

For All Texas Teenage Needs

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"Serving the Youth of Texas Since 1952"

Texas Teenage Scholarship Program

TTA invites all affiliates to nominate candidates for our annual scholarship program. A Texas Teenage player from the TTAB (Baseball) and a player from the TTAS (Softball) programs will be selected each year. A future college scholarship award will be announced at each State Affiliates' Meeting in August. Young people who have demonstrated excellent leadership, playing attitude, citizenship on and off the field of play, and personal development through the TTA Program will be given the highest ratings in the selection process. For details on the Scholarship Program, refer to our Web Page at www.texasteenage.org, or get information from your local officials or contact person or call our State Office.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY

Texas Teenage Baseball and Softball reserves the right to refuse any application when determined by the State Board of Directors that it is not in the best interest of the state association.

Any manager, coach, league official, or tournament director participating in TTAB-TTAS sponsored programs who is a convicted felon and/or drinks or allows the drinking of alcoholic beverages, or who uses or allows the use of illegal drugs or controlled substances, or is under the influence thereof, or who uses abusive or profane language, either in person or by telephone or makes any attempt to commit or does bodily harm to any officer, director, representative or umpire of TTAB-TTAS, shall be suspended immediately from further participation in any TTAB-TTAS sponsored activity for any number of years up to a lifetime ban.

Any fan or parent of a player participating in TTAB-TTAS guilty of any of the above infractions will be reported to their local league president for disciplinary action. Any affiliate failing to take action will be subject to suspension from further participation in TTAB-TTAS.

The State Board of Directors will review all reported infractions. Their ruling shall be considered final and shall not be subject to appeal and/or legal action. Any affiliate not willing to accept the above as a part of their local responsibility to participate in the TTAB-TTAS organization should not submit an Application for Affiliation.

TTAB-TTAS Board of Directors

STATE DIRECTORS & ASSOCIATES

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ASSOCIATES

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Paul Schuetz, Bosqueville – Thomas Ruffino, Holland
Kathryn Trevino, Moody – Nathan Acker, Rusk
Bruce Urbanovsky, Hillsboro – Monty McGill, Buffalo

DUTIES OF STATE DIRECTORS

State Directors shall enforce the rules and regulations, as well as those policies issued by Texas Teenage Baseball-Softball. Such enforcement shall be by virtue of, and through the authority given each Director by the State President. It shall be the State Director's duty to preside over all Association matters within the area for which he/she is duly appointed and elected, and said Director's decisions shall take precedence over any other person, affiliate, manager, coach, league official, tournament director (whether it be in a district or state tournament), or member of the Association, so long as said decisions are related to the rules, regulations and/or policies of the Association.

State Directors shall be the highest ruling authority in their respective areas, subject only to the President and/or Vice-President of the Association. At any time a State Director sees or knows of a violation of the rules, regulations, or policies of the Association, he shall immediately take the necessary steps to correct same, with all the power and authority given him/her herein.

All actions, decisions, and rulings of State Directors shall be in the best interest of TTAB-TTAS.

State Directors are expected to be impartial toward any affiliate or team and, therefore, may not be directly involved with any team, including coaching or managing. State Directors may not participate in any TTA game or act as a tournament director.

ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS

State Directors may appoint Associate Directors who can oversee a specific region of a Director's district. The Associate Director can be of general service to local affiliates, but shall take no official action regarding TTA rules and policies.

OFFICIAL REGULATIONS

DEFINITIONS:

For clarity, TTA defines the following terms:

- Association: A term to mean the entire TTA organization.
- Affiliate: Meaning a town or group of towns that make up the local affiliation
- Divisions: Means the age categories: such as T-Ball, Midget, Freshman, etc.
- Leagues: Refers to sub-parts of Divisions: such as American, National, East, West, etc.

A. ORGANIZATION

1. All affiliate rules and bylaws should be in writing and issued to all managers and coaches.
2. The local affiliates shall be the smallest unit of the organization and shall be affiliated with the TTA State Office each year.
3. The affiliate shall be governed by a Board of Directors, Committee, or Association with elected officers serving as voluntary operating personnel, including a President who is the highest ruling authority of the affiliate.
4. The Board of Directors, Committee, or Association may organize and operate one or more leagues in any and all divisions of TTAB and TTAS. Each league, so organized, shall be considered a separate and independent organization within itself.
5. A League must consist of a least four (4) teams and no more than seven (7) teams, except by special permission of the State Director serving the affiliate requesting the waiver. Each league shall participate in assigned TTA District and State Tournaments. For exception, refer to Tournament Rule 200-6c.
6. Any affiliate registering a fictitious team for the purpose of forming a league can be subject to a penalty of up to a one year suspension from TTA participation.
7. An affiliate may organize in a town, city, community or county. In locations where it is warranted, a larger territory may be organized, subject to approval of the local State Director.

8. Participation of girls in the TTAB Program will be permitted if properly submitted on the Official TTAB Team Roster form by local affiliates. No exceptions or deviations to the official rules and regulations will be permitted as a result of their participation.
9. Participation of boys in TTAS will be permitted only in the T-Ball Division where a maximum of two boys on each team is allowed if properly submitted on the Official Team Roster.
10. Boys shall not be chosen as pickup players in TTAS Girls T-Ball.
11. TTA will require that each affiliate establish boundary lines in harmony with adjoining affiliates. Affiliates that have more than one participant, each participant must have an established boundary. These boundary lines will be required to be in writing and distributed to all affected areas in your district and a copy sent to your Area State Director. TTA feels the defined boundary line should be the local affiliate's responsibility and agreed upon prior to drafting or forming teams. Give top priority to avoid any attempt to "stack teams". The Independent School District boundary line concept is a common choice, but may not apply to every affiliate.
12. Any boundary line controversy that cannot be resolved locally should be submitted to the State Director and provide complete details.
13. All boundary line protests must be settled before TTA District or State Tournaments. No TTA tournament shall allow protests over boundary line issues.
14. A player must play in the designated boundary line area of which he/she lives or attends school as long as a team or league is offered in the player's age division. If a team or league is not offered, the player must play in the next closest TTA town within their affiliate that offers the age division. This applies to any league of which the player could play according to his/her age division. If a player is required to play in the nearest TTA town and has met all the requirements necessary to play in his local boundary, he or she may return to the original affiliate.

15. If a player registers with an affiliate in the boundary line where he/she lives or attends school before the deadline for registration ends and that affiliate is full and does not have a place on any team in his/her age division within the affiliate, then that player may play in the town or adjacent boundary area that is most near where he/she lives. If the player registers after the deadline in the boundary area of residency, the player is ineligible to play elsewhere. At the discretion of local leagues, players may be released to other teams or towns once a roster reaches thirteen (13) players. Roster limits will remain at 15 players. A legal roster shall consist of a minimum of nine players.
16. In the event that a new affiliation to TTA contains players who are a part of a team in a nearby affiliate, such players are allowed to remain on the current team through the duration of the TTA division the player is so registered.
17. A player choosing to play in a boundary line area where he/she attends school but outside the area where he/she lives, must remain in the chosen area as long as they play in the current TTA age division.
18. In High School Eligible Leagues, teams may select from any location in Texas, except an area that has a defined boundary line established.

B. LEAGUE SCHEDULE

1. Playing a minimum of ten (10) official league games per team shall constitute a completed league schedule. Exception to rule: Any TTA team that is required to travel in excess of 75 miles one-way to participate with another team in their league will be required to play only an eight (8) game schedule.
2. The beginning of league play is at the discretion of local affiliates.
3. All TTAB (Baseball) league play will terminate as follows:
The 2010 Season on July 3.
The 2011 Season on July 2.
All TTAS (Softball) league play will terminate as follows:
The 2010 Season on June 26.
The 2011 Season on June 25.
4. The official league schedule shall be prepared no later than one (1) week before the start of the regular season play.

5. The schedule shall be arranged so that no team will be required to play on successive days except for a makeup or rainout game.
6. A Calendar Week is defined as Sunday through Saturday.
7. Any league that has not finished its season by the official end of the TTA season and determined its champions shall not be eligible to participate in tournament play.

C. POSTPONED, RAIN-OUT, AND SUSPENDED GAMES

1. No regular scheduled games may be postponed without the approval of the Local Affiliate President.
2. It shall be the responsibility of the Local Affiliate President to see that all postponed games, rain-out or makeup games, and suspended games are re-scheduled and played at the earliest possible date. All such games must be played during the regular season of play and before the end of the Official League Season.
 - (a) A postponed and/or makeup game is defined as one that is re-scheduled to be played in its entirety at a later date.
 - (b) A rainout game (if less than the required complete innings have been played) is defined as a suspended game.
 - (c) A suspended game is defined as one that is re-scheduled to be continued in play from the exact point of suspension of the original game. A game called by the umpire that is not a regulation game, shall be resumed at the exact spot where it was stopped.

D. LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

1. Local league champions shall be determined by the method adopted by the local affiliate officials and the eligible teams will advance to tournament play.
2. The method used may vary according to local situations. The method used should be determined before the local league season begins.
3. Each League's first and second place teams (or replacement or alternate teams) are required to participate in its assigned tournament. Penalty for non-participation can be up to a one year suspension from TTA for that particular league and/or manager.

E. SELECTION OF PLAYERS

1. The selection of players for teams will be accomplished in compliance with a Player Selections System as adopted by local affiliate officials.
2. No team shall be allowed to protect more than a maximum of 3 protected players. Players are protected as long as they remain on the roster in that age division. Returning players, that were not protected, are not considered protected players. Protected players must be named each year on the team's official Team Roster.
3. If the head coach or first assistant coach has a son or daughter playing on the team, it is mandatory that such players must be included as protected players. The coaches must be determined prior to player draft.
4. It is the responsibility of each affiliate to govern their leagues to prevent the stacking of teams. Any and all teams that are stacked (legally or illegally) will not be allowed to participate in tournament play.

F. PLAYER AGREEMENTS

1. All players and their parents (or guardians) shall be required to sign a player agreement prior to participating in any TTA activity, agreeing to abide by all TTA rules and regulations and, in addition, all local affiliate rules and regulations. The player agreement must include a statement releasing the local league affiliate and its officers, all sponsors, and the TTA State Organization from any and all liability associated with any injuries sustained as a result of any TTA activity.
2. Each player (parent or guardian) must provide the local league organization an official (copy thereof) "vital statistics" birth certificate or official military dependant I.D. as documented proof of the correct date of birth.
3. Players thus signed will be considered the property of the team who signed them for the age eligible division, unless properly traded or released.
4. Players participating in TTA will be eligible to play on only one TTA team in one league in one season. This excludes players on High School Eligible Boys and Girls Teams.
5. Players must participate in at least one half of the regular season games, unless for medical reasons

6. Players not registered on an Official Team Roster submitted to the State Office by the First League Game shall be ineligible to participate in TTA tournaments. Proof of delivery of rosters will be considered in cases of failure of receipt at the State Office. It is highly recommended that each team insure proper delivery by either printing a copy of the on-line rosters or by sending certified mail or faxing.

