



CITY OF BROOKFIELD PARKS, RECREATION, AND FORESTRY DEPARTMENT  
**T-Ball Rules (K4 & K5)**

**League Philosophy**

This league is designed to provide basic instruction while introducing players to the game of baseball in a fun, game like atmosphere. The program emphasizes skill development and sportsmanship over winning. The rules are simplified to accommodate young beginner players.

**General Information**

1. T-Ball is an 8-week season, teams will play 8 games. There are no practices.
2. Teams are coached by adult parent volunteers.
3. All games are at Wirth Park Athletic Complex, Field 4. There will be three fields setup: one in the right field grass, the left field grass, and the infield dirt. (See diagram below)
4. All players receive their own t-shirt which should be worn to each game.

**Game Play**

1. All games will be five (5) innings or 60-minute time limit.
2. Official ball will be the 9" Jugs Softie.
3. Helmets and bats will be provided by the department. Participants are welcome to supply their own. Bats should be 24 or 25 inches. Players need to bring their own glove.
4. Each field will get an equipment bag consisting of three (3) helmets and two (2) bats for each team. The field supervisor will have the equipment bag, tee, and a bucket of balls at each field before the first game.
5. The ball will be placed on a tee and the batter will swing until they hit the ball.
6. There are no outs. Teams will bat through their entire batting order and the last batter clears the bases and runs home.
7. Players will advance one base at a time. There will be no leading off, sliding, or stealing.
8. Players will be spaced out in the infield with one player positioned as the "pitcher."
9. No score will be kept.

**Weather**

1. If there is any doubt as to whether the diamond is in playable condition, the following procedure will be used:
  - a) The Department will cancel games up to 4:30pm.
  - b) Cancellation of games can be found at <http://www.ci.brookfield.wi.us> (Ball Field Conditions)
  - c) If the games have not been called prior to 4:30pm, teams must appear at their game location and the supervisor will make the final decision.
2. A game called for poor field conditions or inclement weather will only be rescheduled if the team has less than 6 games.

## Game Day Tips:

- It is permissible, week 1 only, for coaches to spend 10-15 minutes with a short instructional practice. Coaches can demonstrate how to hold the bat, the batting stance, dropping the bat after hitting the ball and reiterating that they should NOT THROW THE BAT. Please keep this instructional period short. Players will learn by playing the game! All remaining weeks, coaches should start the game at their scheduled game time.
- Each team will have 1-2 official coaches, but more parent helpers are needed on the field and as base coaches to help with base running. Older siblings can help as well. When batting, coaches are needed to help with:
  - A coach at the tee, helping batter setup and putting the ball on the tee
  - A coach at first and third base to direct and assist base runners
  - A coach in the dugout to manage the batting order
- Split your team in two groups. When in the field, have 1 group dispersed between the infield positions to field batted balls. The second group can be in the outfield working on drills. Each inning, have each group switch.
- Use cones or spots in the infield so help defenders know where they should stand.
- Create a pre-determined batting lineup (use stickers, or a washable marker to write their batting number on their hand)
- Line up the players in order and make sure next batters up have a helmet on (teams can use all the helmets in the equipment bag when necessary)
- Coaches decide which team bats first.
- COACH PITCH: Some of your players will have the ability to hit a pitched ball. Coaches have the option to pitch to players. Please keep up pace of play. Coaches should only throw four (4) pitches. If after four (4) pitches, the batter does not put the ball into play, have the batter use the tee. Make sure to let opposing coach know if you will pitch to a batter. Batted balls will have greater exit velocity so defenders should be prepared.
- There are no outs. Everyone runs one base at a time. Bat through your lineup
- Defensive players should field the ball and attempt to throw to first base. If the ball makes it to the outfield, players can throw it to a coach.

