

## GREAT BEND RECREATION COMMISSION T-BALL RULES

1. **Player Eligibility:** This league is for boys and girls who were in the Pre-school and 1st grade during the current school year or whose birth date is on or between Sept. 2, 2011 and Sept. 1, 2013.
2. **Registration:** Any youth wanting to sign up for a GBRC Youth Sports program must have their parents or guardian fill out and sign a Youth Consent Form and submit the appropriate fee at the GBRC office during the designated registration period. A one-week late registration period, with an increased fee, will follow the registration deadline for each youth sports program. Teams will be formed after this week. Sign-ups will be taken after the late registration week and placed on a waiting list to be utilized if players are needed to keep teams at optimum numbers. The individual will have to pay the late fee before they will be placed on a team. Any individual signing up after the late registration week will not be guaranteed placement in the program.
3. **Teams:** No more than fifteen (15) players are allowed on a team when enrollment numbers allow. All players will play offense and defense.
4. **League Play:** Each team will play a 8 game season as the schedule allows.
5. **Games:** Games will be played on weekday evenings and will start in accordance to the game schedule.
6. **Game Time:** All warm-ups must be completed by game time. A team must have seven (7) players to start a game. No automatic outs will be recorded.
7. **Game Length:** Two (2) innings which all batters bat each inning and One (1) inning where outs are enforced. Two (2) innings will be a regulation game in the event of rain or inclement weather. Any game called before that time will be re-scheduled and a new game will be played. There will be a 1-hour time limit on all league games. No new inning will start after the time limit has expired. The 3<sup>rd</sup> inning where outs are enforced means that if a team can record 3 outs by "put-out" or retired batter, the offensive team's at bat will end and the home team will bat. No score will be kept in this league. This is an instructional parent involved league. Each team will bat through their entire line-up the first 2 innings. Outs will be recorded and batters retired, but everyone will bat each inning with exception to above. The purpose of this rule is to provide each batter a maximum number of opportunities to see as many at-bats as possible.
8. **Home Team:** The second team listed on the schedule will be the home team who occupies third base dug out.
9. **Field Dimensions:** Base length will be 60 feet.
10. **Ball Dimensions:** This league will use a Reduced Injury Factor (RIF) # 1 baseball/safesoft softball
11. **Coaches:** 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> base coaches are allowed in their coaching boxes on offense. No more than three (3) defensive coaches may be on the field to verbally assist the defensive players.
12. **Line-ups:** Coaches will be required to turn in a line-up card that includes the player's first and last name and shirt number no later than ten (10) minutes before game time. Scorekeepers should not accept a lineup card without this information. All players present will be entered into the batting line-up and bat each time it is their turn. Every player will play defensively and start every game. Coaches are encouraged to give every player the opportunity to play in the infield at least four (4) games during the season. No automatic outs will be recorded.
13. **Jewelry:** No jewelry such as watches, rings, earrings, neck chains or bracelets are allowed (Exception: medical alert bracelets). Metal medical alert bracelets must be taped.
14. **Shoes:** No steel cleats are allowed in any GBRC sponsored Baseball/Softball program. Rubber molded cleats are encouraged.
15. **Equipment:** All boys are strongly encouraged to wear an athletic cup. The catcher must wear helmet, mask (with throat protector), body protector and shin guards. All boy catchers are required to wear an athletic cup.