G. PLAYER TRADES AND RELEASES

1. Managers will be permitted to release and sign players and to make trades **WITHIN THEIR OWN LEAGUES ONLY**, providing it is done in the best interest of their teams, the players and the League in general. Violation of the above regulation will result in an illegal player. The local affiliate President must approve all player trades and must be fair and just trades for the purpose of helping both team and players involved. No trades shall be permitted for the purpose of “stacking” a team with good players to the disadvantage of other teams. **NO PLAYER TRADES SHALL BE PERMITTED AFTER THE BEGINNING OF THE LOCAL LEAGUE SEASON.**
2. No additions to a team shall be permitted after the first league game is played. Once a team roster is submitted to the State Office, if there are any additions to a team prior to the first league game, the player shall be allowed with the State Director’s authorization. There shall be no exceptions to this regulation under any circumstance, including local league rules.

H. ILLEGAL PLAYERS AND PENALTY

1. Players may be declared illegal for the following reasons:
 - (a) Moved or traded after start of season or roster filed.
 - (b) Misrepresentation of playing age.
 - (c) Participation on more than one TTAB/TTAS team during league play. (Exception: High School Boys and Girls Eligible Divisions, where approved).
 - (d) A maximum age player who is signed to a TTA team after eight other maximum age players are already signed.
 - (e) Not officially registered with a league to be a player.

- (f) Players who reside or attend school in a defined affiliate boundary area and play outside that defined area when a TTA program is offered in his/her age division.
PENALTY: All games in which an illegal player participated shall be forfeited.
2. It shall be the responsibility of the Manager of each team to make sure that he/she does not sign or play an illegal player during the season or in tournament play. Penalty for this violation can be up to a two-year suspension of the Manager from participating in TTAB/TTAS activity.
 3. In the event a Manager or Assistant Manager believes or knows of an opposing team playing an illegal player, he/she may make a protest. If the protest is allowed, the game will be declared forfeited to the offended team. Any game played in which both Managers have lodged an official protest, and both protests have been allowed, the game in question will be thrown out. The game will not be replayed, but will be recorded as a loss of one game for each of the teams in the final standings.
 4. In the event local affiliate officials or State Directors discover an illegal player, manager, or team (according to TTAB/TTAS rules and regulations) all games in which player, manager or team participated, shall be forfeited.
 5. Any coach playing a player under an assumed name or with an illegal birth certificate: player and coach will be removed from the game at the time the illegal player is identified.
PENALTY: Player will be removed from Tournament play. Coach will receive a five (5) year suspension from TTA and player will be suspended for two (2) years. All games in which an illegal player participated shall be forfeited.
 6. It shall be the responsibility of the manager to ensure that the team roster is submitted to the State Office correct and prior to the first league game. **PENALTY:** If a data entry mistake is discovered on a team roster, the player may be eligible to play. (Example: Omission of a player) The Manager will be suspended for the first two tournament games.

I. PROTESTS AND DISPUTES

1. All protests and disputes arising during the regular season of league play shall be settled on a local level. The President of each affiliate shall name a Protest Committee for that purpose and the Committee's ruling shall be considered final.
2. A protest which may arise from interpretation of playing rules, will be made by notifying the Umpire-In-Chief and the manager of the opposing team, at the time of occurrence and before the next legal pitch, that the game is being played under protest; then submitting the protest in writing to the local affiliate President within twenty-four (24) hours after the game in question.
3. An Affiliate President who manages and/or coaches a team in TTAB/TTAS cannot serve or rule on a protest committee in his/her age division.

J. UMPIRES FOR LEAGUE PLAY

1. An official umpire is one that is approved and appointed by the Local Affiliate.
2. Local TTA organizations should select the most qualified umpires possible with at least one umpire for each league game and at least two for TTA tournament games. TTA encourages the use of Certified TTA Umpires.
3. A State Director shall not umpire or manage in any game. A Tournament Director shall not umpire in any game.

K. SCOREKEEPERS

The Affiliate will furnish a competent scorekeeper and statistician for each game to record and keep an accurate record of: at bats, errors, extra base hits, strikeouts, walks, innings pitched, bases on balls, and stolen bases.

L. QUALIFYING LEAGUES FOR TOURNAMENT PLAY

1. In order for a team to be eligible to participate in Texas Teen-Age Tournament play, it is mandatory that the following qualifying steps be taken:
 - (a) Register and become a member of the State Association by May 1st of each year. Application for Affiliation must be postmarked on or before midnight, May 1st.
 - (b) Make payment in full of the annual registration fees of twenty five dollars (\$25) per team.
 - (c) Complete and submit Official Team Rosters to State Office by the first official league game.

- (d) Strictly abide by tournament rules as set forth in “Tournament Rules” section of this rulebook.
 - (e) Follow the general pattern of TTAB/TTAS and comply fully with the entire standard playing rules and regulations as established by TTAB/TTAS.
2. It shall be the duty and responsibility of the State Association President to rule on the qualifications and eligibility of all active member leagues for tournament play. Any ruling or decision made by the State Association President shall be considered final.

M. SCORING RULES

To achieve uniformity in keeping the records of league and championship games, the scorekeepers must conform to the Official Scoring Rules as carried in the Official Baseball Guide and Record Book and the ASA Official Guide.

N. MEDICAL INSURANCE

All affiliates of the Texas Teenage Association are required to maintain medical insurance on participants in TTA league and tournament play. A copy of the Declarations Page of the Medical Insurance Coverage must be presented to the State Director prior to the first league game and the tournament director prior to the first tournament game being played. **PENALTY:** Team will not be eligible for tournament play.

OFFICIAL RULES

LEAGUE PLAY IN ALL DIVISIONS SHALL BE COVERED BY THE OFFICIAL NATIONAL LEAGUE BASEBALL RULES AND/OR AMATEUR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL RULES WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS:

10. GENERAL RULES APPLICABLE TO ALL DIVISIONS

10-1. LOCAL AFFILIATE RULES

- (a) Ground Rules shall be furnished to team managers and umpires. Ground rules shall apply to playing field conditions only.
- (b) Special Rules are applicable to local league play only.

10-2. HIDDEN BALL TRICK

The hidden ball trick shall not be permitted in any division.

10-3. INTENTIONAL WALK

An intentional walk may be issued by merely notifying the umpire of the intention. Not applicable to T-Ball, Machine Pitch and Coach Pitch Divisions.

10-4. BENCH AND FIELD CONDUCT

A coach, player, substitute, attendant, fan or other bench personnel shall not:

- (a) Deliberately throw a bat or helmet. Throwing of bat: to be considered throwing a bat it must be deliberate and leave the batter's hand. If a batter throws his bat, he is not out if a fair ball was hit, but he may be removed from the game. Hitting the catcher on a back swing is not considered throwing a bat.
- (b) By calling "time" or use any command or commit any act for the purpose of trying to cause the opposing pitcher to balk.
- (c) Use word, act or noisemakers to incite or try to incite spectators to demonstration, or use profanity or remarks which reflect upon opposing player, umpire, or spectator.
- (d) Drink, use or appear to be under the influence of any intoxicants while participating in a TTAB or TTAS game.
- (e) Enter the area behind the catcher while the opposing pitcher and catcher are in their positions.

- (f) Fake a tag without the ball.
- (g) Maliciously run into a fielder who has the ball. When a defensive player has the ball in his possession waiting to make a tag on a base runner, and runner deliberately runs into defensive player. EFFECT: Runner is out. Ball is dead. All other runners must return to base last touched at the time of the collision. If act is flagrant the offender shall be ejected.
- (h) Use noisemaker at any TTAB/TTAS game.

PENALTY: In (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g) and (h), umpire shall banish the offender from the field. Failure to comply shall result in game being forfeited. However, in (e), if the offense is judged to be of a minor nature, the umpire may warn the offender and then disqualify him if he repeats the offense.

10-5. CHARGED CONFERENCES

- (a) Each team when on defense may be granted not more than three charged conferences during a regulation game, without penalty, to permit a coach or his representative to confer with a defensive player or players. Only one charged conference is allowed per inning without removal of the pitcher. Exception: Softball, refer to ASA Rules. It is a charged conference only when a coach, player, or team representative calls timeout from the dugout and stops play to confer with one of the defensive players. (If a coach walks across the diamond between innings and talks to a player as he returns to his dugout and does not delay the game in any manner, it is not a charged conference.)

- (b) In any extra inning game, each team shall be permitted one charged conference each inning while on defense without penalty. The number of charged conferences permitted is not cumulative.

A coach, player, substitute, or attendant may make a request for time. Time granted for an obviously incapacitated player shall not constitute a charged conference nor shall a conference be charged whenever the pitcher is removed as pitcher.

PENALTY: For any charged conference in excess of three in a regulation game, or more than one per inning, or for any charged conference in excess of one in each extra inning, the pitcher shall be removed from the mound for the duration of the game.

- (c) Each team, when on offense, may be granted not more than one charged conference per inning to permit the manager or any of that team's personnel to confer with base runners and/or the batter. The umpire shall deny any subsequent request for charged conferences. Violation may result in removal of the manager from the field of play.
- (d) Each manager should be notified when he is charged with a charged conference.

10-6. EQUIPMENT

- (a) ANY person warming up a pitcher in any position, whether sitting or standing, shall wear a facemask. **NO LEAGUE OR TOWN CAN WAIVE THIS RULE.** First offense – removal of coach from the game, second offense – forfeit the game.
- (b) **ALTERED OR ILLEGAL BATS:** When a batter enters the batter's box with, or is discovered using an altered or illegal bat, the batter is declared out and the batter and manager are ejected from the game. The ball is dead and each runner must return to the last base touched at time of pitch.

10-7. JEWELRY

No person may wear jewelry during a game (Boys or Girls). For persons wearing a medical alert bracelet/necklace, or a non-removable ring, these should be taped prior to game time.

10-8. BLOOD RULE

A player, coach, or umpire who is bleeding or who has blood on his uniform shall be prohibited from participating further in the game until appropriate treatment can be administered. If medical care or treatment is administered in a reasonable length of time, the individual will not have to leave the game. The length of time that is considered reasonable is left to the umpire's judgment. Uniform rule violations will not be enforced if a uniform change is required. The umpire shall:

- (a) Stop the game and allow treatment if the injured player would affect the continuation of the game.
- (b) Immediately call a coach, trainer or other authorized person to the injured player.
- (c) Apply the rules of the game regarding substitutions, short-handed player, and re-entry if necessary.

