



## **2014 FALMOUTH T-BALL Rules**

### **Ages 5 - 6**

Players should arrive at the field about 5:30 pm. Coaches should run some basic drills for 20-25 minutes. Games will begin about 6:00 pm and run for about an hour. Every child gets to hit and then teams switch and the other team bats through their order. All kids get a single advancing 1 base at a time and the last hitter gets to hit the GRAND SLAM! There are no outs. Each game is roughly 2-3 innings – mutually decided by the coaches depending on time (a hard stop at 7:00 pm).

The most important things are: SAFETY & HAVING FUN.

The tee will be every player's first option and it is strongly recommended they hit from the tee for the first few weeks. At some point in the season, depending on the player's comfort level, each player will be given a second option when batting – a coach-pitch. If they aren't having success with a live pitch after a certain number of pitches (i.e. 5), a coach should bring the tee back and ask them to hit from the tee. For some players, they may not be ready to hit from a live pitch all season – and that is perfectly fine – and coaches and parents need to support this. If a coach throws too many pitches to a player, it can eventually become a safety issue and a kid playing in the field becomes less focused on the game and the waiting around doesn't make the game as fun. Coaches need to agree on the number of pitches thrown for each player – suggest five.

It will be up to the coaches to decide if you want to try to play 3 outs at some point but, please be sure that every effort is made to allow for the same number of at bats for all kids on both teams. This is an instructional league with no wins or losses.

For all levels/leagues, please follow these safety rules:

1. Only 1 bat is allowed out of the equipment bag and NO ONE SHOULD SWING unless a coach is supervising. Kids will bring their own bats, so please be prepared to take control of them until game time.
2. No "pig-piling". Try to teach the kids to spread out and only field balls that are hit at them or 1 step to either side. We try to have them envision bowling lanes between them and home plate – if a ball is in their bowling lane then they may field it. Also, teach them to talk – say "I got it!" and communicate. One player will field the ball and throw to first base.
3. Try to rotate positions and give every child a chance to play every position.
4. Rotate batting order so that every child has equal opportunity to hit last.
5. ABSOLUTELY NO PHYSICAL OR VERBAL ABUSE will be tolerated from one player to another. If there are any issues, please communicate immediately to League VP, Kevin Grimes, who will further communicate with the league and the parents as appropriate.

6. All kids must be sitting in a designated team area when their team is hitting. The only kids that should be standing are those on base and the ONE child hitting. We do not want a child walking into a bat being swung or tossed.
7. No throwing bats or helmets. Please try to teach the kids to drop the bat (not throw) after they hit. And, when the inning is over, have them jog in and place the equipment in their bench area, get their hats and gloves and jog out to the field.

#### **Rainout Policy**

Each team should have a plan to communicate in the event of inclement weather. Set up an email list and a phone call chain with your parents. Or, you can check the town of Falmouth website at [www.town.falmouth.me.us](http://www.town.falmouth.me.us) as they make the decision on the playability of the fields. You can also get to the field conditions via the Falmouth Little League website at [www.falmouthlittleleague.net](http://www.falmouthlittleleague.net). Coaches need to communicate to their teams on how players will be informed of a cancellation. It is strongly recommended that a player/contact list be set up for each team in order for everyone to be notified on a timely basis.

#### **Your Child**

If your child has any allergies, health issues, etc., please let one of their coaches know. The most common of these is/are bee stings, pollen or freshly cut grass. If we need to have Benedryl, Sudafed or, any other medication on hand, please let us know. Also, if anyone needs any special attention (i.e. shyness, etc.), please let us know that too – we will be sure to make it fun and comfortable for everyone!

#### **TEAM MOTTOS**

1. **BE SAFE**
2. **HAVE FUN**
3. **DO YOUR BEST**
4. **BE A GOOD SPORT & TEAMMATE**

---

Any questions, please contact T-Ball VP:

Kevin Grimes  
[Kgglaw@reddawg.net](mailto:Kgglaw@reddawg.net)