

TEE BALL (6U)



**City of Lawton Parks & Recreation 1405 SW 11th
Lawton OK 73501
(580) 581-3400**

Visit www.teamsideline.com/lawton for information and updates

PURPOSE

The purpose of this program is to give boys and girls an opportunity to play sports under good adult supervision. The attainment of exceptional athletic skills and the winning of games are secondary; the modeling of good character is the primary goal.

ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

Each team in the program should designate an athletic coordinator who serves as organizer and a contact person for the team. Their primary responsibility is to obtain competent coaches.

All accepting responsibility in this program must carry out all rules and regulations and strive to teach good sportsmanship, good health habits and good citizenship. These volunteers should exercise the type of behavior that sets a good example for players. Abuse or embarrassment of any players or team will not be tolerated. All coaches should strive to practice and play all players on their team. The participants should be exposed to game conditions, regardless of wins or losses. The enforcement of playing time is the responsibility of team organizers and/or the booster club.

COACHES

We want to take the opportunity, to thank all our coaches, for the many hours you dedicate to working with the youth. Without you, the sports program could not function successfully.

We appreciate that you are helping to build good character traits in the young people you coach. Thank you for being patient and considerate with the players.

We hope that at the end of the season, you can evaluate your work by answering, “Yes” to the following question: “Did I build good character in the players on my team?”

This manual should be a tool to help you in the quest to build good character. We hope you will find the information helpful.

Thank you,

Parks and Recreation Administration

TEE BALL RULES AND REGULATIONS

AUTOMATIC OUTS: Nine players will constitute a team. Teams must have at least eight players to play a game. If less than nine players, an automatic out will be recorded on non-player where non- player is in line-up.

EQUIPMENT:

- Wood and metal bats are allowed.
- **MANDATORY PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT:** All runners, batters, on deck batters, or players in the coaching box, must have a helmet protecting the top of the head, temples, ears and base of skull. Helmets with chinstraps are recommended to prevent accidental loss of protective equipment while running or sliding.
- Catchers **MUST** wear all of the following:
mask with throat protector, chest protector, shin guards, protective helmet and cup must be worn.
- **Metal Cleats** may not be worn.
- **Ball** MacGregor #56 Official Tee Ball or equivalent 'Vyntan' Synthetic leather cover/lower bounce Rubber core/ Double -stitched seams

UMPIRES: Umpires should ensure that catchers are in a safe position before the batter swings. All decisions of the umpire are considered FINAL.

FIRST GAME OF DAY: Teams must be ready to play at scheduled game time; early arrival is recommended

SECOND GAME OF DAY: The second game will start immediately after first game. Teams should arrive thirty minutes before the game is scheduled to begin. There will be NO infield practice on the second game.

PLAYER PARTICIPATION: A team may play up to ten players on defense, and at least four must play in the outfield. No infielder can play closer to home plate than the distance to the pitcher's mound. All players should play in the game. Last day to add a player is May 3, 2019.

TIME LIMIT: 1 hour – A new inning shall not start if 5 minutes or less remains. Once an inning starts it must be finished.

INNINGS: 5 innings maximum. Score and standings will be kept for this league.

RUNS PER INNINGS: A team may score a max of five (5) runs per inning, including the last inning or three (3) outs.

BATTER: Each batter gets five attempts to hit the ball off the tee, after 5 attempts the batter is out.

BATTING & SUBSTITUTION: Players must stay in the same batting order. Players in field may be changed.

BATTING TEE: 3 feet behind, and in line with home plate

BASES: 60 Feet

OUTFIELD (IMAGINARY FENCE DISTANCE): Shall be no more than 175 feet from home plate.

FAIR BALL ARC: There shall be a ten (10) foot arc drawn from first (1st) baseline to third (3rd) baseline in front of home plate. A batted ball must go past the arc line to be fair ball. The ball is put into play when a batter hits a legally batted ball. A legally batted ball is a ball hit into fair territory and travels on or past the 10-foot legal hit arc.