10-9. INFIELD FLY RULE

The Infield Fly Rule shall apply to all TTA divisions except where noted. (T-Ball, Machine Pitch and Coach Pitch Leagues are excluded)

10-10. GAME TIME IS FORFEIT TIME

10-11. BATTER (TTAB FRESHMAN THROUGH JUNIOR DIVISIONS)

To avoid delay of the game, the batter must keep at least one foot in the batter's box during his time at bat, unless:

- He swings at a pitch.
- He is forced or pulled out by the pitch.
- He attempts a drag bunt.
- The defense attempts or feints a play at a base.
- The pitcher leaves the dirt or moves five feet from the pitching rubber.
- Time is granted for either team
- Catcher leaves the Catcher's box for signals or equipment.
- A wild pitch occurs.

PENALTY: A strike is called and the ball remains live.

NOTE: Umpire shall point outside the box with the left hand, call strike, and signal with the right hand.

10-12. TIME LIMITS

There is a time limit of two (2) hours in TTAB (Baseball) Junior Midget, Midget, Senior Midget and Freshman Tight Bases and a time limit of 2 hours 30 minutes for Freshman Open Bases, Sophomore and Junior Boys Divisions in tournament play. (See 200-11b) Time limits for TTAS (Softball) are 1 hour 45 minutes.

10-13. COURTESY RUNNER RULE

A courtesy runner for the pitcher and catcher is allowed in all games (baseball & softball), except T-Ball, Coach Pitch and Machine Pitch. A courtesy runner for the catcher will be allowed in Coach Pitch and Machine Pitch. A Courtesy Runner must be an eligible player who is not in the current batting lineup. The same runner may not be a courtesy runner more than once per inning, except in the case where the same person, for whom he ran for, returns to the plate more than once per inning.

PENALTY: Pitcher removed from game.

10-14. SHORT HANDED RULE

Now applies to all TTA teams in both TTAB and TTAS.

- (a) If a team begins play with the required number of players, that team may continue a game with one less player than it started with, whenever a player leaves the game for any reason other than ejection. Under no circumstances shall a team be permitted to bat less than eight.
- (b) If a player leaves the game as a runner, player shall be declared out.
- (c) When the player who has left the game is scheduled to bat, an out shall be declared for each turn at bat. The player who has left the game cannot return to the lineup. Exception: the Short Handed Rule. A player who has left the game under the blood rule, may return even after missing a turn at bat.

PENALTY: The game is forfeited for any violation.

10-15. TEAM ROSTER

An Official Team shall consist of a minimum of nine (9) players. You must have nine players to start a game and nine players to finish a game. (Exception: The Short Handed Rule – 10-14) **PENALTY:** Forfeit of the game. Applicable to District and State Tournaments only.

- (a) Teams shall have no more than eight (8) players who are the maximum league age.
- (b) All team rosters may have no more than fifteen (15) players and Official Rosters must be sent to the State Office by the date of the first official league game. Only those players listed on Official Team Rosters registered with the State Office will be eligible for league and tournament play. Any player's name left off or changes made to Team Rosters after the first league game may disqualify players and teams from league or tournament play.

10-16. TEAM MANAGEMENT

- (a) Each team shall have a manager, not more than two assistant managers, and a bat girl or boy.
- (b) All managers must be 18 years of age or older.
- (c) Offensive team coaches stationed near first and third bases may be adults.
- (d) One person is the "Official Manager" and only this person may call time out, discuss umpire calls, and make changes in lineup.
- (e) Each team may have two assistant managers, but only one in a coaching box and the other in the dugout keeping score. The manager in the dugout is responsible for the batting order.

**10B. GENERAL RULES APPLICABLE TO TTAB
(BOYS BASEBALL ONLY)**

ALL LEAGUE PLAY IN BOYS BASEBALL DIVISIONS SHALL BE GOVERNED BY THE OFFICIAL NATIONAL LEAGUE BASEBALL RULES WITH THE EXCEPTIONS THROUGHOUT THE TTAB SECTIONS. (Exception is High School Eligible Boys play UIL rules).

10B-1. TTAB PLAYING AGE DATE:

TTAB playing age shall be the age of the player as of April 30 of the current year.

10B-2. BOYS PARTICIPATION IN TTAS:

Any boy playing in a TTAS program (T-Ball only) must abide by TTAS rules, including the league age birthday cutoff date of January 1.

10B-3. TTAB LEAGUE SCHEDULE:

The schedule shall be arranged so that no team will be required to play more than two (2) games per calendar week, except for playing of one (1) postponed, makeup, or suspended game.

10B-4. COMPUTATION OF INNINGS PITCHED:

- (a) All TTA rules shall apply relating to pitching rules and no pitcher shall exceed the total number of innings allowed for league play, or pitch on successive days or double headers.
- (b) Divide each inning into three (3) parts.
- (c) If a pitcher in baseball is replaced with one out in an inning, credit him with 1/3 of an inning.
- (d) If two are out, credit him with 2/3 of an inning.
- (e) If three are out, credit him with a full inning.
- (f) If none are out when replaced, the pitcher will not receive credit for pitching in the inning that he is replaced.
- (g) Eligibility of pitcher is determined at the beginning of the pitch, that is, a double play will not disqualify pitcher by crediting him with excessive number of outs.
- (h) Pitcher is not considered a pitcher until throwing the first pitch.

10B-5. RE-ENTRY RULES FOR TTAB:

- (a) Any player may be substituted for or replaced once, provided the players occupy their same batting positions in the batting order. The starting player and the substitute may not be in the line-up at the same time. **PENALTY:** Player and Manager removed from game.
- (b) Violation of re-entry rule is handled as a protest when brought to the attention of the umpire by the offended team and may be made at anytime during the game. (The protest need not be made prior to the next pitch).
- (c) Once a pitcher is removed from the line-up as a pitcher (by a pinch hitter or position change) he cannot return to the mound as a pitcher in that game. Re-entry does not apply to the courtesy runner provision in 10-13.
- (d) **PENALTY:** If an illegal pitcher returns to the pitching position and has thrown one pitch, it is a forfeit. This is not considered a re-entry violation so the manager is not ejected.

10B-6. EQUIPMENT RULES IN TTAB:

- (a) Metal spikes or metal cleats are permissible in High School Eligible division only. The penalty shall be ejection from the game. All male catchers are required to wear protective cups (Except T-Ball). All catchers must wear helmets with protective ear flaps and throat guards (Except T-Ball). Penalty is removal from the game until violation is corrected.
- (b) Regular standard baseball equipment, including bats, baseballs, uniforms, gloves, bases, pitcher and home plates will be used with the following exceptions: T-Ball, Machine Pitch, Junior Midget, Midget, Senior Midget and Freshman. The bat may not be more than 2 1/4 inches in diameter at the thickest part and not more than 33 inches in length. Any equipment being used contrary to these requirements will be removed from the game by the umpire.

- (c) Sophomore and Junior Boys, the bat may not be more than 2 3/4 inches in diameter at the thickest part and not more than 42 inches in length. Any equipment being used contrary to these requirements will be removed from the game by the umpire.
- (d) T-shirts and shorts or jeans may be worn in lieu of uniforms, provided the entire team is dressed alike.
- (e) Numbers on uniforms will be optional in league play but will be required in all TTA Tournament play.
- (f) Offensive players (including the on deck batter) must wear batting helmets with double ear flaps.

Just a Little Boy

*He stands at the plate with heart pounding fast,
The bases are loaded, The die has been cast.
Mom and Dad can not help him, He stands all alone
A hit at this moment would send the team home.
The ball meets the plate, He swings and misses.
There's a groan from the crowd,
With some boos and some hisses.
A thoughtless voice cries, "Strike out the bum"
Tears fill his eyes; the game is no longer FUN.*

*So open your heart and give him a break,
For it's in moments like this, a man you can make.
Keep this in mind when you hear someone forget:*

*HE'S JUST A LITTLE BOY,
HE IS NOT A MAN YET*

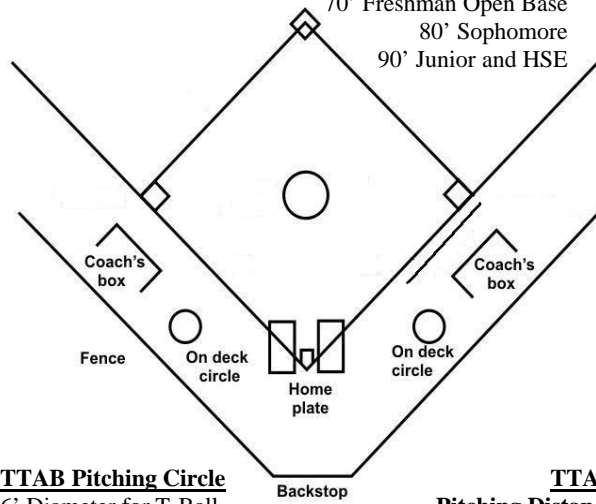
10B-7 BASEBALL FIELD DIAGRAM

TTAB Outfield Fence

180' or more T-Ball through Freshman
 225' or more Sophomore
 320' or more Junior and HSE

TTAB Baselines

60' All Tight Base divisions
 70' Freshman Open Base
 80' Sophomore
 90' Junior and HSE



TTAB Pitching Circle

6' Diameter for T-Ball
 15' Diameter for Machine Pitch

TTAB

Pitching Distance

42' 5" T Ball
 38' Jr Midget & Midget
 46' Machine Pitch
 From front legs to home plate
 42' Sr. Midget
 46' Freshman Tight Base
 47' 6" Freshman Open Base
 53' 9 1/3" Sophomore
 60' 6" Junior & HSE

10B-8. PLAYING FIELD – TTAB TIGHT BASE DIVISIONS

- (a) The infield shall be a sixty (60) feet square.
- (b) The distance between all bases shall be sixty (60) feet.
- (c) In Junior Midget and Midget Division, the distance between the point of home plate and the front side of pitcher's plate shall be thirty-eight (38) feet. In Senior Midget Division, the distance shall be forty-two (42) feet. In the Freshman Tight Base, the distance between the point of home plate and the front side of the pitcher's plate shall be forty-six (46) feet.
- (d) The distance from home plate to second base and from first base to third base shall be eighty-four feet and 10 inches (84' 10").
- (e) The distance from home plate to the nearest fence or other obstruction on fair ground shall be one hundred eighty (180) feet or more.
- (f) The pitcher's mound shall be raised by a gradual slope to a height of six (6) inches above the home plate and base line level.
- (g) The pitcher's rubber, home plate, and bases shall be of standard dimensions in accordance with Official Baseball rules.

10B-9. PLAYING FIELD – FRESHMAN (OPEN BASE) DIVISION

- (a) The infield shall be a seventy (70) feet square.
- (b) The distance between all bases shall be seventy (70) feet.
- (c) The distance between the point of home plate and the front side of the pitcher's plate shall be forty-seven feet, six inches (47' 6").
- (d) The distance from home plate to second base and from first base to third base shall be ninety-nine (99) feet.
- (e) This distance from home plate to the nearest fence or other obstruction on fair ground shall be 180 feet or more.
- (f) The pitcher's mound shall be raised by a gradual slope to a height of ten (10) inches above the home plate and base line level.
- (g) The pitcher's rubber, home plate, and bases shall be of standard dimensions in accordance with Official Baseball Rules.

