



Meridian Township Parks and Recreation T-ball Program

H.Y.R.A. Objective:

HYRA hopes that by participating in the Baseball/Softball program, players will develop a true understanding of sportsmanship, teamwork and individual discipline. We believe that this can be attained through honest and fair competition. Emphasis should not be on winning, but on the fundamentals of the game. Accordingly, the program has no championships, playoffs, or individual player awards, and does not keep score or standings. If the children are proud of the game they played, the way they played, and had fun, then our goal has been met!

Code of Conduct:

Coaches may use their discretion to remove any player from a game who displays unsportsmanlike attitude or conduct. An abusive coach or parent will also be asked to leave the game for the same unacceptable conduct.

Weather Conditions:

- In the case of inclement weather (heavy rain, tornado warning, etc), all games will be cancelled. If possible but **not mandatory** coaches are asked to reschedule their own games on a Friday. (Please call our office to reserve the field 853-4612).
- On game days, if the weather is questionable, at 5:00 the Parks and Recreation office will make a decision and if we cancel the games, the coaches will be called. Rainout number is **853-4688**
- Once the game begins, decisions to call a game because of bad weather rests with the coaches. (If Thunder is heard or lightning is sighted you must return to your car for 30 minutes) If you hear thunder or see lightning within those 30 minutes you must start the clock over. (Cancel the game)

Equipment and Uniforms:

- No metal cleats are allowed. Shoes with rubber cleats or tennis shoes are preferred.
- Helmets must be worn while batting and running the bases
- Players must wear a ball glove when in the field.



"Tee-ball" Rules

Length of the Game:

- An inning will consist of the time needed for each player to bat once.
- A regulation game will consist of 4+ innings, meaning each team will bat at least four times or as many innings within an hour. PLEASE START AND END ON-TIME!!!

General Rules:

- The base distance is 50 feet.
- There will be no strikeouts.
- All spectators and equipment must remain in the out-of-play area.
- All players not involved in the game on the field must remain "on the bench" behind the "out-of-play" line.
- No bunting
- no stealing
- The ball must travel at least ten (10) feet beyond the tee to be considered a fair ball.
- Regular Slow-Pitch Rules apply to all plays, except as preempted by these HYRA rules.

Participation:

DEFENSE:

- (No more than 9 on a field at one time) A maximum of five (5) infielders are allowed, including the pitcher, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and shortstop. All others must be positioned in the outfield. (Only one player may be positioned at pitcher.)
- Do not position a player in the catcher's position.
- Players must switch positions every inning. (Outfield to infield)(infield to outfield) One player per inning will be the exception of that rule due to 5 infielders and 4 outfielders). Rotate the positions.

OFFENSE:

- **Soft toss for 3 pitches before they hit off the tee**
- **If a player gets a good hit allow him to run the bases. Stop the player once they ball is back in the field of play**
- **Each team must play ALL bats behind the batters box (no bats near the bench)**
- **Please have a coach (parent) at the batters box at all times. Only the coach will hand the player (batter) the bat. The coach will place the ball on the tee.**
- **Teams must have a parent on the bench at all times**
- **Only one player will be allowed to have a bat in their hands (batter) there will be no on-deck batter.**
 - The batting order will consist of all players present at the game.
 - ½ inning consist of everyone batting (**please do NOT announce last batter**)
 - Allow the last batter to end the inning by making it to first base or beyond or getting out)
 - If a player arrive after the game begins, their name will be placed at the end of the batting order.
 - The batting order should flip every inning and change every game
 - Players called out at a base must return to the bench.