

# Tee-Ball/Coach-Pitch



**JC  
PARKS**

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1299 Lafayette St., Jefferson City MO, 65101 • (573) 634-6482  
[www.jeffersoncitymo.gov/parks](http://www.jeffersoncitymo.gov/parks)

## **MISSION STATEMENT AND OBJECTIVES**

### **Youth Sports Mission Statement:**

"It is the mission of the Parks and Recreation Youth Sports programs to serve young players, their families and the Jefferson City community at large by providing fun, safe and enjoyable youth sports experiences by recognizing each player's physical and emotional well-being, by teaching skills development, by treating them with respect and dignity, by encouraging positive parent involvement and by enriching young lives with meaningful recreation and socialization."

### **Youth Sports Objectives:**

The Jefferson City Parks and Recreation Department has established the following objectives for youth sports programs. It is our hope, our goal, and our responsibility to see that youth sports will be approached by all concerned as programs which will:

- 1) provide enjoyment for the participants, coaches, and parents;
- 2) contribute to the mental and emotional growth of the participants;
- 3) contribute to the physical growth and development of the participants;
- 4) foster character by teaching participants how to win and how to accept defeat, while continually placing emphasis on fair play and fun;
- 5) provide an opportunity for parents and children to participate in a common leisure interest;
- 6) allow all children the right to participate as a child with competent, caring adult leadership and guidance;
- 7) treat all children with dignity;
- 8) provide adults with an opportunity to teach children the importance of sportsmanship, mature behavior, and the fun of participation in leisure activity.

## **GENERAL GUIDELINES**

- Practice and warm up are not permitted once a field is prepared for games.
- These fields are rentable for practice. Please call (573) 634-6482 for availability and rates.
- Be alert for fly balls.
- Please return foul balls to the umpire.
- Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products are not allowed during any youth (18 years of age or younger) sports program. Anyone in possession of alcohol will be asked to leave and, if needed, authorities notified.
- Smoking allowed in parking lots only.
- Pets are not allowed in the concession and spectator areas or on the ball fields at any time.
- Skate boarding, roller-skating, roller-blading, scooters or bicycling are not allowed in the city parks except upon established parking areas, roadways, trails or facilities specifically designed for such equipment.
- All spectators must remain behind the fences and out of the dugouts. Only coaches, participants, Parks and Recreation staff, approved school personnel (during fall sports) and approved photography companies may go on the field of play.
- The following are prohibited:
  - Hitting or throwing balls into fences
  - Fireworks
  - Glass containers
  - Amplified music
  - Vulgar language
  - Weapons (guns, knives, explosives or any other object that may be used as a weapon)
  - Climbing on any fences, gate structures, planter beds, trees or boulders
- Please be aware of weather conditions at all times. It is your responsibility to protect yourself and seek shelter during inclement weather.
- For Parks and Recreation game cancellations please call the hotline at (573) 634-6485 ext 4.
- For league and other information please call (573) 634-6482 or visit [www.jeffcitymo.org/parks](http://www.jeffcitymo.org/parks).

## **MAINTAINING YOUR SPORTS COMPLEX**

- Please dispose of litter in proper waste containers. Participants and spectators are responsible for keeping the Optimist Sports Complex safe and litter free.
- Report any maintenance concerns to Parks and Recreation (573) 634-6486. Messages may be left 24 hours a day.

## NORTH JEFF CITY PRACTICE FIELDS

- Please help pick up any rocks and place in buckets by backstop. Your help is appreciated to help improve safety and field quality.

*These are your fields, please help keep them clean. Thank You!*

*Youth Sports Facilities are Drug and Alcohol Free!*

## EQUIPMENT

1. Uniform shirts will be provided for players. If you would like to recommend a certain color for the shorts, socks, etc. you may but cannot require it.
2. **Metal spikes** are **not** permitted in any league.
3. Batters, on deck batters, base runners and players coaching a base are required to wear an approved protective helmet. Intentional removal of the helmet while base running will result in the player being called out (one warning per team).
4. Each year players are injured when struck in the mouth by a Baseball/Softball--we recommend that players consider wearing a mouthpiece.
5. Team managers are responsible for seeing that all of their players are in compliance with the uniform and equipment rules.
6. All jewelry including earrings, necklaces, rings, and necklaces must be removed prior to games or practices.