10B-9. PLAYING FIELD – SOPHOMORE DIVISION

- (a) The playing field shall be eight-ninths ($\frac{8}{9}$) the size of a regulation playing field.
- (b) The distance between all bases shall be eighty (80) feet.
- (c) The distance between the point of home plate and the front side of the pitcher's plate shall be fifty-three feet, nine and one-third inches ($53' 9\frac{1}{3}''$).
- (d) The distance from home plate to second base and from first to third base shall be one hundred thirteen feet, one and one-half inches ($113' 1\frac{1}{2}''$).
- (e) The distance from home plate to the nearest fence or other obstruction of fair ground shall be two hundred twenty-five feet ($225'$) or more.
- (f) The pitcher's mound shall be raised by a gradual slope to a height of ten (10) inches above the home plate and base line level.
- (g) The pitcher's rubber, home plate, and bases shall be standard dimensions in accordance with Official Baseball Rules.

10B-11. PLAYING FIELD – JUNIOR DIVISION

- (a) The playing field shall be of standard dimensions in accordance with Official Baseball Rules.
- (b) The distance between all bases shall be ninety (90') feet.
- (c) The distance from the point of home plate to the front side of the pitcher's plate shall be sixty feet, six inches ($60' 6''$).

OFFICIAL RULES FOR TTAB DIVISIONS

20. BOYS T-BALL BASEBALL DIVISION

20-1. PLAYING FIELD

- (a) An arc measuring ten (10) feet from the point at the back of home plate, from base line to base line, in front of the plate shall be marked. This arc will be used to determine a legal fair ball when hit from the batting tee.
- (b) A six-foot (diameter) circle shall be marked for pitcher's fielding position. The center of this circle shall be a point where a line from first base to third base crosses a line from back point of home plate to second base. A pitcher's rubber shall be placed at this point and pitcher must be stationary with one foot in contact with pitcher's plate after ball is placed on tee. **PENALTY:** Continued violation may result in the pitcher's removal from the game.
- (c) The batting tee will be positioned by the umpire near center point of home plate.
- (d) Base lines shall have marks at halfway points between first and second bases, between second and third bases, and between third and home plate.

20-2. AGE ELIGIBILITY RULES

- (a) Boys T-Ball shall be age six (6) years and under.
- (b) Players whose age is seven (7) on April 30th of the current season will not be permitted to participate in Boys T-Ball Baseball.

20-3. TEAM EQUIPMENT

- (a) The batting tee will be of the adjustable type for normal strike zone.
- (b) Umpire's decision will be final in determining proper adjustment within the strike zone.
- (c) Catchers must wear a protective mask with ear protection. Chest protectors and shin guards are optional.

20-4. LENGTH OF GAME

- (a) The length of the game will be five innings.
- (b) When a team scores a maximum of ten runs or makes three outs in one inning, the team then shall go on defense.
- (c) Three (3) innings shall be considered a complete game if play is discontinued because of rain, darkness, or other causes, which make further play impossible.
- (d) A 21-run lead shall be considered a complete game, after three complete innings of play or an 11-run lead after four complete innings of play.
- (e) In case of a “runaway” ball game before the three innings are completed, the manager of the team that is being subjected to the loss may choose to call the game by advising the chief umpire. Once the game is terminated, the decision cannot be revoked; the final score will be the score when the game was terminated.

20-5. BATTER STRIKE-OUTS

- (a) Batter is out when he has three strikes. The ball is dead and base runners may not advance.
- (b) If the batter swings the bat past the hitting tee, it will be considered a strike.
- (c) If batter strikes the tee only, it will be considered a strike.
- (d) It shall be called a strike if the ball is hit but does not go out of the ten foot arc. If the ball is fouled out of the ten-foot arc, it is a foul ball and not an out.
- (e) Number of practice swings allowable for batter shall not exceed three. The fourth swing shall be called a strike.

20-6. BASE RUNNERS

- (a) When the umpire has the ball on the tee and the catcher is in the catcher’s box, base runners shall not leave their bases until the ball has been hit. If a base runner leaves base before the batter swings at the ball, the base runner must be returned to the base occupied before the swing was made. The ball is dead and no runner may score, nor runners advance. If the batter hits the ball fairly, the base runner leaving base before the batter swings at the ball shall be declared out. The ball is alive and in play.

- (b) Runners may not advance if ball is not hit outside of the ten foot arc. (Exception: Runners may advance when forced to advance because of batter being awarded first base due to ball being fielded inside the 10 foot arc by opposing player. If the ball stops inside the 10 foot arc and is not moving, the catcher may pick up the ball and hand it to the umpire without batter being awarded first base.

20-9. CONTROL OF PLAYING ACTION

- (a) To start play the umpire will place the ball on hitting tee and call "Batter Up".
- (b) Any time a hit ball is retrieved and thrown, carried, or otherwise returned to the six foot circle marked for the pitcher's fielding positions and is in the possession of a player with the intent to stop play or if the lead runner is stopped from advancing, a whistle shall be blown by the chief umpire to stop play. If runners have advanced past the halfway mark in the base line, they may continue on to the next base; otherwise, runner must return to the previous base.
- (c) When the ball is hit on the ground to a player in pitcher's circle, player must make play on runner when runner(s) are forced to advance. Player in circle cannot hold ball to stop play. Ball is alive and in play.
- (d) All defensive players must remain behind the thirty (30) foot halfway line until the ball is hit.

20-10. GENERAL RULES APPLICABLE TO BOYS

T-BALL BASEBALL

- (a) The ball must be hit from the batting tee by the batter to be a fair ball.
- (b) Pitcher and catcher must be in their proper position at the time the ball is hit.
- (c) The ball must be hit out of the ten-foot arc to be fielded and for runners to advance.
- (d) If an opposing player fields a ball from within the ten-foot arc, the batter will be awarded first base.
- (e) If the ball is thrown out of the playing field, each runner is allowed one base.
- (f) As long as the ball remains inside the playing field, the base runner may continue to run until the ball is returned to within the six-foot circle and is in possession of a player, or the lead runner is stopped.
- (g) Bunting is not permitted. Full swing must be taken, or shall be called out and ball is dead.
- (h) Infield fly rule is not in effect in T-Ball.
- (i) Pitcher may return to the mound unless removed for excessive conferences or failure to stay in contact with the rubber until ball is hit.
- (j) A fly ball caught by the pitcher in the circle – the pitcher must make a play or come out of the circle and go back in before the ball is dead.
- (k) If a fly ball is caught by any fielder and returned to the circle, the ball is dead. Any runner that did not tag up must return to the base. If runners have tagged up properly, they may advance. If the lead runner did not tag up, and trailing runners did tag up, the lead runner determines if runners return to their bases.
- (l) Refer to Section 10 for additional applicable General rules.

OFFICIAL RULES

30. MACHINE PITCH, JUNIOR MIDGET DIVISION, MIDGET DIVISION, SENIOR MIDGET DIVISION

30-1. AGE ELIGIBILITY RULES

(MACHINE PITCH AND JUNIOR MIDGET)

- (a) Machine Pitch and Junior Midget Division ages shall be eight (8) years of age and under.
- (b) Players whose age is nine (9) on or before April 30th of the current season will not be permitted to participate in the Machine Pitch and Junior Midget Division.

30-2. AGE ELIGIBILITY RULES (MIDGET)

- (a) Midget Division shall be nine (9) years of age and under.
- (b) Players whose age is ten (10) on or before April 30th of the current season will not be permitted to participate in the Midget Division.

30-3. AGE ELIGIBILITY RULES (SENIOR MIDGET)

- (a) Senior Midget Division ages shall be ten (10) and under.
- (b) Players whose age is eleven (11) on or before April 30th of the current season will not be permitted to participate in the Senior Midget Division.

30-4. LENGTH OF GAME

- (a) The length of the game will be six (6) innings or the regulated time limit. (See Machine Pitch)
- (b) Three and one-half or four innings (See Machine Pitch) will be considered a complete game if play is discontinued because of rain, darkness or other causes which make further play impossible.
- (c) A ten run lead shall be considered a complete game after 3 1/2 or four innings of play. (See Machine Pitch).

30-5. PITCHING RULES

- (a) No pitcher will be permitted to pitch on successive days or in both games of a double header in league play, under any conditions. (Not applicable in Machine Pitch League)
- (b) No pitcher will be permitted to pitch more than eight (8) innings in any calendar week except if a team has a postponed game or a makeup, causing the playing of three (3) games in one week, the eight (8) innings per week rule for pitchers may be extended to ten (10) innings. The two (2) extra innings apply only to the third game of the calendar week.
- (c) In continuation of a suspended game, a pitcher shall be allowed only the number of innings remaining for that week at the point of suspension of the original game. HOWEVER, the total number of innings for the calendar week shall not exceed eight (8) innings.
- (d) If the pitcher is removed from the mound, or lineup, during a game, he may not return to the mound as a pitcher during that game.
- (e) Violation of any of the above pitching rules shall result in forfeiture of the game in which such violation occurred.
- (f) TTAB pitching rules shall not be superseded nor altered in any manner by local affiliate rules.
- (g) There shall be no balks called. (Tournament play shall also be governed by this rule.)

30-6. BATTER STRIKE-OUTS

A batter is out when he has three strikes, either called or swinging. The batter is out, but the ball is in play and base runners may advance at their own risk.

30-7. BASE RUNNERS

- (a) When a pitcher has his foot in contact with the pitcher's rubber and the batter is in the batter's box, and the catcher is in the catcher's box ready to receive delivery of the pitch, base runners shall not leave their bases until the ball has been delivered and reached the batter.

- (b) If a base runner leaves base before the pitched ball reaches the batter and the batter does not hit the ball, the base runner must be returned to the base occupied before the pitch was made, the ball is dead and no runner may score nor runners advance. All pitches shall be counted as either a ball or strike, even though ball is called dead.
- (c) If the batter hits the ball fairly or draws a base on balls, or is hit by pitch, the base runner leaving base before the pitched ball reaches the batter, shall be declared out. The ball is alive and in play.

30-8. SPECIAL RULES THAT APPLY TO MACHINE PITCH

- (a) All base running rules that apply in Section 30-7 shall apply for the Machine Pitch Division.
- (b) A maximum of 7 runs per inning or 3 outs in all innings.
- (c) Umpires will call "time" after every play and declare a ball dead. Time should be called as soon as the lead runner is not attempting to advance.
- (d) There is no intentional walk and no bunting is allowed.
- (e) The Infield Fly Rule does not apply in Machine Pitch.
- (f) A pitching circle shall be drawn at 15 feet in diameter around the pitching plate.
- (g) The front legs of the pitching machine will be placed at 46 feet.
- (h) Pitching speed is 37 MPH for Machine Pitch. Officials shall make necessary adjustments when needed during all TTA tournament play.
- (i) If the batted ball hits the Pitching Machine Coach, the umpire will judge if the Pitching Machine Coach made a legitimate attempt to get out of the way. In this case, the ball becomes dead. If the umpire rules that the Pitching Machine Coach did not make the attempt to get out of the way, then the batter is declared out. No runner shall advance. Any batted ball hitting the pitching machine is dead and the hitter is awarded first base. All runners advance one base.
- (j) If a thrown ball hits the pitching machine, the ball is live.
- (k) A batter shall receive a maximum of five pitches or three swinging strikes.
- (l) No stealing.

