

Know the LOYBL T-Ball Division

Year-End-Goals



Purpose: The purpose of the Year-End-Goals is to make sure parents, players and coaches are aware of the expected level of performance for their division. The Year-End-Goals also set coaching expectations for the season. Having these Year-End-Goals assures that each parent, player and coach can objectively measure the performance at year's end.

T-Ball Division Overview: T-Ball is the starting point for most players. This is the division where every child should be having fun on every play. Most skills learned in this division are based around a general understanding of the game. It is absolutely critical for each player to have a positive experience... fun, fun, fun.

Key Aspects/Expectations:

- All players should feel like a winner at the end of a game... positive contribution.
- Develop a "love for the game"
- Develop sportsmanship
- Understanding of general baseball rules

Unique to T-Ball:

- Tremendous learning curve (especially, first year players)
- All players bat each inning
- All games are three innings
- Players will rotate positions each inning (unless requested otherwise)
- No score keeping

Sufficient Skill Set: There is no mastery level in this division. A general understanding of the following skill sets will prepare each player for success in the Clinic Division.

Hitting:

- Learn swinging mechanics – execute a level or downward swing (hands always above the ball)
 - Proper finger and hand placement (align knuckles)
 - Bat position
 - Correct stance (arm positioning / knee bend)
 - Front foot load
 - Pivot rear foot
 - Balance
- Be able to place themselves properly in the batter's box
- Know how to properly dispose of the bat once the ball has been hit
- Understand foul and fair ball concept

Base running:

- Know the sequence of the bases and base names
- Know how to run the bases – that you can overrun 1st base (but not the others), round the bases, etc.
- Listen to base coaches (1st & 3rd) instruction
- Understand how runs are generated

Fielding/Throwing:

- Know the correct fielding stance (knees bent, hands in front of body, head up, keep their eyes on the ball, etc.)
- Learn throwing mechanics
 - Position of fingers, hand and arm
 - Focus on target (lead with none throwing arm)
 - Step forward with the appropriate foot
 - Follow through
- Be able to throw to the appropriate base from the coach's verbal instructions
- Learn how to back up other players and the field positions.