FOUL LINES and FENCE (DEAD BALL AREA): The distance between the foul lines and the fence shall be no more than 10 feet. NOTE: Coaches should be sure players understand all imaginary boundaries before the beginning of each game.

HOME TEAM: Team Captains will flip a coin before each game to determine home team.

STEALING BASES: Base runners are not permitted to steal or lead-off base and must remain in contact with the base until the ball is hit. **Penalty:** Runner is called out.

INFIELD FLY RULE: There is no infield fly rule.

OVERTHROW: Out of play – 2 Bases; Fair Territory – All you can get.

SLINGING A BAT: Ball is not dead – Delayed Call.

CATCHER: Due to the difficulty of mastering the catching position at this age level, it is advisable to have the catcher stand away from the batter until after the batter swings, and then assume the defensive position.

PITCHER: The pitcher will take position on the pitcher's plate and make a pitching motion as if delivering a pitched ball to the batter. The pitching motion is necessary to give timing to the game and should be used to teach the pitcher-player how to come off the mound in position to field the batted ball. The pitcher **MUST** remain in contact with the pitcher's plate until the ball is hit by the batter.

OUTFIELD: For any ball that hit to the outfield, and returned to the infield:
Runners may advance only to the base that player is going to at the time the ball enters the infield.
If a play is made on the runner, the ball becomes dead after the play is made.

STEPS TO BECOMING A COACH

All coaches must complete the National Alliance for Youth Sports (NAYS) training for coaches

Step 1: Get Started. You must first complete the registration process which includes providing your contact information and submitting payment. The cost of the Initial Level membership is **\$20**. Once you have completed the registration process, you will be notified of your login information to access the Online Clinic.

Step 2: View the Coaching Youth Sports Video. After you have logged into the Online Clinic, you will begin the course by viewing each section of the Coaching Youth Sports video.

Step 3: Complete the Coaching Youth Sports Exam. This is the first exam to be completed. The exam consists of 15 multiple choice and true/false questions. You will receive immediate notification of your test score.

Step 4: Sign the Coaches Code of Ethics Pledge. After your successful completion of the Coaching Youth Sports exam, you will read and acknowledge (electronically agree to) the Coaches Code of Ethics Pledge.

Step 5: View the Sport Specific Video. After you have completed the Coaching Youth Sports Course, Exam and Code of Ethics Pledge, you will return to the Clinic Menu where you will select your sport specific training. The course covers the fundamentals of the game for the sport selected.

Step 6: Complete the Sport Specific Exam. This is the final part of the training. The exam consists of 10 multiple choice and true/false questions. You will receive immediate notification of your test score. Once you have successfully completed this exam, you are a NYSCA member and qualify to receive all membership benefits including access to your personalized Member Area.

Step 7: Visit the Parks & Recreation Department to complete your background

Step 8: Once you complete your online NAYS training you will be mailed a membership card. Bring the membership card to the Parks & Recreation Department; a photo will be taken of you for your coach's ID card.

Coaches must wear ID cards around the neck at the games. If you lose your card, contact the Parks & Recreation Department for a replacement card prior to your game and before 4:00 pm. Coaches without their cards will be removed from the sideline.

COACHING GUIDELINES

I agree as a coach and/or volunteer for my team to comply at all times with the provisions listed below:

1. To read the sports manual and comply with these rules.
2. To never make abusive or insulting remarks to or about officials of the game, officials of the programs or opposing coaches and players.
3. To hold regularly scheduled practices.
4. **Not to use profanity** around players or consume alcoholic beverages before or during any meeting with the players.
5. At all times I will set a good example of sportsmanship for my players, keeping in mind that the primary goal in this program is to build character and not winning. I will make maximum effort to keep my spectators, parents and fans from razzing the game officials. As the losing coach, I will congratulate the opponents and have my players do the same.
6. I will play all players who practice regularly and with maximum effort, as the situation permits.
7. I will never take my team off the playing field until the game is finished.
8. Reasons for Field Ejection:
 - Using profanity, insulting or vulgar language or gestures
 - Attempting to influence a decision by an official
 - Disrespectfully addressing an official
 - Indicating objections to an Official's decision
 - Using a mechanical device to coach or to attract attention
 - Physical contact with an official
 - The use of mechanical visual-aid equipment, including computers, television, video tape, smart phone and any other electronic device for monitoring, replay, or coaching purposes during the game including intermissions
 - Failure of a team to be ready to play
 - Failure of the head coach, following verification, to have his player(s) wear legal and/or required equipment
 - Be on the field except as a substitute or replaced player
 - Be outside the designated area (i.e., team/coaches' box, bench or dugout)