- (m) The defensive player listed as pitcher cannot leave the pitching circle until the ball is hit. For added safety, the Pitcher must have both feet in the pitching circle and be no closer to the batter than the front legs of the pitching machine.
- (n) Pitching machine will be fed by a coach of the team which is batting.
- (o) The Pitching Machine Coach shall not coach while in the pitching position, either verbally or physically. **(PENALTY: Removal of the Pitching Machine Coach)** Once the ball has been hit, the Pitching Coach must position himself/herself as not be an obstruction to the defensive team on any play at all. Only the officials shall make necessary adjustments on the pitching machine.
- (p) A 15 run lead shall be considered a complete game after four innings of play or 8 run lead after 5 innings of play.
- (q) There is no time limit restriction in Machine Pitch.

OFFICIAL RULES

40. FRESHMAN DIVISION (TIGHT BASE AND OPEN BASE)

40-1. AGE ELIGIBILITY RULES

- (a) Freshman Division ages shall be age twelve (12) and under.
- (b) Players whose age is thirteen (13) on or before April 30th of the current season will not be permitted to participate in the Freshman Tight Base nor Freshman Open Base Division.

40-2. LENGTH OF GAME

- (a) The length of game will be six (6) innings or the required time limit.
- (b) Three and one half or four innings will be considered a complete game if play is discontinued because of rain, darkness or other causes which make further play impossible.
- (c) A ten run lead shall be considered a complete game after three and one half or four innings.

40-3. PITCHING RULES

- (a) No Pitcher will be permitted to pitch on successive days or in both games of a double header in league play, under any conditions.
- (b) No pitcher will be permitted to pitch more than eight (8) innings in any calendar week except if a team has a postponed game or a makeup, causing the playing of three (3) games in one week, then the eight (8) innings per week rule for pitchers may be extended to ten (10) innings. The two (2) extra innings apply only to the third game of the calendar week.
- (c) In continuation of a suspended game, a pitcher shall be allowed only the number of innings remaining for that week at the point of suspension of the original game. HOWEVER, the total number of innings for the calendar week shall not exceed eight (8) innings.
- (d) If the pitcher is removed from the mound, or lineup, during a game, he may not return to the mound as a pitcher during that game.

- (e) Violation of any of the above pitching rules shall result in the forfeiture of the game in which such violation occurred.
- (f) TTAB pitching rules shall not be superseded nor altered in any manner by local affiliate rules.
- (g) There shall be no balks called in Freshman Tight Base. Balks will be called in all open base games.
(Tournament play shall also be governed by this rule.)

40-4. BATTER STRIKE OUTS

- (a) In Freshman Tight Base, a batter is out when he has three strikes, either called or swinging. The batter is out, but the ball is in play and base runners may advance at their own risk.
- (b) For Freshman Open Base, a batter may advance to first if a third strike is not caught by the catcher, providing first base is unoccupied or first base is occupied with two out.

40-5. BASE RUNNERS (TIGHT BASE ONLY)

- (a) When a pitcher has his foot in contact with the pitcher's rubber and the batter is in the batter's box, and the catcher is in the catcher's box ready to receive delivery of the pitch, base runners shall not leave their bases until the ball has been delivered and reaches the batter.
- (b) If a base runner leaves base before the pitched ball reaches the batter and the batter does not hit the ball, the base runner must be returned to the base occupied before the pitch was made. The ball is dead and no runner may score nor runners advance. All pitches shall be counted as either a ball or strike, even though the ball is called dead.
- (c) If the batter hits the ball fairly or draws a base on balls or hit by pitch, the base runner leaving base before the pitched ball reaches the batter shall be declared out. The ball is alive and in play.

40-6. BASE RUNNERS (OPEN BASE ONLY)

Base runners may leave a base prior to a pitch subject to the Rules under 7.00 of Official Baseball.

OFFICIAL RULES

50. SOPHOMORE DIVISION

50-1. AGE ELIGIBILITY RULES

- (a) Sophomore Division shall be fourteen (14) and under.
- (b) Players whose age is fifteen (15) on or before April 30th of the current season will not be permitted to participate in the Sophomore Division.

50-2. LENGTH OF GAME

- (a) The length of the game will be seven (7) innings.
- (b) A ten run lead shall be considered a complete game after four and one-half or five innings of play.
- (c) Four and one-half or five innings of play will be considered a complete game if play is discontinued because of rain, darkness, or other causes, which make further play impossible.

50-3. PITCHING RULES

- (a) No pitcher will be permitted to pitch on successive days or in both games of a double header in league play, under any conditions.
- (b) No pitcher will be permitted to pitch more than ten (10) innings in any calendar week except if a team has a postponed game or a makeup, causing the playing of three (3) games in one week; then the ten (10) innings per week rule for pitchers may be extended to fourteen (14) innings. The four (4) extra innings apply only to the third game of the calendar week.
- (c) In continuation of a suspended game, a pitcher shall be allowed only the number of innings remaining for that week at the point of the suspension of the original game. HOWEVER, the total number of innings for the calendar week shall not exceed ten (10) innings.
- (d) If the pitcher is removed from the mound, or lineup, during a game, he may not return to the mound as a pitcher during that game.
- (e) Violation of any of the above pitching rules shall result in the forfeiture of the game in which such violation occurred.
- (f) TTAB pitching rules shall not be superseded nor altered in any manner by local affiliate rules.

50-4. ELIGIBILITY TO PLAY IN OTHER TTA LEAGUES

Players who are registered in the Sophomore Division are not prohibited from playing in the TTA High School Eligible Division if eligible to play the following year in High School. (Refer to High School Eligible Rules.)

OFFICIAL RULES

60. JUNIOR DIVISION

60-1. AGE ELIGIBILITY RULES

- (a) Junior Division age shall be fifteen (15) and under.
- (b) Players whose age is sixteen (16) on or before April 30th of the current season will not be permitted to participate in the Junior Division.

60-2. LENGTH OF GAME

- (a) The length of the game will be seven (7) innings.
- (b) A ten run lead shall be considered a complete game after four and one-half or five innings of play.
- (c) Four and one-half or five innings of play will be considered a complete game if play is discontinued because of rain, darkness, or other causes, which make further play impossible.

60-3. PITCHING RULES

- (a) No pitcher will be permitted to pitch on successive days or in both games of a double header in league play, under any conditions.
- (b) No pitcher will be permitted to pitch more than ten (10) innings in any calendar week except if a team has a postponed game or a makeup, causing the playing of three (3) games in one week; then the ten (10) innings per week rule for pitchers may be extended to fourteen (14) innings. The four (4) extra innings apply only to the third game of the calendar week.
- (c) In continuation of a suspended game, a pitcher shall be allowed only the number of innings remaining for that week at the point of suspension of the original game. HOWEVER, the total number of innings for the calendar week shall not exceed ten (10) innings.
- (d) If the pitcher is removed from the mound, or lineup, during a game, he may not return to the mound as a pitcher during that game.
- (e) Violation of any of the above pitching rules shall result in the forfeiture of the game in which such violation occurred.
- (f) TTAB pitching rules shall not be superseded nor altered in any manner by local affiliate rules.

60-4. ELIGIBILITY TO PLAY IN OTHER TTA LEAGUES

Players who are registered in the Junior Division are not prohibited from playing in the TTA High School Eligible Division if eligible to play in High School the following year. (Refer to High School Eligible Rules.)

OFFICIAL RULES

70. HIGH SCHOOL ELIGIBLE BOYS

ALL LEAGUE PLAY IN HIGH SCHOOL ELIGIBLE DIVISION SHALL BE GOVERNED BY THE OFFICIAL UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE RULES WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS:

70-1. PLAYING FIELD

- (a) The playing field shall be of standard dimensions in accordance with UIL Baseball Rules.
- (b) The distance between all bases shall be ninety (90) feet.
- (c) The distance from the point of home plate to the front side of the pitcher's plate shall be sixty feet, six inches (60' 6").

70-2. AGE ELIGIBILITY RULES

To participate in TTA High School Eligible leagues, players must be eligible to play in the following year on a high school team.

70-3. TEAM EQUIPMENT

- (a) UIL approved baseball equipment including baseballs, bats, uniforms, gloves, bases, and pitcher and home plates will be used.
- (b) Bats may be of wood, aluminum, or graphite.

70-4. LENGTH OF GAME

- (a) The length of the game will be seven (7) innings.
- (b) A ten run lead shall be considered a complete game after four and one-half or five innings of play.
- (c) Four and one-half or five innings of play will be considered a complete game if play is discontinued because of rain, darkness, or other causes, which make further play impossible.

70-5. PITCHING RULES

- (a) All High School Eligible pitching rules will be according to the latest pitching rules of the University Interscholastic League of Texas.

- (b) ANY person warming up a pitcher in any position, whether sitting or standing, shall wear a facemask. NO LEAGUE OR TOWN CAN WAIVE THIS RULE. First offense – removal of coach from the game; second offense – forfeit the game.

70-6. ELIGIBILITY IN OTHER TTA LEAGUES

Players who are registered on a High School Eligible Team are not prohibited from playing on another Texas Teenage team in Sophomore or Junior Divisions.

**10S. GENERAL RULES APPLICABLE TO TTAS
(GIRLS SOFTBALL ONLY)**

ALL LEAGUE PLAY IN GIRLS SOFTBALL DIVISIONS SHALL BE GOVERNED BY THE OFFICIAL FAST PITCH SOFTBALL RULES OF THE AMATEUR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS: (Exception is High School Eligible Girls playing UIL rules)

10S-1 TTAS PLAYING AGE DATE

TTAS (Softball) playing age shall be the age of the player as of January 1 of the current year.

10S-2. GIRLS PARTICIPATING IN TTAB

Any girl playing in a TTAB program must abide by TTAB rules including the league age birthday cutoff date of April 30.

10S-3. TTAS LEAGUE SCHEDULE

The schedule shall be arranged so that no team will be required to play more than three (3) games per calendar week, except for playing of one (1) postponed, makeup, or suspended game.

10S-4. TIME LIMITS

Local affiliates may establish time limits for its league play schedule, but must abide by the following TTA Tournament rules: All TTAS tournament games shall be one (1) hour and 45 minutes except championship games. *No international tiebreaker will be used in TTAS.*

10S-5. THE TTAS SOFTBALL

The ball used in all tournaments will be the TTAS stamped Yellow Optic, Red Stitch, .47 core, 375 lbs max compression Softball. The 11-inch size will be used for T-Ball, Coach Pitch and Midget Divisions and 12-inch size for Freshman, Junior and High School Eligible Divisions.

