

TEE BALL RULES/INFORMATION/COACHING TIPS

Some of the objectives we have for the program are:

1. To HAVE FUN. We want your kids to have a good time – we have several activities and games set up to allow this to happen. This program is NOT about competition.
2. To have the kids learn basic skills related to the game of T-Ball, many of which are transferrable to baseball and softball as they get older. These skills include: throwing, catching, hitting, base-running, and basic knowledge of a baseball diamond.
3. To participate in several games or versions of games of T-Ball with their peers in a positive environment.
4. To promote a fun, recreational game to play that promotes wellness and outdoor activity among peers, friends, and families.

Please keep these objectives in mind during the program. This is not about becoming a T-Ball star, it is not about competition – it's about having fun!

We will be practicing some skills – catching, throwing, hitting and basic T-Ball knowledge – rules, field positions, etc. Hopefully by the last day, we will be able to play an inning or two!

If you are interested in getting involved, please let Recreation Manager – Mikinley Prafke at mprafke@chippewafalls-wi.gov know – involvement from parents/guardians is encouraged and appreciated! – Coaches needed for all four teams.

1. Wear outdoor clothes.
2. Wear close-toed shoes; preferably sneakers or tennis shoes. This will help your children when base running and fielding properly.
3. Bring water to hydrate with during the program. It's hot out!! Water is the best way to stay hydrated because it doesn't add any empty calories from sugar.
4. Please go to the bathroom before the practice starts -- you can use the bathrooms in the Marshall Warming House.
5. All game times will be split into 30 minutes of practice and a 30-minute game.
6. For games, we will use incrediballs. Practice, we will use tennis balls.
7. During the 30-minute game:
 - a. Each player bats for the team that is up before you switch teams in the field. We do not go by three outs.
 - b. Each player swings until they hit the ball into fair territory. When they hit the T and the ball falls off, it is a foul ball.
 - c. For the most part have players only go one base at a time when hitting and running. This makes it less confusing for everyone.
 - d. Have the last player up in the half inning keep running all around the bases for a home run.
 - e. Make sure to rotate players so that the same kids don't hit first or last during the game.
 - f. Defensively stress getting the force out. Talk to them and ask where they are going to throw the ball if they get it. Make sure they know what a force out is.
 - g. Rotate kids defensively every inning so that they are not playing the same position.
 - h. You do not need to have a player at the catcher position. Also, you probably do not want to have outfielders, just have more kids play the infield than what there normally is.
 - i. For the first couple of games do not call kids out when they get tagged out or are out at first on a force out. Once they have played a few times then you can start to call them out.
 - j. Make sure to talk to the kids a lot and ask them questions about where they are going to be running or throwing to.
 - k. When your team is in the field, coaches should be out on the field with them to help the kids out and explain where to throw the ball.
 - l. When your team is batting make sure to have a coach at the T to help with hitting.
 - m. At the end of the hour bring both teams in to the middle and shake hands

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- n. Make sure you start your game with at least a half hour left each time. Even if you don't get as much practice time, make sure you get the half hour game.**
- o. If the infield is muddy or wet, use the throw down bases and play in the outfield.**