



Georgia Sports Officials Association

HOW TO UMPIRE A T-BALL GAME

Appoint two umpires

Each team should supply one volunteer umpire (usually a parent).

One umpire is stationed behind home plate, toward third base side to avoid foul balls. Primary responsibilities are to keep track of batters) and swings (batters receive up to 5 swings at a ball placed on a tee, bunting is not allowed.

1. There are no called strikes or balls. If a batter fails to make contact with the ball upon the 5th pitch, it will be placed on a tee positioned at home plate and hit from there. There are no strike outs while trying to hit from the coach pitcher, bunting is not allowed. Once the ball is placed on the tee, player receives 3 swings; failure to put the ball in play constitutes a strike out. Home plate umpire also makes "safe" or "out" calls at third base and home plate and is responsible for moving tee from field of play after ball has been put into play.

2. One umpire is stationed near the infield, behind the second baseman. Primary responsibilities are to make "safe" and "out" calls at first and second bases, and to enforce the "time out" and "overthrow" rules.

Umpires change positions after each full inning (six outs).

A few rules reminders...

Pitching distance: Pitching rubber is positioned 35 feet from the back of home plate.

Base Running: A player may not leave any base until the ball has crossed home plate or put into play via hit. Lead offs and stealing are NOT permitted.

Time out: After a ball is hit or overthrown to the outfield; play stops once the ball has been returned to the infield and is in control of an infielder. Base runners may not advance at this point unless he/she is already at least halfway to the next base at the time play stops. Base runners who are at least halfway to the next base may continue to advance to the next base at his/ her own risk of being tagged out, or may choose to return to the preceding base without risk of being tagged out.

Overthrows: An overthrown ball that travels into dead ball territory DOES NOT result in the awarding of a base to any runner. Updated Nov. 2012