I understand that the penalty for violation of any of the above is automatic suspension from coaching until reinstated.

GAME DISMISSAL/EJECTION

When a coach or assistant coach is dismissed or ejected from a game; said coach must contact the Sports office to schedule a reinstatement meeting with the Leisure Services Administrator before being permitted to participate further in the youth sports program. It is the coach's responsibility to contact the Sports office and set the meeting. A coach dismissed from a game, may be penalized, by sitting out the next game, suspended for the remainder of the season or may not be reinstated to coach in the Parks & Recreation youth sports program.

If a player or coach is playing (coaching) in two different age divisions and is suspended in one age division; the player or coach cannot play (coach) games in the second age division due to being on suspension. While on suspension a player cannot participate in scheduled Parks & Recreation activities until the suspension has been served and the player or coach is reinstated.

Coaches and assistant coaches may be put on probation until the end of the sports season, at which time a decision will be made as to whether the coach may continue to coach in the Parks & Recreation youth sports program.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The razing of officials, coaches, fans and players is prohibited. Insulting remarks made by spectators, coaches or players to any official and/or staff in the program may result in dismissal from the program as a coach and/or spectator. Facility Supervisors, officials and coaches will work together to keep spectators and fans from creating or inciting inappropriate behavior. **Criminal activity and/or behavior will be reported to the Lawton Police Department.**

PETS, TOBACCO: No dogs or pets allowed in any City Ball Field Complex. No form of tobacco use is permitted on City Ball fields while coaching a youth team.

COACHES ON THE SIDELINE AND OR DUGOUT

Football	4 Coaches on the sideline (including Flag Football)
Volleyball	2 Coaches on the sideline
Basketball	2 Coaches on the sideline
Baseball	4 Coaches in the dugout
Softball	4 Coaches in the dugout
Tee Ball	4 Coaches in the dugout
Coach Pitch	4 Coaches in the dugout

It is the coach's responsibility to keep fans/parents off the sideline. Coaches are required to wear their Coaches ID during the game. All coaches must have completed a background check and Nays training.

USING AN ILLEGAL PLAYER

Any coach found using illegal players on their team will be automatically suspended from coaching the remainder of the season. If the infraction accrues and/or is discovered at the end of the regular season or playoffs; the suspension will carry to the next coached sport. In addition to being suspended the coach may also be placed on probation by the Parks & Recreation Commission until the end of the athletic season at which time a decision will be made as to whether the coach may continue to coach in the Parks & Recreation youth sports program. Any game an illegal player participates in will be forfeited.

MISCONDUCT (not limited to the following list)

- Penalty for misconduct by players, coaches and/or fans:
- Fighting – One game to lifetime, based on severity of the act
- Profanity – Two games
- Obscene gesture – Two games
- Disrespectfully addressing an official – Two games
- Objecting to an official's decision – One game
- Improper contact with an official – One game to lifetime, based on the severity of the act
- Illegal player – two games and/or immediate dismissal of head coach from coaching in league
- Illegal player – player one game suspension

NOTE: If a player legally playing in two different age divisions is suspended in one age division; the player cannot participate in any games until the suspension has been served and the player is reinstated. When a player is suspended the player is not allowed to participate in any scheduled Parks & Recreation sporting activities. That player will miss games in both age divisions until the suspension is served and the player is reinstated.

