

Walworth Recreation T-Shirt Softball League Rules

2014 Spring Season

All injuries must be reported to the Recreation Director (Jackie VanLare, 986-1400 ext. 312) or an on-site coordinator the day the injury occurs.

Coaches must make sure that all players are picked up after each game. Do not leave a child alone!

Equipment:

1. If cleats are worn they may be plastic or rubber spikes, no metal.
2. Helmets are required for all batters and any player holding a bat.
3. All catchers will wear chest protector, helmet, and mask.
4. A safety softball will be used during all play.

Playing Rules:

1. The emphasis at this level is to familiarize the players with each position, base running, throwing, catching, hitting, and basic situational game-play.
 - a. Coaches are encouraged to stop game and practice time to reinforce important rules or to answer questions about situations as they arise.
2. An inning will consist of each team playing through its entire batting order for the first two weeks. An inning will not be shortened because of three outs. Please let other coaches and players know when your final batter is at the plate.
 - a. Following the second week of the season innings may end on a third out with the batting order picking up where it left off at the time of the innings final out.
3. Home team will be determined per the schedule – no official score will be kept.
4. A continuous batting order of all team members is to be maintained. Any late arriving player will be placed at the bottom of the batting order.
5. All players must play a defensive position every inning. Extra players will play in the outfield.
6. Players should rotate through both infield and outfield positions (if numbers allow). Every player must be given the opportunity to play an infield defensive position in every game. After infield positions are filled, all remaining players will play the outfield. All outfielders must be positioned in the grass behind the infield.
7. There is no pitching by players the first four weeks of the season. Players will both hit off the tee and from “coach pitch”. No strikes or balls will be called. Coaches may throw up to six pitches to their own player before using the tee. When hitting off the tee, there will be unlimited attempts to put the ball into fair territory.
 - a. Following the second week of the season all players will hit off a tee after six swings. There will be no walks.
 - b. Following the fourth week of the season players may begin to pitch in live game situations given coaches’ discretion.
8. There is no stealing or bunting in Pee Wee play.
9. There are no official umpires for Pee Wee games; defensive coaches will make rulings as needed.
10. After a ball has been hit it is encouraged that a play be attempted on the runner(s) before returning to the ball to the player in the pitcher position (or the coach).
11. During the first two weeks of the season when an out is recorded the runner remains on base and continues to run the bases through home plate. Following the second week of the season runners who are thrown or tagged out will return to their bench.
12. Thrown bats will not be tolerated; play will be declared dead and the batter will be given a warning. Subsequent violations will result in outs.
13. Only the batter and on-deck batter may have a bat in their hands. “In the hole” players are to wait without bats.
14. The first & second week of the schedule is geared toward practice - teams will scrimmage only the last 20 minutes of each evening.
15. The following weeks will include 30 minutes of instruction & skills followed by games starting at 6:30pm.
16. Coaches should be both in the infield and outfield at all times to provide instruction and encouragement to all players.
17. There is a safety base on first base; the orange part of the base is for the batter/runner only. Once the batter/runner is safe they will transfer to the white base.
18. No spectators are allowed behind the backstops during game play.

Season Progression

- Weeks 1 & 2: Basic skills practiced – Fielding, Throwing, Catching, Batting, Base-running, etc. Situational fielding and batting scenarios will be discussed. Teams will practice on their own for the majority of practice and may “scrimmage” a scheduled opponent the last 20 minutes of the evening. Teams will have to share the infield/outfield during practice. Batters will both hit off of tees and from “coach pitch”.
- Week 3 & 4: Introduce game play. Coaches pitch to batters - 6 swings and then transfer to a tee. Innings will end at the either the completion of the 3rd out or when a team goes through their batting order.
- Weeks 5 & 6: Players may begin to pitch. Pitchers may pitch to more than 5 batters. Pitchers will throw no more than 6 pitches to each batter. If no contact is made coaches will step in to pitch to that batter. Overthrows will result in an extra base.