Division	Format	Roster Sizes	Game Ball Specifications	Game Nights	Season Length	Team Fee Resident / Non-Resident
3U/4U Tot- Ball	T-Ball	6-8 Players	Level 1 – Little League Baseball	Mon/Tues/Weds *Reschedules may be on Saturday mornings	6 games	\$150/\$175 *New Fee Structure. See page 2

League Structure:

This six-week instructional Co-Ed Tot-Ball league is the perfect place for your little one to start their baseball/softball journey! Enjoy the combination of skills training, game play, and of course fun! Each weekly session will include a 15-minute practice where umpires and coaches will help your player learn the fundamentals using the provided warm-up games. Immediately following the practice session, teams will have the chance to show off their skills as they play up to 40 minutes of a game.

This league will utilize reduced roster sizes, to allow for maximum participation opportunities. Roster sizes should be between 6 – 8 participants, with all participants playing in the field and batting through the lineup. Coaches or a volunteer should work as the "catcher" in this league, placing the ball on the tee, to maintain pace-of-play.

Registration: League Begins:

March 25 – April 21, 2024 May 13, 2024

Registration Fee: All fees are for a team fee. The team fee is divided among the number of participants for each team.

- Resident \$150
- Non-Resident \$175

All registrations are taken online! Visit recdesk.republicparks.com to login or create your account. For coaches who are registering their team, please select the "3U/4U T-Ball – Team Sign-Up (Coaches Only)". Coaches are welcome to bring in a full team of up to 8 participants, or register and have additional players added to round out their roster. For participants registration, please utilize the "3U/4U T-Ball – Individuals Sign-Up". All participants must be registered by their parent/guardian, to be eligible. Players will NOT be allowed to participate in games until their parent or guardian has completed this step. Coaches, please direct all parents/players of your team to complete their online registration.

Coaches Background Screening:

All coaches and co-head-coaches are required to pass a background check (no cost to the coach) before they will be allowed to coach. Information regarding background checks is available at republicmo.com. Background checks are good for two years at which point a new submission will be required.



Practice:

Teams are welcome to utilize Republic Parks & Recreation facilities or any additional facilities. Teams may sign up for a practice time beginning Monday, March 25th. Practices will begin the week of April 1st. Teams can keep their practice time until the season starts; once season has begun the practice availability will depend on the availability of the ballfields.

New Fee Structure for 4U-6U:

Individuals who "Need a Team" for participation, will pay a pre-set fee (\$25.00 resident / \$30.00 non-resident), as opposed to a portion of a team-fee. This will eliminate the need to pay your portion of a team-fee to a coach whom you just met. This individual fee does not include additional expenses such as uniforms, equipment, etc. Coaches will determine the route their team chooses to procure uniforms. We cannot guarantee team placement but strive to place all registrants! Individuals who are not able to be placed on a team, will receive a full refund.

Individuals who already have a pre-determined team will pay their coach, as part of a team fee. They are not required to make a payment to Republic Parks & Rec at the time of registration but will instead pay their coach. Team Fees are divided among the participants of that predetermined team. Coaches will collect the team registration fee (see table provided on cover page) and any additional expenses such as uniforms.

Coaches Meeting:

All coaches' meetings will be held on **May 7th**, **2024**; <u>3U – 8U Divisions</u> will be held at 6:00 p.m at the Republic Community Center. Streaming options will be available for both meetings. Links to view a recording of the meeting will posted online, in the days following the meeting.

Game Schedules:

Schedules can be reviewed during the coaches meeting and will be released online the following day. Online schedules can be found at <u>teamsideline.com/republicmo</u>. U6 and older divisions will receive a schedule for the first half of the season. Results from the first half will be used to help provide appropriate competition levels for the second half schedule that will be released throughout the weeks of June 3rd and June 10th.



League Rules:

- This is an instructional league; no score will be kept.
- Players will bat in rotation until all players have batted. Batters are permitted 3 strikes: 3rd strike foul balls are considered an out. Balls struck beyond the 5-ft. arc are considered in play. The last batter must make it to home plate before the opposing team switches sides for their at-bat. All players should advance all the way around the bases.
- The ball is considered dead when in the possession of the pitcher, or player within the pitching circle, or when a fielder intentionally throws the ball to the pitcher (regardless of if the pitcher catches the ball). The umpire will call a dead ball. If a runner is more than halfway to a base before the ball enters the circle, then the runner can finish running to the base.
- Bunting will not be allowed. Shoes with metal cleats or spikes are not permitted by any player.
- Batters, baserunners, and on deck batters must wear protective helmets.
- Game Balls: A Level 1 Little League Baseball will be used for both baseball and softball.
 <u>Teams must provide their own game balls</u>. One ball per league game.
- Base and pitching distance for Tot-Ball (Boys & Girls)
 Bases 60' Pitching Circle 30'
- Should a team forfeit or "no-show" two consecutive games without notifying the Recreation Department the team will be dropped from the league. Notification must be given two working days prior to the forfeiture.
- A defensive field coach is permitted in the outfield to assist fielders on where to throw the ball. However, the coach may not at any time touch the ball or the fielder while play is going on.
- Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated. If a coach, player, or fan is ejected from a game, they must leave the park immediately. If the same person is ejected from another game, they will be suspended indefinitely from the Republic Parks & Recreation programs pending a meeting with the Recreation Supervisor and/or the Community Services Director. Further problems from the team may result in a forfeit of the game.
- The Coaches Code of Ethics must be signed by the head coach and the assistant coach online or at the coaches meeting, prior to the season beginning.
- Coaches are prohibited from coaching more than two teams in the same league.
- Each team will be given up to 3 coaches passes for free entry into the ballpark. All other persons, excluding players, over the age of 12 and under the age of 65 must pay a \$3.00 entry fee and 65 and older must pay \$2.00
- The Recreation Supervisor reserves the right to make final determination on any rules or interpretations that may arise throughout the season.



Lightning/Weather Policy: During outdoor athletics events, if lightning is detected with a 0-8 mile radius of the facility, all games in progress will be shut-down. If lightning has not yet approached the 8-mile-radius, the site-supervisor reserves the right to shut-down games if there is a storm inbound. There will be no delaying games. At the time of shutdown, all participants and spectators must exit the facility.

- If a game is shutdown during gameplay, <u>prior to the halfway point of the game</u>: The game will be replayed on a different date, completely restarting the game with a score of 0-0.
- If a game is shutdown during gameplay, at or after the halfway point of the game: The game will be marked as completed, with a final score of whatever the score is at the time of shutdown.
- **Resuming play for upcoming games in the day:** The remaining teams participating in the day, will be able to enter the facility once a 20-minute period without lightning has passed. The Site-Supervisor will be closing off the facility entrances with signage, once the facility becomes closed due to weather.
- The Site-Supervisor reserves the right to shutdown games, for the safety of all participants and spectators.

All players in the 3U – 8U divisions will receive medals at the completion of a terrific season!

*Coaches, parents, and participants should be mindful of good sportsmanship. and set a good example! Thank you and let's have a great season!