Misconduct reports will be filed with the Recreation Services Administrator. Game officials, facility supervisors, Recreation Services Administrator and/or his representative may eject a player, coach or fan from the game or game site, as he or she deems necessary. All other player ejection penalties will be imposed at the discretion of the Recreation Services Administrator. The Sports Recreation Services Administrator is responsible for deciding the level of penalty imposed in cases of misconduct. All players, coaches or fans ejected from a game for misconduct must visit with the Recreation Services Administrator

in person before being reinstated for participation. Players must be accompanied by his or her parent or guardian. In considering cases of reports of misconduct by players or coaches, the party or parties shall have the right of a hearing before the Parks & Recreation Commission Rules Committee.

REINSTATEMENT

Coaches must be reinstated by the Recreation Services Administrator before being permitted to participate further in the youth sports program. It is the coach's responsibility to contact the Sports office and set the meeting.

APPEAL

Coach may appeal decision to the Parks & Recreation Commission.

ASSAULT ON AN OFFICIAL

Oklahoma Statutes

Title 21. Crimes and Punishments

§21-650.1. Athletic contests - Assault and battery upon referee, umpire, etc. Universal

Citation: 21 OK Stat § 21-650.1 (2016)

Every person who, without justifiable or excusable cause and with intent to do bodily harm, commits any assault, battery, assault and battery upon the person of a referee, umpire, timekeeper, coach, official, or any person having authority in connection with any amateur or professional athletic contest is guilty of a misdemeanor and is punishable by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding one (1) year or by a fine not exceeding One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or by both such fine and imprisonment.

FILING A PROTEST

- A. Coaches' officials conference must be called by coach before protest can be logged. There shall be no protest in coach pitch.
- B. If a protest is made over a playing rule and not a judgment call, the coach should notify the official at that time. If the protest is upheld, the game will be replayed from that point. Check time left to play at that point, also score at time of protest, and then resume play.
- C. Filing a protest:
 1. A protest over a rule may be registered by the head coach or athletic coordinator.
 2. Officials' decisions (judgment calls) are final and are not subject to protest procedures.
 3. Protest (if registered) must be brought to the attention of the official. The official shall enter said protest in the official scorebook at that time. A protest that is registered after a contest will not be considered valid.
 4. A written protest must be filed with the recreation supervisor no later than forty-eight hours after a contest on the official protest form.
 5. Protest must be accompanied by the fee established in the fee schedule. If the ruling is in favor of the protester, the fee will be refunded.
- D. The written protest shall set forth, but is not limited to the following:
 1. Time and place of protest.
 2. Names of teams involved to include coach's name(s).
 3. Name of protester.
 4. Exact nature of protest.
 5. Violation as viewed by the protester.
 6. Action requested by protester.
 7. Signature of head coach and/or athletic coordinator.

PROTEST REVIEW PROCEDURE

- A. The parks and recreation administration Staff will review the protest and will determine:
1. If the protest is legal.
 2. If the protest contents are correctly stated.
 3. What action will be taken.
- B. If either team is not satisfied with the decision of the parks and recreation administration staff ruling, either team may file a request for protest review, and a protest hearing will be scheduled within one week after the date of request by the parks and recreation commission rules committee.

TEAM ORGANIZATIONAL TYPE

The purpose of this section is to define the make-up of each organizational type registering a team.

Booster Club – is defined as a Lawton Public School sanctioned organization or entity. This organizational type must meet all LPS requirements to be sanctioned by LPS.

Team Organizer – is defined as an individual or organization organizing teams to allow youth to participate in the Lawton sports programs.

Both types may register teams in the Recreational league or in the Competitive league. Both organizational types must meet the same criteria for each division's team makeup.

RECREATIONAL LEAGUE CRITERIA FOR TEAMS

Each team must represent a specific school. Fifty percent (50%) of the players on a recreation league team must be students of that school. If a booster club or team organizer is short of players, they can go online and complete the Team request form for players. Players who attend a school that does not have a booster club or team organizer can submit a placement request form for assistance in finding a team. Players will be assigned to teams in the order the request for player is received.