## TEAM ROSTERS

1. You will receive your team roster by email before the coach's meeting. Each roster will have participant name, grade, age, parent/guardian names and phone numbers, address and any special notes (ie. Shirt size and school). If a phone number on your roster no longer works, please contact Parks and Recreation at 634-6482. This is sensitive information. Please do not give out to anyone else.
2. Each manager is responsible for the eligibility of his team's players. *Use of an ineligible player shall result in forfeiture of the game(s) involved.*
3. Players are allowed to play on only one team in the same league during the season.
4. **Coaches cannot move/trade players.** The responsibility of moving players from team to team will be by the Recreation Program Supervisor.
5. Should it become necessary to add players to a team, the Recreation Program Supervisor will make the addition. **Coaches cannot add players to their rosters.**
6. Waiting List
  - Players wishing to register after teams have been selected will be placed on a waiting list in the order in which they register and will be placed on teams in the same order when a manager requests an additional player.

- Managers or parents may not call to find out where on the waiting list a particular person is positioned, but managers may call to request the next available anonymous person on the list.
- Once a manager requests a player, he/she will be automatically added to that team's roster.
- The participant should be informed by the manager that he/she has just been added to their team, to come by the office to pay fees before participating, and where and when the games and practices will be held.

### **SCHEDULING**

1. All teams will be scheduled for **8 games**.
2. Games will be played at the Red or Blue Fields at the sports complex in North Jefferson City. Game times will be 5:30, 6:30 or 7:30 p.m. or 6 or 7 p.m. (depends on number of teams).
3. The Department of Parks and Recreation may reschedule canceled games to any day, field, and/or time.
4. The Department of Parks and Recreation **Hotline, 634-6485 ext 4**, should be called to determine if games will be played when there is inclement or threatening weather. Decisions will not be made until 4 p.m. on games played Sunday - Friday. Cancellations of weekend games will be made at least one hour before the first scheduled game of the day and the hotline will be updated as needed.

### **PARTICIPATION RULES**

1. **EVERYONE PLAYS!** All players in the tee-ball/coach-pitch leagues must have equal playing time.
2. Continuous batting order and unlimited substitutions are used in all leagues.
3. No participant will sit out more than two innings defensively in any game. All players must play each position at least once throughout the season.

### **PRACTICES**

1. Teams with managers or coaches certified NAYS will be assigned one practice field per week if available, always the same site, day, and time. Parks and Recreation does not otherwise reserve practice fields.
2. Parks and Recreation is extremely limited in its ability to provide maintenance for practice fields. Managers should not expect game quality practice fields. All concerned must understand that these fields may be suitable for batting practice, throwing, and catching fly balls, but that game quality infields are not provided.
3. Continued usage of practice ball fields depends largely on how they are cared for. Littering, practicing in non-designated areas (i.e. parking lots), and not reporting or

taking responsibility for damaged property are just a few of the complaints that we have received over the years which jeopardizes our chance for continued use of these facilities. Adults have a wonderful opportunity to teach young people the importance of developing an appreciation and sense of proprietorship for their parks. Please emphasize to your players the importance of taking care of park facilities, picking up trash (especially the dugout) when you finish your game and practice and generally showing a respect for the facilities and equipment provide by the sponsors and Department.

4. You will not be permitted to require more than one practice in any Sunday to Saturday period.
5. Coaches make the decision on canceling or having practice. Not Parks & Recreation!

### **FIELD SETUP**

Two practice fields will be set up: throw down bases, bats, batting tees, helmets and practice balls.

The game fields will have: batting helmet for catcher, batting tees, helmets, bats, and game balls. The field will already be lined and the bases positioned.

### **SCORE KEEPING**

1. Standings will not be kept.
2. All players will receive a medal near the end of the season.

#### **The most often asked question is why do we not keep score?**

The answer is because experts in the field of child development feel that a child's first experiences should be as positive as possible. Factors such as winning and losing are too intense for them at this point, an experience of negative competition can impact a young child for life causing them to avoid sports.