10S-6. TEAM EQUIPMENT

(a) Standard softball equipment including ASA approved bats, uniforms, gloves, bases, and pitcher and home plates, etc., will be used.

- (b) Catchers must wear a mask with throat protector, approved helmet with double ear flaps, shin guards that offer protection to the knee caps, and chest protector. An extended wire protector may be worn in lieu of a throat protector attached to the mask.
- (c) TTAS divisions shall require the NOCSAE approved face mask/guard as required equipment for batting helmets. Chin Straps are required in all TTAS divisions except High School Eligible.

10S-7. INFIELD FLY RULE

The infield fly rule is applicable to all leagues except Girls T-Ball and Coach Pitch.

10S-8. CHARGED CONFERENCE

Charged conferences in TTAS will be played by ASA rules.

10S-9. PLAYING FIELD

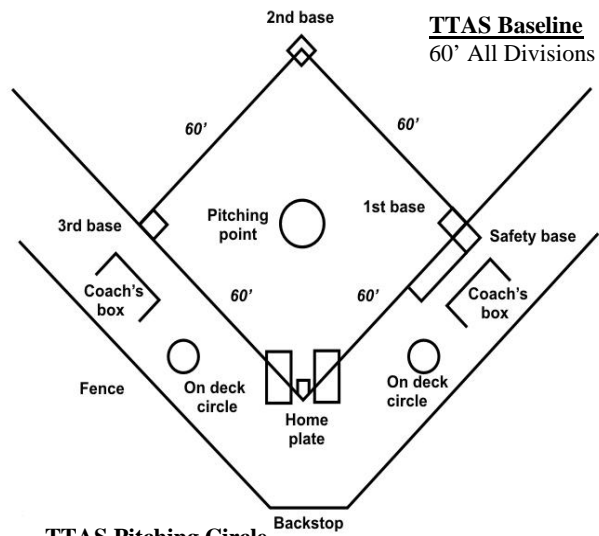
- (a) The infield shall be sixty (60) feet square.
- (b) The distance between all bases shall be sixty (60) feet.
- (c) The distance between the point of home plate and the front side of the pitcher's plate shall be forty-two feet, five inches (42' 5") in T-Ball, and thirty-five (35') feet in Coach Pitch and Midget Girls.
- (d) The distance between the point of home plate and the front side of pitcher's plate shall be forty (40') feet in Freshman and Junior Girls.
- (e) The distance from home plate to second base and from first base to third base shall be eight-four feet, ten inches (84' 10").
- (f) The distance from home plate to the nearest fence or other obstruction on fair ground shall be no less than one hundred eighty-foot (180') in T-Ball through Junior and no less than one hundred eight five feet (185') for High School Eligible.
- (g) The pitcher's rubber, home plate, and bases shall be standard dimensions in accordance with Official Softball Rules.

10S-10 Softball Field Diagram

TTAS Outfield Fence

180' or more T-Ball thru Junior

185' or more for HSE



TTAS Baseline
60' All Divisions

TTAS Pitching Circle

6' Diameter for T-Ball

16' for All of other Age Divisions

TTAS

Pitching Distance

42' 5" T-Ball

35' Coach Pitch & Midget

40' Freshman thru Junior

HSE per UIL rules

OFFICIAL RULES

THE GIRLS T-BALL SOFTBALL DIVISION WAS ORGANIZED TO TEACH YOUNG GIRLS THE BASIC FUNDAMENTALS OF SOFTBALL AND TO LEARN THE FUN OF PLAYING SOFTBALL UNDER GUIDANCE OF ADULT LEADERS, TO TEACH DISCIPLINE, SELF-CONTROL, AND THE IMPORTANCE OF COOPERATION THROUGH TEAM PLAY, AND AT THE SAME TIME TO TEACH RESPECT FOR RULES AND AUTHORITY IN PROMOTING THE SPIRIT OF FAIR PLAY AND SPORTSMANSHIP.

100. GIRLS T-BALL DIVISION

100-1. PLAYING FIELD

- (a) An arc measuring ten (10) feet from the point at the back of home plate, from base line to base line, in front of the plate shall be marked. This arc will be used to determine a legal fair ball when hit from the batting tee.
- (b) A six-foot (diameter) circle shall be marked for pitcher's fielding position. The center of this circle shall be a point where a line from first base to third base crosses a line from back point of home plate to second base. A pitcher's rubber shall be placed at this point and pitcher must be stationary with one foot in contact with pitcher's plate after ball is placed on tee. **PENALTY:** Continued violation may result in the pitcher's removal from the game.
- (c) The batting tee will be positioned by the umpire near center point of home plate.
- (d) Base lines shall have marks at halfway points between first and second bases, between second and third bases, and between third and home plate.

100-2. AGE ELIGIBILITY RULES

- (a) Girls T-Ball shall be six (6) and under.
- (b) Players whose age is seven (7) on or before January 1st of the current season is not permitted to participate in Girls T-Ball.

100-3. TEAM EQUIPMENT

- (a) Softball bats or T-Ball bats may be used. Bats must not exceed 2 1/4 inch diameter or 33 inches in length.
- (b) The batting tee will be of the adjustable type for normal strike zone. Umpire's decision will be final in determining proper adjustments within the strike zone.
- (c) Catchers must wear a protective mask. Chest protector and shin guards are optional.

100-4. LENGTH OF GAME

- (a) When a team scores a maximum of ten runs or makes three outs in one inning, the team then shall go on defense.
- (b) Three (3) innings shall be considered a complete game if play is discontinued because of rain, darkness, or other causes, which make further play impossible.
- (c) A 21-run lead shall be considered a complete game, after three complete innings of play or an 11-run lead after four complete innings of play.
- (d) In case of a "runaway" ball game before the three (3) innings are completed, the manager of the team that is being subjected to the loss may choose to call the game by advising the chief umpire. Once the game is terminated, the decision cannot be revoked. The final score will be the score when the game was terminated.

100-5. BATTER STRIKE-OUTS

- (a) Batter is out when she has three (3) strikes. The ball is dead and base runners may not advance.
- (b) If batter swings bat past hitting tee, it will be considered a strike.
- (c) If batter strikes the tee only, it will be considered a strike.
- (d) It shall be called a strike if the ball is hit, but does not go out of the ten (10) foot arc. If the ball is fouled out of the ten-foot arc, it is a foul ball and not an out.
- (e) Number of practice swings allowable for a batter shall not exceed three. The fourth swing shall be called a strike.

100-6. BASE RUNNERS

- (a) When the umpire has the ball on the tee and the catcher is in the catcher's box, base runners shall not leave their bases until the ball has been hit. If a base runner leaves base before the batter swings at the ball, the base runner must be returned to the base occupied before the swing was made. The ball is dead and no runner may score, nor runners advance. If the batter hits the ball fairly, the base runner leaving base before the batter swings at the ball shall be declared out. The ball is alive and in play.
- (b) Runners may not advance if ball is not hit outside of ten (10) foot arc. (Exception: Runners may advance when forced to advance because of batter being awarded first base due to ball being fielded inside ten foot arc by opposing player.)

100-7. CONTROL OF PLAYING ACTION

- (a) To start play the umpire will place the ball on hitting tee and call "Batter Up".
- (b) Anytime a hit ball is retrieved and thrown, carried, or otherwise returned to the six (6) foot circle marked for the pitcher's fielding position and is in the possession of a player with the intent to stop play, or if the lead runner is stopped from advancing, then a whistle shall be blown by the chief umpire to stop play. If runners have advanced past the halfway mark in the base line, they may continue on to the next base; otherwise, runner must return to the previous base.
- (c) When the ball is hit on the ground to player in pitcher's circle, player must make play on runner when runner(s) are forced to advance. Player in circle cannot hold ball to stop play. Ball is alive and in play.
- (d) All defensive players must remain behind the thirty (30) foot halfway line until the ball is hit.

100-8. GENERAL RULES APPLICABLE TO GIRLS T-BALL SOFTBALL

- (a) The ball must be hit from the batting tee by the batter to be a fair ball.
- (b) Pitcher and catcher must be in their proper position at the time the ball is hit.
- (c) The ball must be hit out of the ten (10) foot arc to be fielded and for runners to advance.

- (d) If an opposing player fields a ball from within the ten-foot arc, the batter will be awarded first base. If the ball is thrown out of playing field, each runner is allowed one base.
- (e) As long as the ball remains inside the playing field, the base runner may continue to run until the ball is returned to within the six-foot circle and is in possession of a player or the lead runner stops.
- (f) Bunting is not permitted. Full swing must be taken, or batter shall be called out and ball is dead.
- (g) A maximum of two boys will be permitted to participate on each Girls T-Ball team if properly submitted on the Official Team Roster.
- (h) Infield fly rule is not in effect in T-Ball.
- (i) Pitcher may return to the mound unless removed for excessive conferences or failure to stay in contact with the rubber until ball is hit.
- (j) If the pitcher catches a fly ball in the circle – the pitcher must make a play or come out of the circle and go back in before the ball is dead.
- (k) If a fly ball is caught by any fielder and returned to the circle, the play is dead. Any runner that did not tag up must return to the base. If runners have tagged up properly, they may advance. If lead runner did not tag up, and trailing runners did tag up, the lead runner determines if runners return to their bases.
- (l) Refer to Section 10 for additional applicable General Rules.

OFFICIAL RULES

110. COACH PITCH DIVISION

110-1. AGE ELIGIBILITY RULES

- (a) Coach Pitch Division ages shall be eight (8) and under.
- (b) Players whose age is nine (9) on or before January 1st of the current season will not be permitted to participate in the Coach Pitch Division.

110-2. LENGTH OF GAME

- (a) The length of the game will be six (6) innings or one hour, forty-five minutes (1:45).
- (b) Three and one-half (3-1/2) or four (4) innings shall be considered a complete game if play is discontinued because of rain, darkness, or other cause.
- (c) A ten run lead shall be considered a complete game after three and one-half (3-1/2) or four (4) innings or a 15 run lead after four innings or a 8 run lead after 5 innings.

110-3. SPECIAL RULES APPLICABLE TO COACH PITCH DIVISION

- (a) A maximum of 7 runs or 3 outs is allowed per inning.
- (b) A base runner is out for leaving the base before the ball is hit or reaches home plate. Stealing is not allowed.
- (c) There are no walks or "base on balls", intentional or otherwise.
- (d) Bunting is not permitted.
- (e) Umpires will call "time" after every play and declare the ball dead. "Time" should be called as soon as the lead runner is not attempting to advance. "Time" does not have to be called by the participants. In TTA tournament play, the use of "half-way" marks and whistles to stop play will not be used.
- (f) The Infield Fly Rule does not apply.
- (g) A pitching circle shall be drawn at sixteen (16) feet in diameter (eight feet radius) around the pitching rubber. The distance of the pitching rubber is 35 feet from the point of home plate to the front edge of the pitcher's plate.

