian agrees.
- 2) If the player is sitting out for team disciplinary reasons, and the parent or guardian is aware of the basis.

- **11.4** Free defensive substitutions are allowed at all times.
- **11.5** Only positive chatter is allowed in this league and is limited to players supporting their own teammates.
- **11.6** Ten players shall play during the defensive half of any inning. Defensive pitchers are required to stand on the pitchers rubber at the start of each play. Players should be encouraged to throw the ball to first or home rather than to run the ball to the base/plate to make a put out. The intention of this rule is to teach the basic fundamentals rather than encourage the practice of putting the team's best defensive player on the mound and having him/her make all the outs. The outfielders are required to be a minimum of ten feet behind the base path. No fielder may be used as a "rover" and each of the four outfielders must remain at equal distance from each other in the outfield.

12. Field Coaches:

12.1 There will be no coaches allowed on the field during the offensive play other than the two specified base coaches, who are required to remain in foul territory at first and third base.

12.2 The defensive teams coach may position himself behind the pitchers mound and in front of second base in order to give verbal instructions to his team. In addition, two coaches may be positioned on either foul line, in foul territory, beyond the infield. Additional coaches or parents may be positioned on the field of play if there is a safety or disciplinary issue.

13. Scorekeeping:

13.1 No scorekeeper is required since outs are not recorded.

14. Sportsmanship:

14.1 Under no circumstances will the use of “foul” or abusive language be tolerated during a PBA sanctioned event (including practices).

14.2 A team’s head coach of record, or senior coach at a game, is responsible for the actions of the team’s players, parents, and spectators.

14.3 A team’s head coach may request, in writing, that an opposing team’s coach, player, parent or spectator be suspended by PBA for unsportsmanlike behavior. Such requests will be presented to the appropriate League Director and forwarded with recommendation to the League Commissioner. If warranted, the Commissioner may convene a DRP to consider such request.

14.4 Any complaint about a game official should be made in writing to the appropriate League Director.

14.5 The Commissioner and League Director’s rulings are final.

15. Acts of Disbarment Include:

Disbarment is the suspension from all PBA activities (including practices) for at least the remainder of the current season. A disbarred person can only be reinstated upon that person’s application to and subsequent approval of the PBA Board of Directors. A [DRP](#) will be convened to hear the allegation and determine the penalty. Disbarment will be the penalty for any of the offenses described below.

15.1 Physical attack on an umpire, league official, coach or fan during a game or immediately following a game, played under the administration of PBA.

15.2 Player, coaches, manager or sponsor threatening an umpire, league official, coach or fan.

15.3 Any officer, director, umpire, player, coach, manager or sponsor fighting, using unsportsmanlike conduct or abusive tactics or derogatory or unbecoming acts that is detrimental and not in the best interests of PBA.

15.4 Destruction of property or abuse of property of PBA or the City of Plano.

15.5 Three ejections during a single season.

16. All Leagues:

16.1 The Commissioner and League Directors have the authority to interpret and to submit suggested rules changes to the Rules Committee but not to change rules without approval. Changes by the Rules Committee can be made and communicated at any time to ensure the league can benefit from any approved suggestions.