### **COMPLAINTS CONCERNING COACHES**

1. If the Department of Parks and Recreation receives a complaint concerning any coach in the program from a parent or guardian of a player on his/her team regarding his/her disregard for the objectives of the program, the coach will be notified by mail or phone, detailing the specifics of the allegation(s).
2. The coach involved must then contact the Recreation Supervisor, Darus Brondel, to respond to the accusations.
3. The Department of Parks and Recreation will, to the best of its ability, attempt to determine the validity of the allegation by randomly contacting other parents of the team's participants.
4. If it is determined that the coach is in violation of the objectives of the program

his/her involvement with the Youth Softball/Baseball program will be terminated and revocation of NAYS certification will be pursued.

5. Decisions may be appealed to the Recreation Committee of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

### **PARKS AND RECREATION STAFF**

One umpire will be scheduled per field. We will NOT have a Field Supervisor at the complex. The umpire will take care of facility, set-up and umpiring. This umpire has direct contact with the Recreation Supervisor. If you have a problem with field conditions, parents, etc., please find let the umpire know. The umpire will also have accident and incident forms, evaluations, updated schedules, etc. if you need a form or have a question for them.

### **SNACKS**

The Parks and Recreation Department does not provide snacks after the game. A suggestion is the coach brings the first week, and then hands out a schedule for the rest of the season assigning a different family each week. This would also be a good job for a team parent to contact everyone to make a schedule for the season and distribute at the first game or before.

### **PHOTOGRAPHERS AND VIDEOGRAPHERS**

For the Preschool through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade tee-ball and coach-pitch leagues that are held in North Jefferson City on the Red and Blue Fields, we will allow each team to have an official photographer out on the field to take pictures. They must remain on the left or right field side and in the grass. They are not allowed anywhere on the dirt. Only Parks and Recreation staff is allowed to take pictures in this area.

If you have more than one person who would like to take pictures or video, they may trade off during each game but you cannot have more than one person per team on the field at a time.

### **PICTURES**

Every season teams can have their pictures are taken. These pictures are optional to purchase and are not included in the price of the program. Please contact the photographer of your choice to set up the date, time and location. Please make sure you are there 15 minutes early. To ensure that all team members show up for the team picture, a reminder call the night before is very helpful. Even if families aren't buying pictures, encourage them to still be in the team picture. If there are problems with the photos, the photographer needs to be contacted directly. This information is located on the picture envelope.