- (h) The defensive player listed as pitcher cannot leave the pitching circle until the ball is hit. The defensive player/pitcher must stand in the back half of the pitching circle. She may not move from the back half of the pitching circle until the ball has been hit.
- (i) A batter shall receive a maximum of five (5) pitches or three swinging strikes from the designated Pitching Coach. No walks.
- (j) If a batted ball hits the Pitching Coach, the umpire will judge if the Pitching Coach made a legitimate attempt to get out of the way. In this case, the ball becomes dead and a “no pitch” is declared. If the umpire rules that the Pitching Coach did not make a legitimate attempt to get out of the way, then the batter is declared out. No runners shall advance.
- (k) The Pitching Coach must keep one foot on or straddle the pitcher’s line.
- (l) The Pitching Coach shall not coach while in the pitching position, either verbally or physically and once the ball has been hit, must position himself/herself as not to be an obstruction to the defensive team on any play at all. **PENALTY:** Removal of the Pitching Coach.
- (m) The catcher must be in the squat position in the catcher box and ready to receive the pitch.

OFFICIAL RULES

120. MIDGET DIVISION

120-1. AGE ELIGIBILITY RULES

- (a) Midget Division ages shall be ten (10) years of age and under.
- (b) Players whose age is eleven (11) on or before January 1st of the current season will not be permitted to participate in the Midget Division.

120-2. LENGTH OF GAME

- (a) The length of the game will be six (6) innings or one hour, forty-five minutes (1:45).
- (b) Three and one-half (3-1/2) or four (4) innings shall be considered a complete game if play is discontinued because of rain, darkness, or other cause.
- (c) A ten run lead shall be considered a complete game after three and one-half (3-1/2) or four (4) innings or a 15 run lead after four innings or a 8 run lead after 5 innings.

120-3. BATTER STRIKE-OUTS

Refer to Official ASA Fast Pitch Rule. (Note: There is not a third strike rule.)

120-4. PITCHING RULES

Refer to Official ASA Fast Pitch Rule.

120-5. BASE RUNNERS

Runners starting at first or second base are entitled to advance or steal one base per pitch with liability to be put out. Runners starting at third base may not steal or advance home but are liable to be put out if they come off the base. A runner, attempting to advance beyond the one base, is entitled to steal and may be tagged out while between bases. A runner cannot be declared out while in sole contact with a base. After all play ceases, and the ball becomes dead, a runner that occupies a base beyond the one the runner was entitled to advance or steal, shall be returned to the correct base without liability of being declared out. If a batter strikes out and the ball is dropped, the batter is out and cannot advance to first base, but the ball remains live for the purpose of throwing the advancing runner out. A batter who receives a base on balls

cannot advance past first base. If they advance, once the ball becomes dead, the runner shall return to first base.

Just a Little Girl

*She stands at the plate with heart pounding fast,
The bases are loaded, the die has been cast.
Mom and Dad can not help her. She stands all alone
A hit at this moment would send the team home.*

*The ball meets the plate, She swings and misses.
There's a groan from the crowd,
With some boos and some hisses.
A thoughtless voice cries, "Strike out the bum"
Tears fill her eyes. The game is no longer FUN.*

*So open your heart and give her a break,
For it's in moments like this, A woman you can make.
Keep this in mind when you hear someone forget:*

*SHE'S JUST A LITTLE GIRL,
SHE IS NOT YET A WOMAN*

OFFICIAL RULES

130. FRESHMAN DIVISION

130-1. AGE ELIGIBILITY RULES

- (a) Freshman Division ages shall be twelve (12) and under.
- (b) Players whose age is thirteen (13) on or before January 1st of the current season will not be permitted to participate in the Freshman Division.

130-2. LENGTH OF GAME

- (a) The length of the game will be six (6) innings or one hour, 45 minutes (1:45).
- (b) Three and one-half or four innings shall be considered a complete game if play is discontinued because of rain, darkness, or other cause.
- (c) A ten run lead shall be considered a complete game after three and one-half or four innings of play.

130-3. BATTER STRIKE-OUTS

Refer to Official ASA Fast Pitch Rule.

130-4. PITCHING RULES

Refer to Official ASA Fast Pitch Rule.

130-5. BASE RUNNERS

Refer to Official ASA Fast Pitch Rule.

OFFICIAL RULES

140. JUNIOR DIVISION

140-1. AGE ELIGIBILITY RULES

- (a) Junior Division ages shall be fifteen (15) and under.
- (b) Players whose age is sixteen (16) on or before January 1st of the current season will not be permitted to participate in the Junior Division.

140-2. LENGTH OF GAME

- (a) The length of the game will be seven (7) innings or one hour, forty-five minutes (1:45).
- (b) Four and one-half or five innings of play will be considered a complete game if play is discontinued because of rain, darkness, or other causes, which make further play impossible.
- (c) A ten run lead shall be considered a complete game after four and one-half or five innings of play.

140-3. BATTER STRIKE-OUTS

Refer to Official ASA Fast Pitch Rule.

140-4. PITCHING RULES

Refer to Official ASA Fast Pitch Rule.

140-5. BASE RUNNERS

Refer to Official ASA Fast Pitch Rule.

140-6. ELIGIBILITY TO PLAY IN OTHER TTA LEAGUES

Players who are registered in the Junior Division are not prohibited from playing in the Girls High School Eligible Division. Refer to High School Eligible Rules.

OFFICIAL RULES

ALL LEAGUE PLAY IN HIGH SCHOOL ELIGIBLE DIVISIONS SHALL BE GOVERNED BY THE OFFICIAL UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE SOFTBALL RULES WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS:

150. HIGH SCHOOL ELIGIBLE GIRLS DIVISION

150-1. AGE ELIGIBILITY RULES

To participate in TTA High School Eligible leagues, players must be eligible to play in the following year on a high school team.

150-2. TEAM EQUIPMENT

- (a) UIL approved equipment including softballs, bats, uniforms, gloves, bases, and pitcher and home plates will be used.
- (b) Catchers must wear protective helmet with ear protection, chest protectors and shin guards.
- (c) Helmets will be required. See Section 10S-6(c) (face masks only).

150-3. LENGTH OF GAME

- (a) The length of the game will be seven (7) innings or 1 hour, 45 minutes (1:45).
- (b) Four and one-half or five innings of play will be considered a complete game if play is discontinued because of rain, darkness, or other causes, which make further play impossible.
- (c) A ten (10) run lead shall be considered a complete game after 4 1/2 or 5 innings of play.

150-4. BATTER STRIKE-OUTS

Refer to Official UIL Rules.

150-5. PITCHING RULES

- (a) ANY person warming up a pitcher in any position, whether sitting or standing, shall wear a facemask. NO LEAGUE OR TOWN CAN WAIVE THIS RULE. First offense – removal of coach from the game; second offense – forfeit the game.
- (b) Refer to Official UIL Rules.

150-6. BASE RUNNERS

Refer to Official UIL Rules.

150-7. ELIGIBILITY IN OTHER TTA LEAGUES

Players who are registered on a High School Eligible Team are NOT prohibited from playing on a Junior Girls Division Team. Refer to Junior Girls Rules.

**TEXAS TEENAGE BASEBALL & SOFTBALL
ASSOCIATION TOURNAMENT RULES**

200-1. ELIGIBLE LEAGUES

To be eligible for tournament play, a league must be an affiliated member league of the State Association by the due date of each year and must have complied fully with all standard rules and regulations for regular League Play.

200-2. ELIGIBLE TEAMS

- (a) To be eligible for tournament play, a team must be certified by their league and must have completed their regular season schedule of a minimum of ten (10) games by the official end of the season as stated on page 6, Section B-3. All TTA teams are required to send their first and second place teams to District Tournament play. Local leagues may substitute a team for the 1st or 2nd place team that is unable to attend a District Tournament. In the event of an approved three-team league, only one team will be allowed for tournament play.
- (b) Any team refusing to attend their assigned tournament, the players on that team are ineligible to be pick-up players.
- (c) STATE ASSIGNMENT: All TTAS (softball) District 1st and 2nd place teams will advance to State. Selected TTAB (baseball) divisions will advance 1st and 2nd place teams at the discretion of the State Board at its annual Tournament Allocations Meeting.

200-3. TOURNAMENT TEAM ROSTER

- (a) A team shall not have more than eighteen (18) registered and certified players on its roster. (Including three (3) pick-up players)
- (b) In TTAB/TTAS, no tournament team shall have more than eleven (11) players the maximum age in their division.

200-4. PICK-UP PLAYERS

- (a) Tournament teams shall be permitted to add three (3) additional players for all tournament play. In all TTA leagues where two teams are required to attend a tournament and where one team fails to attend, the single team attending may not use pick-up players.

- (b) These three (3) extra players shall be selected by the Manager from teams that played within their same league during the regular season.
- (c) They must be eligible players of their League in accordance with Official TTAB/TTAS Rules and Regulations.
- (d) All pick-up players may be of the maximum age provided for in the division in which they are playing.
- (e) Pick-up players, reported after the deadline, shall not be changed in the State Office.
- (f) Pick-up players should be chosen on a rotating basis accordingly: first place team gets first choice; second place team, second choice, and so forth, until all pick-up players are chosen. Any player refusing to play for a team when chosen in the selection process is ineligible to play for any team.

200-5. UNIFORMS

- (a) Numbers shall be required on uniforms for all tournament play.
- (b) Pick-up players will be permitted to participate in either their regular season uniform or the uniform of the team with which they will participate.

200-6. CERTIFICATION OF TEAM

- (a) Immediately at the end of the Official League Season, or at the earliest possible date after a team has clinched a tournament spot, the League Officials must register their League Teams, including the three (3) pick-up players permitted for tournament play, with the State Office. They must certify that the Championship Team and the three (3) extra players added to the team are all eligible players of the league in accordance with official TTAB/TTAS Rules and Regulations. A Tournament Roster form will be furnished for that purpose.
- (b) The Tournament Roster, with pick-up players, shall be submitted to State Office within twenty-four (24) hours after the official close of the season in order for the league champion to be certified for District Tournament play. There shall be no exceptions to this rule. Absolutely NO ADDITIONS OR PLAYER CHANGES shall be permitted after roster's deadline.

- (c) The two qualifying teams are required to participate in their assigned tournament. Penalty for non-participation can be up to a one-year suspension from TTAB/TTAS for that particular league and/or manager. An exception to this penalty is a written notice to the State Office advising that a league in your organization will not be able to participate in tournament play and giving acceptable reason for non-participation.
- (d) All managers participating in District and/or State Tournament play must present to the Tournament Director a copy of the medical insurance declaration page, a birth certificate or military dependent I.D., (a Photostat copy thereof) of each player on their respective teams, including up to three (3) extra “pick-up” players. Players age sixteen (16) or older may be required to show a valid (picture) driver’s license. Tournament Directors must check each certificate before certifying the eligibility of the players and teams. Under no circumstances shall a player be permitted to play in the tournament without one of the above documents.
- (e) Any birth certificate presented to the Tournament Director that is altered in any way prohibits the player from playing in that tournament.
- (f) Texas Teenage requires that birth certificates be the official “vital records” certificates.

