



CITY OF BROOKFIELD PARKS, RECREATION, AND FORESTRY DEPARTMENT  
**T-Ball/Coach Pitch Rules (K4 & K5)**

### **League Philosophy**

This league is designed to provide basic instruction while introducing players to baseball in a fun, game-like atmosphere. The program emphasizes skill development and sportsmanship over winning. The rules are simplified to accommodate young beginner players.

### **General Information**

1. T-Ball is a 9-week season, teams will play 8 games. All teams will have a scheduled practice the first week. Teams will meet at 5:20 or 6:35pm, time varies each week.
2. There will be an added tenth week for a make-up game; July 28/29. Any games cancelled beyond the one make up week will not be rescheduled.
3. Teams are coached by adult parent volunteers. No score/standings.
4. All games are at Wirth Park Athletic Complex, Field 4. There will be three fields setup: one in the right field grass, the left field grass, and the infield dirt. (See diagram below)
5. All players receive their own t-shirt which should be worn to each game.

### **Game Play**

1. All games will be a 60-minute time limit.
2. Official ball will be the 9" IncrediBall (Soft Touch).
3. Helmets and bats will be provided by the department. Participants are welcome to supply their own. Bats should be 24 or 25 inches. Players need to bring their own glove.
4. Each field will get an equipment bag consisting of eight (8) helmets (four for each team), two (2) bats (shared), twelve (12) balls (shared) and cones (shared) for each team. The field supervisor will have the equipment bag and tee at each field before the first game.
5. The ball will be placed on a tee and the batter will swing until they hit the ball.
6. There are no outs. Teams will bat through their entire batting order and the last batter clears the bases and runs home.
7. Players will advance one base at a time. There will be no leading off, sliding, or stealing.
8. Players will be spaced out in the infield with one player positioned as the "pitcher."
9. Defensive players should field the ball and attempt to throw to first base. Rotate the player at first base every few at-bats so all players get a turn.

### **Weather**

1. If there is any doubt as to whether the diamond is in playable condition, the following procedure will be used:
  - a) The Department will cancel games up to 3:30pm.
  - b) Cancellation of games can be found at <http://www.ci.brookfield.wi.us> (Ball Field Conditions Report)
  - c) If the games have not been called prior to 3:30pm, teams must appear at their game location and the supervisor will make the final decision.

## Game Day Tips:

- Coaches should demonstrate how to hold the bat, the batting stance, dropping the bat after hitting the ball and reiterating that they should NOT THROW THE BAT.
- Each team will have 1-2 official coaches, but more parent helpers are needed on the field and as base coaches to help with base running. Older siblings can help as well.  
When batting, coaches are needed to help with:
  - A coach at the tee, helping batter setup and putting the ball on the tee
  - A coach at first and third base to direct and assist base runners
  - A coach in the dugout area to manage the batting order
- Split your team in two groups. When in the field, have 1 group dispersed between the infield positions to field batted balls. The second group can be in the outfield working on drills. Each inning, have each group switch.
- Use cones in the infield to help defenders know where they should stand.
- Create a pre-determined batting lineup (use stickers, or a washable marker to write their batting number on their hand)
- Line up the players in order and make sure next batters up have a helmet on (teams can use all the helmets in the equipment bag when necessary)
- Coaches decide which team bats first (or follow schedule in TeamSideline).

## Coach Pitch Rules:

### K4: T-Ball / Intro to Coach Pitch

- First half of the season: Players will hit exclusively from the tee.
- Weeks 1–4: Coaches will evaluate players' readiness for coach pitch.
- After Week 4: Coaches may introduce coach pitch at their discretion.

### K5: T-Ball / Coach Pitch

- Week 1: Players will hit exclusively from the tee. Coaches will evaluate players' readiness for coach pitch.
- Starting Week 2: Coaches may introduce coach pitch at their discretion, the last at-bat of the game.
- After Week 2: Coaches may gradually integrate additional players into coach pitch at their discretion for all at-bats.

**NOTES:** Coach pitch is optional for all players. Coach pitch is intended to help players transition to live pitching. Players begin machine pitch in first grade. If a player does not make contact after four coach-pitched balls, they will hit from the tee.