## League Specific Rules

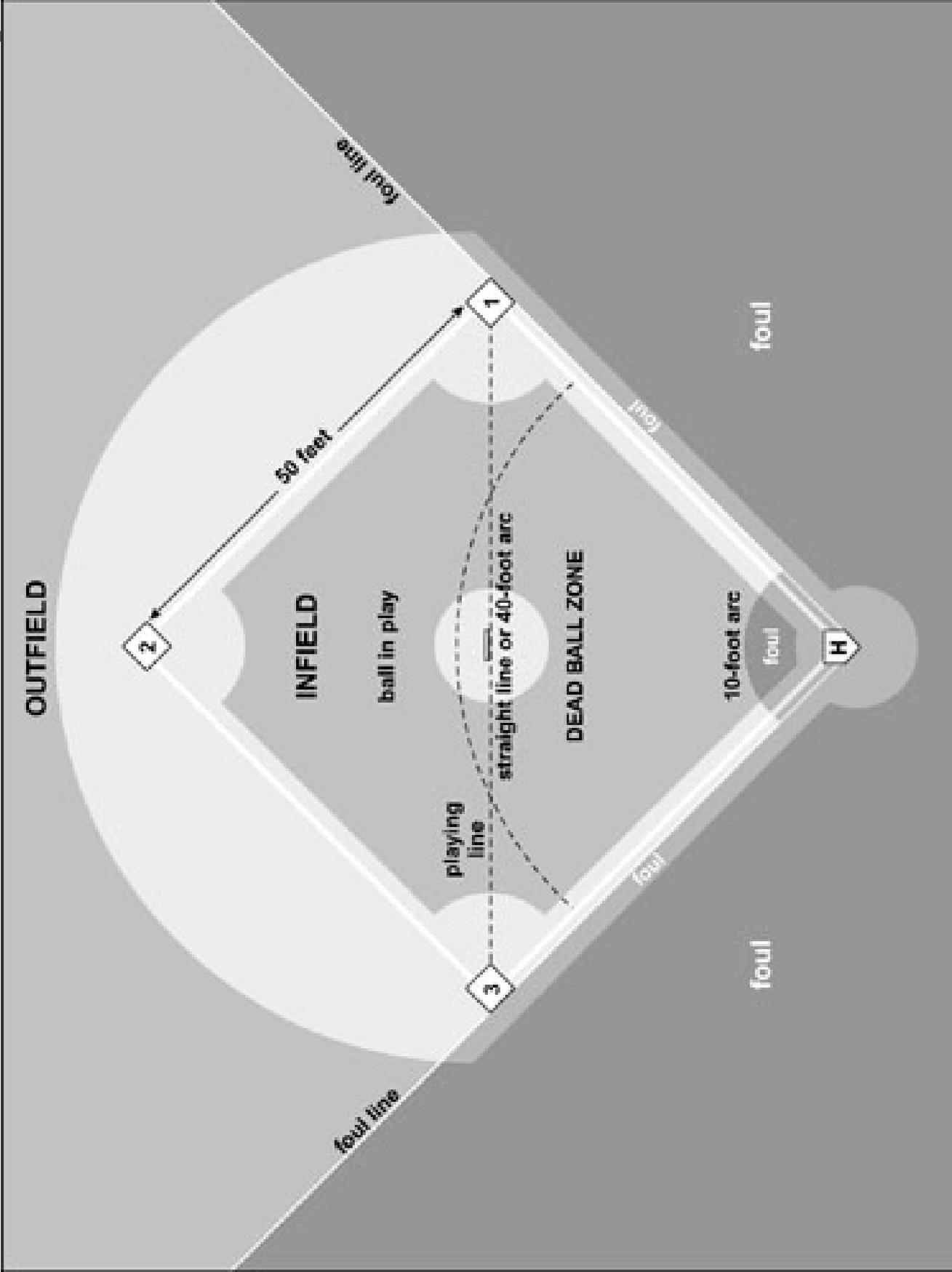
**In Tee-Ball and 1st grade Coach-Pitch:** Each player will bat every inning. The number of batters a team may bat in a half inning is determined by the team with the largest numbers of players in their line-up (i.e. if team "A" has 11 players in their line-up and team "B" has 9 players, both will be allowed to bat 11 participants. Team "A" will only be allowed to bat each player once per inning. Both teams must also announce "last batter" to the umpire on their 11th batter.)

**In 2nd grade Coach-Pitch:** Each player will bat every inning unless three outs are made. However, if three outs are not recorded, the number of batters a team may bat in a half inning is determined by the team with the largest numbers of players in their line-up (i.e. if team "A" has 11 players in their line-up and team "B" has 9 players, both will be allowed to bat 11 participants. Team "A" will only be allowed to bat each player once per inning. Both teams must also announce "last batter" to the umpire on their 11th batter).

- All players play defensively. All normal positions are filled, a player may play at second base, and all others are additional outfielders (outfielders must be positioned in the grass).
- All games are 45 minutes in length.
- Our staff will also administer and umpire the games. **THEIR CALLS ARE CORRECT!**
- Adult volunteers who have organized the practices are then asked to assist at the games with such tasks as helping players with defensive advice and positioning, keeping offensive players safely away from the action when they are not involved, establishing a batting order, controlling the bench area, etc. We appreciate your involvement! **Only 4 parents, including the manager, are allowed to help with tee-ball and 1st grade coach-pitch and 3 parents, including the manager, are allowed to help with 2nd grade coach-pitch.**
- The player at the pitcher's defensive position and the catcher must stay in the designated areas until the ball is hit.
- There will be an arc connecting the baselines between home plate and the pitcher's mound. A batted ball must cross this line to be in play. A fly ball caught inside the line is an out, but a ground ball that is not caught or a ball that stops before crossing the line is a foul ball. Bunting is not allowed.
- **In tee-ball** the umpire will judge whether the batter has contacted the ball or the tee and will call a strike if he/she feels that the tee, rather than the ball, was hit.
- When the last batter of an inning has batted and is a base runner, he/she may be put out by a fielder in possession of the ball tagging any base ahead of the batter/runner. Base runners may not leave the base until the ball is hit.