200-7. PLAYING FIELDS

- (a) All tournament games will be played on fields as required and specified in the official TTAB/TTAS Rules and Regulations.
- (b) Official TTAB baseballs and TTAS softballs are required in Texas Teenage Association tournament play.
- (c) A flat surface is required for the Machine Pitch Division.
- (d) A flat surface is required in all TTAS tournaments. No pitching mounds.
- (e) In TTAS (softball) tournament play, the use of the white/orange double base at first base is mandatory.

200-8. PLAYING RULES (BASEBALL ONLY)

Official TTAB Rules and Regulations shall supersede all Ground Rules and/or Special Rules adopted by local affiliates for local league play. All tournament play will be in accordance with TTAB Rules and Regulations with the following exceptions of Pitching Rules:

- (a) For Junior Midget, Midget, Senior Midget, and Freshman Divisions – No pitcher shall pitch more than twelve (12) innings in any one tournament. They may pitch on successive days or in successive games.
- (b) For Sophomore and Junior Divisions – No pitcher shall pitch more than fourteen (14) innings in any one tournament. They may pitch on successive days or in successive games.
- (c) The pitching rules apply only to District and State Tournament Play.
- (d) BASE RUNNERS. A base runner is out, if in the judgement of the umpire, the base coach at first or third base, touches or holds the runner (physically assists) him/her in returning to or leaving first or third base. (Giving a runner a high-five after a home run is not assisting him in any way)
- (e) If a pitcher is removed from the mound, or lineup, during a game, he may not return to the mound as a pitcher during the game.

200-9. DOUBLE ELIMINATION TOURNAMENTS

- (a) All District Tournaments shall be double elimination.
- (b) All State Tournament Play shall be double elimination. Exception in High School Eligible.

200-10. TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS

- (a) A Tournament Director should be selected at the time the Tournament Request form is submitted to the State Office. The Tournament Director selected shall not manage nor coach a team participating in the tournament. After an organization has been notified by the State Office of being selected to host a tournament, the Tournament Director should immediately be confirmed, forwarding to the State Office the name, address, and telephone number(s).

- (b) Tournament Directors will be furnished a copy of State approved Special Rules and Tournament Brackets by the State Office.
- (c) Local ground rules shall be submitted by Tournament Directors to team managers and umpires prior to the first tournament game. Ground rules apply to playing field conditions only.
- (d) Failure of an organization or Tournament Director's compliance of TTAB/TTAS Rules and Regulations, Special Rules, Brackets, etc. will affect future allocation of tournaments.
- (e) All District & State Tournament Directors must notify the State Office, within 24 hours, with the first and second place teams, with managers' names and contact information.

200-11. STATE APPROVED SPECIAL RULES

- (a) All TTAB/TTAS District and State Tournament games shall use the designated number of innings except: (1) In case of rain, the number of innings for a complete game is determined in each designated age division of this rule book to be considered a complete game. (2) A ten run lead shall apply as appropriate (see specific division rules).
- (b) In TTAB District and State Tournaments, in all games except the Championship game, a time limit of two hours shall apply to the Junior Midget, Midget, Senior Midget and Freshman Tight Base, a time limit of two hours and thirty minutes for Freshman Open Base, Sophomore and Junior Boys. All other divisions shall have no time limit.
- (c) One hour, forty-five minute time limit shall be for all TTA Softball Tournament play except for championship games.
- (d) TTA prohibits any District Tournament to charge a daily gate fee that exceeds \$5.00 per adult and \$3.00 per student (18 years and under). State Tournament may not exceed \$6.00 per adult and \$3.00 per student. Discounted tournament passes are permitted.

200-12. TOURNAMENT BRACKETS AND DATES OF TOURNAMENTS

- (a) Official TTAB/TTAS tournament brackets will be provided to all tournament directors and this bracket shall be followed with NO DEVIATIONS.
- (b) All games must be played as indicated on the bracket. **PENALTY:** Coach will be suspended for the first two games of the State Tournament.
- (c) Tournament shall be played within the number of days designated on Official Bracket (except for rain).
- (d) All games stopped for any reason will be resumed as a suspended game.
- (e) All towns hosting a District or State Tournament must have the Official Bracket posted at all times, with teams, date, time and place for all games. In boys' tournaments, pitcher inning records must also be listed.
- (f) **BASEBALL ONLY** (Excluding Boys T-Ball and Machine Pitch) If tournament scheduling deems it necessary that a team plays three games on any tournament day, the Tournament Director shall schedule at least four hours delay between the end of the first game and the beginning of the second game for the team possibly required to play a third game. **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES** shall a team be required to play more than three (3) games within any tournament day.
- (g) Tournament brackets will be furnished by the State Office. Each team entered in the tournament will be given a fair opportunity to draw for first round places on the brackets in a blind draw. Tournament officials should also take necessary steps to insure that two teams from the same league do not match up in the first round.
- (h) All District and State tournaments shall be played within the weeks designated by the TTAB/TTAS State Office.
- (i) All District Tournaments shall be scheduled to begin on Monday of the designated tournament week.
- (j) All State Tournaments shall be scheduled to begin on Monday of the designated tournament week.
- (k) In boys and girls High School Eligible leagues, tournaments shall be set on weekends and will be published on the Official TTA calendar.
- (l) All tournament brackets with game times and dates must be approved by the State Director serving the tournament location.

200-13. TOURNAMENT ALLOCATION

- (a) The TTA Board will allocate District Tournaments in a May Tournament Allocation Meeting each year. State Tournaments will be allocated at the Annual State Meeting the prior August.
- (b) District and State Tournament Requests should be submitted, along with applicable tournament fee, tournament director's name, address, and phone number, to the State Office before May 1st for District Tournaments and by the seventh day before the Annual State Meeting for State Tournaments.
- (c) All league champions within the same area, and especially within the same organization, shall be assigned to the same district to determine a State Tournament participant.
- (d) For hosting a State Tournament, affiliates of two leagues or less, the winner of each league will receive a bye to the State Tournament. The 2nd place teams (if applicable) would go to the appropriate and same District Tournament.
- (e) Affiliates having three leagues or more would host a District Tournament for all 1st place teams with the 1st and 2nd place teams hosting the State Tournament and all 2nd place teams (if applicable) would go to the appropriate and same District Tournament.
- (f) TTA State Directors reserve the right to change this rule if they deem necessary.

200-14. QUALIFICATIONS, PROTESTS, AND DISPUTES

- (a) Any violation of Tournament Rules must be reported immediately to the Tournament Director.
- (b) It shall be the duty and responsibility of the State President to rule on the qualifications and eligibility of all active member leagues during and before the end of the regular season of League Play. Any ruling or decision made by the State President shall be considered final.
- (c) During Tournament Play, the Tournament Director and his committee shall make rulings on the eligibility of teams or players at that time. Any such ruling shall be considered final; however, they must be based on substantial facts, placed in writing, and reported to the State President.

- (d) The Tournament Officials shall decide all protests and disputes arising during Tournament Play on the level and at the time at which they occur. A Protest Committee shall be available at all times. A Tournament Director shall not serve as an official member of the Protest Committee.

200-15. UMPIRES FOR TTAB/TTAS TOURNAMENTS

- (a) Umpires shall be furnished by the host organizations. TTA recommends that TTA Certified Umpires be chosen.
- (b) There shall be at least two (2) Official Umpires working all TTA District and State Tournament games.
- (c) An Official Umpire is defined as one that is appointed and approved by the Tournament Director. A Tournament Director is solely responsible for selection and performance of Umpires.
- (d) Umpires shall be chosen from the best source available in the immediate area. Umpires shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age.
- (e) Umpires shall be completely familiar with TTAB/TTAS Rules and Regulations. Prior to tournament play, Tournament Directors shall furnish Umpires a TTAB/TTAS Rulebook and a copy of local ground rules and TTAB/TTAS Special Rules.
- (f) Umpires must be dressed alike and preferably in official umpire's uniforms.
- (g) A Tournament Director shall not umpire any tournament game.
- (h) Umpires will check all bats prior to each game in tournament play.

200-16. SCOREKEEPERS AND STATISTICIANS

The host organizations shall furnish a competent scorekeeper and statistician to record and keep an accurate record of: at bats, hits, runs, errors, extra base hits, strikeouts, walks, innings pitched, stolen bases, etc.

200-17. OFFICIAL BASEBALL/SOFTBALL

All towns hosting a Boys District or State Tournament must use the official TTAB stamped Baseball from the TTA approved supplier. All towns hosting a Girls District or State Tournament must use the official TTAS stamped Softball from the TTA approved supplier. (Note: Orders for Official TTA Baseballs and Softballs should be ordered through the State Official Baseball-Softball Supplier (See page 68). Order information is available in all Affiliate Guide Packages and on the TTA Web Page.

200-18. OFFICIAL TTA AWARDS

All District and State Tournaments shall present the approved TTA awards to all first and second place managers or third and fourth places as in the following guidelines. Affiliates hosting a District or State tournament will be required to present individual player awards to the appropriate number of teams depending on number of attending the tournament, exception: High School Eligible.

<u>Number of Teams</u>	<u>Required Individual Player Awards</u>
7 Teams or Less	1 st and 2 nd Places
8 teams to 13 teams	1 st , 2 nd and 3 Places
14 Teams and Above	1 st , 2 nd 3 rd and 4 th Places

Guidelines for player awards will be included in all tournament guideline packages. These individual player awards will be furnished by the tournament host. All State tournament hosts will be required to furnish a player participation award to all players in age divisions 12 and under.

2010 & 2011 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	
March 1	March 1	Return Indication Forms
30 Days prior to the official start of the local league schedule		
OR May 1		Deadline Affiliation Forms & Dues
By the date of the first Official League Game		
Team Roster Deadline (All Teams)		
May 3	May 2	Deadline for requesting District Tournaments
May 15	May 14	Tournament Allocations Meeting
June 26	June 25	End of the TTAS season
June 27	June 26	TTAS Tournament Roster Deadline
July 3	July 2	End of the TTAB season
July 5	July 4	TTAS District Tournaments begin
July 5	July 4	TTAB Tournament Roster Deadline
July 12	July 11	TTAB District Tournaments begin
July 15-18	July 14-17	Girls High School Eligible State
July 19	July 18	TTAS State Tournaments begin
July 26	July 25	TTAB State Tournaments begin
July 23-25	July 22-24	Boys High School Eligible State
August 2	August 1	Deadline requesting State Tournaments
Aug 13-15	Aug 12-14	Annual State Meeting of Affiliates
Killeen 2010	TBA 2011	

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