COMPETITIVE LEAGUE CRITERIA FOR TEAMS

Teams are made up of players who must meet the age requirement. Players below the age requirement may play on a competitive league team at the parents and coach's discretion. No player above the age cut off will be allowed to play down.

PLACEMENT REQUEST

A player who attends a school that does not have a booster club or team organizer; and is requesting assistance to be placed on a team can visit www.teamsideline.com/lawton

Placement request are not required for competitive leagues.

If a placement request is received during registration and a player's booster club or team organizer registers a team during registration, the player must return to their school's team if the following is met:

1. The school is a sanctioned Lawton Public School booster club
2. The team organizer has registered with the sports office to represent a specific school

All team organizers must register with the Sports office prior registering a team.

HARDSHIP REQUEST

A player who attends a school that does not have a team and desires to play for another school team must submit a written request to the Parks and Recreation department. If the team the player wants to play for accepts the player on their team the player will be placed in the Elite League. The request must be received by the last day of team registration. A team cannot submit a hardship request to add a player to their school team's roster that has a team at his/her school after registration is completed. After registration is complete, a player in this situation may submit a request to be placed on an Elite League team.

AGE CUT OFF

A player cannot be over the required division age on or before the cutoff date. (ex. 10U Division; the player cannot be 11 on or before the cutoff dates listed below)

Football	September 1 of the current year	Divisions: 6U, 8U, 10U, 12U
Volleyball	September 1 of the current year	Divisions: 10U, 12U, 14U
Basketball	September 1 of the current year	Divisions: 6U, 8U, 10U, 12U, 14U
Baseball	May 1 of the current year	Divisions: 6U, 8U, 10U, 12U
Softball	December 31 of the previous year	Divisions: 8U, 10U, 12U

For 6U programs players must be 4 years old on or before the age cutoff date.

BIRTH CERTIFICATES

Birth Certificates may be required to verify players age if questions or concerns arise. Birth certificates made from affidavits are not acceptable unless approved by the Recreation Services Administrator. Birth Certificates may be required on protest of eligibility. Parents should be prepared to present player's birth certificates if requested. If a parent refuses to submit a player's birth certificate, the player is not eligible to play until the age can be verified.

NUMBER OF GAMES

Each team will be scheduled for (8) eight regular season games. In the case of inclement weather, games may not be rescheduled. Teams will be seeded in a post season tournament based on their regular season record. For weather information on game cancellations visit www.teamsideline.com/lawton

PLAYER MOVE-UP

Players may move-up *one* age division. **EXAMPLE** – A 10U player may move-up one division to the 12U team. A move up form must be completed prior to the player's participation in the higher division.

During the season, if a team folds and players want to continue to play; they may petition the Parks & Recreation Department for placement on another team. **After the season begins, no player may move up, move down, or change teams.**

CITY CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

All teams will advance to the playoffs at the end of regular season play. Teams will be seeded into a post tournament bracket based on their regular season record. **TIE BREAKER ANALYSIS** If there is a tie at the end of regular season play, the following tie breaker configurations will be used to break the tie or ties.

- Winning Percentage
- Head-To-Head
- Head-To-Head Differential
- Total Points For
- Total Points Against
- Total Points Differential
- Lowest Number of Forfeits
- Coin Toss

TIE GAMES

Baseball and Softball Games

If the game is tied at the end of regular play, then one additional inning will be played. If still tied, the game will be recorded as a tie game. **NOTE: Additional inning WILL NOT** be played if the time limit has expired: the game will be recorded as a tie game. This rule does not apply to play-offs and championship games.

Basketball Games

If the game is tied at the end of regular play, then an additional 2 minutes will be played. If still tied, the game will be recorded as a tie game. This rule does not apply to play-offs and championship games.

Football Games

At the end of regulation play, if the game is tied, the following overtime procedures will be used.

At the coin toss, the visiting team captain shall be given the privilege of calling the coin before the coin toss. The winner of the toss shall be given the choice of defense or offense, or of designating the end of the field at which the ball will be put in play. The referee will indicate the winner of the toss.