- Our staff is instructed to call timeout to end plays when any defensive player has control of the ball in the area of the infield. Base runners can continue to the base they were approaching when such control was gained, but must then stop.
- In coach-pitch if a player is unable to hit the pitched ball within the first three swings (strike out) or five pitches, it will be put on a tee. This is meant to be a program which enhances each child's self-perception and self-esteem. The pitching distance is 30 feet.
- For these programs we will be using a baseball and/or softball Incrediball and aluminum or wooden bats. Participants are allowed to use their own tee-ball bat if desired. The ball looks like a baseball/softball but is much softer and lighter. You can get a tee-ball for your child at local sporting goods outlets. [Children starting this young should always use a soft, light ball. They don't need the trauma of having been hit with a "real" baseball.]

"Please remember that the CHILDREN count, not the score!"



### Jefferson City Park and Recreation - Youth Tee-Ball/Coach-Pitch at-a-glance

League	PK	K	1 <sup>st</sup> TB	1 <sup>st</sup> CP	2 <sup>nd</sup> CP Boys	2 <sup>nd</sup> CP Girls
<b>Time limit (minutes)</b>	45	45	45	45	45	45
<b>Maximum Innings</b>	Time limit	Time limit	Time limit	Time limit	Time limit	Time limit
<b>Base Distance</b>	50 feet	50 feet	50 feet	50 feet	50 feet	50 feet
<b>8' circle – 38 feet pitching rubber</b>	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
<b>Time – runners stop advancing</b>	1 base	1 base	Fielder has ball	1 base	Infield has ball	Infield has ball
<b>Batters per inning</b>	line-up	line-up	line-up	3 outs or line-up	3 outs or line-up	line-up
<b>Allow Double/Triple Plays</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Double Only	no
<b>Base Advance based on Hit</b>	1 base at time	1 base at time	Max of double	Max of double	Max of double	Max of double
<b>Leave Base if Called Out</b>	no	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
<b>Last Batter Rule</b>	home run	home run	home run	Based on Hit	home run	home run
<b>Players on Defense</b>	All players	All players	All players	All players	All players	All players
<b>Bats Allowed (wooden or aluminum)</b>	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
<b>Catcher Position</b>	Arc by backstop	Arc by backstop	Arc by backstop	Arc by backstop	Arc by backstop	Arc by backstop
<b>Catcher – batting helmet</b>	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
<b>Ball used</b>	9” incrediball	9” incrediball	9” incrediball	9” incrediball	9” RIF Level 1	11” incrediball
<b>Pitching Distance</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	30 feet	30 feet	30 feet
<b>Maximum Swings/Pitches</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a	3 swings/5 pitches	3 swings/5 pitches	3 swings/5 pitches
<b>Foul Line in front of home plate</b>	10’ arc	10’ arc	10’ arc	10’ arc	10’ arc	10’ arc
<b>Max. Adult on Field (offense)</b>	4	4	4	4	3	3
<b>Max. Adults on Field (defense)</b>	4	4	4	4	3	3

<b>League</b>	<b>PK</b>	<b>K</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> TB</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> CP</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> CP Boys</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> CP Girls</b>
<b>Time limit b/w innings</b>	1	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Metal spikes allowed</b>	no	no	no	no	no	no
<b>Continuous Batting Order</b>	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
<b>Unlimited Substitution</b>	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
<b>Scoring</b>	no score kept	no score kept	no score kept	no score kept	no score kept	no score kept
<b>Umpires</b>	1	1	1	1	1	1
<b>Official Game if end early</b>	2 inn or 30 min	2 inn or 30 min	2 inn or 30 min	2 inn or 30 min	2 inn or 30 min	2 inn or 30 min
<b>Infield Practice Before game</b>	no	no	no	no	no	no
<b>Infield Fly Rule</b>	no	no	no	no	no	no
<b>Lead off base</b>	no	no	no	no	no	no
<b>Steal</b>	no	no	no	no	no	no
<b>Leave base</b>	hit	hit	hit	hit	hit	hit
<b>Advance Wild Pitch/Passed Ball</b>	no	no	no	no	no	no
<b>Run on Missed 3<sup>rd</sup> Strike</b>	no	no	no	no	no	no
<b>Bunting</b>	no	no	no	no	no	no
<b>Bases on balls</b>	no	no	no	no	no	no
<b>Strike Outs</b>	no	no	no	no	no	no