16. **Helmets:** Batters, on deck batters, base runners and bat boys/girls are required to wear their helmets properly at all times (PENALTY: The offending team will receive one warning. A subsequent violation of the rule shall result in an out being called on the offender.)
17. **Batters:** Batters will be given a maximum of five (5) swings to hit a ball into fair territory. If after the fifth swing the batter has not hit into fair territory, the batter will be declared out.
18. **Bat Throwing:** The batter is responsible for the bat. Any batter throwing or releasing the bat which endangers players, coaches or staff will be called out with no runners advancing.
19. **Bunting:** Bunting is not allowed; batters must attempt a full swing.
20. **Batting Out of Order:** Anytime the scorekeeper becomes aware of a player that batted out of order, the scorekeeper must bring the violation to the umpire's attention. If the error is discovered while the incorrect batter is at bat, the correct batter may legally take his/her place and assume any balls or strikes. All other batting out of order situations will be handled according to the KSHSAA Rule Book.
21. **Courtesy/Pinch Runners:** Courtesy/Pinch runners are not allowed, except in the case of an injury.
22. **Base Running:** Base runners may not steal or leave the base until the ball is hit.
23. **Overthrows:** A runner may advance as many bases as he/she can get on an overthrow if the ball remains in play. If the ball goes into dead ball territory, the base runner may take the base he/she was advancing to plus one additional base.
24. **Slide Rule:** No crash plays will be allowed. A runner who is affecting the defense trying to make a play, must slide or be called out. Contact with the fielder while sliding is not a crash play.
25. **Infield Fly Rule:** The infield fly rule is not in effect.
26. **In-between Innings:** At the beginning of each half inning, not more than one (1) minute may be used to warm-up. In the event the catcher made the last out or stranded on base, a coach or player is encouraged to assist the catcher to follow the one (1) minute guideline.
27. **Pitching:** A batting tee will be utilized to hit the ball.
28. **Walks:** Walks will not be issued.
29. **Defensive Alignment:** Infielders must take regular positions on the infield and outfielders must be in the grass until the ball is hit. Two of the infielders, not including the pitcher or catcher must be girls if enough players are present and the league is coed. Infielders will be positioned normally. Any extra defensive players may be placed in the outfield and positioned in the grass.
30. **"Time":** Defensive players must stop play before the ball goes back to the umpire. This is done by asking for "Time". "Time" is to be called when the ball is in possession of a defensive player in the infield area and no play is being made on a runner with runners not advancing. This is a judgment call and the intent of the rule is to not allow stealing. Once "Time" has been called, the ball is to be thrown to the defensive pitcher. The defensive pitcher will then hand the ball to the umpire. The defensive pitcher may position themselves anywhere inside the 8-foot radius pitching circle that is not closer to home than the pitching rubber. If a player throws the ball back to the pitching coach before "Time" is called, the pitching coach will allow the ball to drop and base runners may advance until play is stopped and "Time" is called.
31. **Injured Player:** Any player who becomes ill or is injured and will not return to the line-up for the remainder of the game, will be skipped in the line-up with no automatic outs being recorded. If the player wishes to return to the game and play defense only, an automatic out must be issued each time his/her turn at bat occurs.
32. **Protests:** Protests will not be allowed except concerning player eligibility. Questions about rule interpretations or judgment calls must be settled at the time they are brought to the umpire's attention. The umpire's decision is final.
33. **Other Rules:** All other rules will be followed by the KSHSAA Baseball Rule Book.
34. **League Awards:** Participant medals will be awarded to players.

35. **Inclement Weather:** All postponed games because of inclement weather or other reasons, will be announced on KVGB, KHOK, KZXL radio and GBRC information hotline at **793-3755 ext. 4**, not before 4:00 p.m. of the day of the postponement. Also, Face Book and [www.greatbendrec.net](http://www.greatbendrec.net) for information. Make-up games will be scheduled as soon as possible and coaches will be notified.
36. **Code of Conduct:** Players, Coaches and Spectators in the GBRC programs are expected to conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner. Unsportsmanlike behavior directed toward other players, teams, officials, coaches and fans will not be tolerated. This includes, but is not limited to, obscene gestures, cheating, hitting, disrespect to officials, or other behavior deemed inappropriate. If a player, coach or spectator is ejected from a game by an official or supervisor, then that person is automatically ejected from the next two scheduled GBRC games, and all practices occurring within this time period. A player may be warned; second warning results in automatic ejection. The Sports Supervisor will notify the players and coaches of the suspension.
37. **Drugs and Alcohol:** There will be no use of drugs or alcoholic beverages on or near the game/practice field or facility premises by managers, coaches, players, officials, GBRC staff or anyone concerned with GBRC teams during games, pre-game activities, or practices. One warning may be issued; or the person in question will be asked to leave the field and face indefinite suspension from any GBRC event or program.
38. **Weapons:** Weapons of any kind are not allowed on or at any GBRC site or facility. (at the discretion of the GBRC Staff.)