Each team shall be permitted one time-out for overtime. The team scoring the greater number of points in the overtime shall be declared the winner. The final score shall be determined by totaling all points scored by each team during the regulation and overtime periods.

To start the overtime, the offensive team shall put the ball in play, 1st and goal on the 5-yard line anywhere between the inbounds lines. The offensive team shall have a series of 4 downs.

If the offensive team scores a touchdown, it is entitled to the opportunity to try for extra points.

Extra points will be:

- A run play is one extra point.
- A pass play is two extra points.

If the defensive team gains possession, the ball becomes dead immediately and the offensive series is ended.

The same end of the field will be used for both possessions in order to ensure equal game conditions and conserve time.

If the score remains tied after each team has been given one series, it will be declared a tie game. In the playoffs only, the procedure shall be repeated until a winner is declared. There will be an intermission of 2 minutes during which the loser of the coin-toss will be given first choice of the options. If additional periods are required, first choice of options will be alternated.

RAINOUTS

Visit www.teamsideline.com/lawton to get information on rainouts. Information on rainouts will be posted by 3:00 p.m. if Parks & Recreation staff has determined that games should be cancelled. The Recreation Administrator, Facility Supervisor or game officials may terminate any game due to inclement weather. **RAIN OUT GAMES WILL NOT BE RESCHEDULED.**

LIGHTNING SAFETY FACTS AND PROCEDURE

Lightning Safety Facts:

1. All thunderstorms produce lightning and are dangerous.
2. Lightning often strikes as far as 10 miles away from any rainfall. Many deaths from lightning occur ahead of the storm because people try and wait to the last minute before seeking shelter.
3. You are in danger from lightning if you can hear thunder. If you can hear thunder, lightning is close enough that it could strike your location at any moment. Even when the sky looks blue and clear, be cautious. At least 10% of lightning occurs without visible clouds in the sky. The average distance from one lightning flash to the next in the same thunderstorm is approximately 2 to 3 miles. Therefore, if you are within 2 to 3 miles of a lightning flash, it is conceivable that the next lightning flash could be at your location.
4. Look for dark cloud bases and increasing wind. Every flash of lightning is dangerous, even the first. Head to safety before that first flash. If you hear thunder, head to safety!
5. It is the policy of Lawton Parks and Recreation that the following requirements and procedures be followed with regard to ensuring the safety of everyone attending or participating in a Lawton Youth Sports game in the event of lightning:

Lightning Safety Procedure:

1. Keep an eye on the sky. Look for darkening skies, flashes of lightning, or increasing wind, which may be signs of an approaching thunderstorm.
2. Listen for the sound of thunder. If you can hear thunder, go to a safe shelter immediately. **If you “See it, flee it” and if you “Hear it, Clear it”**
3. Postpone activities promptly. Don't wait for rain. Many people take shelter from the rain, but most people struck by lightning are not in the rain!
4. Go quickly to your vehicle. An open garage, baseball dugout or picnic shelter does not provide safety. An enclosed building is the best location to go to. However, if no enclosed building is convenient, get inside your hard-topped all-metal vehicle.
5. Stay away from tall or individual trees, lone objects (eg, light or flag poles), metal objects (eg, metal fences or bleachers), standing pools of water, and open fields. Avoid being the tallest object in a field. Do not take shelter under a single tall tree.
6. If you feel your hair stand on end or your skin tingle or hear crackling noises, immediately crouch to minimize your body surface area.
7. Avoid leaning against vehicles. Get off bicycles and motorcycles.

Decision to Postpone and Resume Game:

1. Allow 30 minutes to pass after the last sound of thunder or flash of lightning before resuming any athletic activity.
2. No consideration will be given to completing the game when making the decision to postpone or resume the game. The only factor that will be considered is the presence/absence of lightning/thunder/threatening skies.

What to do if someone is struck by lightning:

1. Call 9-1-1 or your local ambulance service for help.
2. Get medical attention as quickly as possible

**For questions or more information call the sports office at 580 581-3400
or email recreation@lawtonok.gov**