

**KINGSLEY/BUCKLEY/MESICK RECREATION LEAGUE, INC.**  
**5-6 YEAR OLD T-BALL RULES**  
**Revised March 2026**

- 1) The distance between all bases shall be 60 feet, 84'10" from home plate to 2<sup>nd</sup> base. The point of home plate and the front of the pitcher's rubber shall be 40 feet.
- 2) Three innings will constitute a complete game. Two innings will constitute a complete game in case of rain or adverse conditions. Coaches will make the call. Make up games will not be scheduled.
- 3) Teams can field up to 10 players (4 outfielders and 6 infielders, no short fielders allowed) Teams with less than seven (7) players will forfeit the game. Outfielders must play on the grass of the outfield. Infielders need to start the play behind the baseline. Each player must play in the field at least two complete innings per game, unless injured, or team numbers do not make it possible. A player cannot play the same position in the same game. It is encouraged that players play both an infield and outfield position every game.
- 4) The pitcher will stand with one foot in contact with the pitching rubber until the ball is hit.
- 5) Each member of the team must bat at least once each inning. Each coach must have and follow a batting order. Each team will bat their own team each inning. No attention will be made to the number of players on each team. See rule 21. If a batter's fly ball is caught or the runner is out prior to reaching the base, the player must proceed to the dugout. For clarity, outs are not counted and this rule is only meant to teach the basics of the game.
- 6) There will be no stealing or leading off. No strikes will be called and no outs called on strikes. No walks will be issued. Each batter bats until they hit a fair ball.
- 7) The last batter in each inning must be announced to the players and coach of the opposing team.
- 8) No bunting. A batter must take a full swing.
- 9) If a runner off base, in fair territory gets hit by the ball, he/she is automatically out. Interference with contact by a defensive player to a base runner will be one base awarded to the runner.
- 10) If the last batter's ball is caught in the air by a defensive player, the inning is over.
- 11) If the ball is hit on the ground, all runs will count until home plate is touched by a defensive player in control of the ball. A ball hit into the field on the last batter **MUST** be thrown in to the catcher from the position fielded. No running it part way! Any one player from the defensive team is allowed to back up the catcher. A fielded ball that is run home will result in all base runners including the batter scoring.

- 12) There is no advancing on any throws/overthrows to any base. Once the ball is secured by an infielder the play is dead and no advancing of runners is allowed.
- 13) When the runners or runner stop at a base, they may not advance unless there is a play made on them. Once the ball is thrown to the infield players cannot advance any further unless they are more than  $\frac{1}{2}$  way to the base.
- 14) A batted ball is considered dead when the bat hits the tee and not the ball. A batter hitting the tee and the ball is a ball in play. A ball hit in fair territory with the bat is a batted ball!! This call is up to the coaches' discretion and should be called immediately. There is no 15ft rule.
- 15) In the case of injury to any player, the umpire will immediately call time and all play will stop. The umpire will then determine where all the runners and the batter would have been had the play been allowed to proceed to its natural conclusion.
- 16) Home team will supply a new game ball, one good used ball. Home team is also responsible for setting the bases.
- 17) Shorts can be worn at the discretion of player/parents.
- 18) Base runners may not tag up and advance on a caught fly ball. There is no infield fly rule.
- 19) Both coaches will discuss all the above rules before the game begins.
- 20) Scorekeeping is the option of the coaches. There will be no standings. All players will get medals at the end of the year.
- 21) Two defensive coaches are allowed in the outfield to assist players, not to become part of the play.
- 22) Only T-ball bats are allowed to be used by any batter.
- 23) Game start times may vary based on field availability. Please check the schedule for the appropriate start time.
- 24) During the school year, all games need to be finished by 9:00pm. An inning **SHOULD NOT** be started after 8:30pm. Once the school year is finished the game should be played until dark. All ties need to be played out with time limits in mind.

