

BASEBALL / SOFTBALL LEAGUE FAQ's

REGISTRATION /TEAMS/PRACTICES

1. How are coaches assigned to teams?

- a. Answer: All coaches are volunteers. Coaches are typically parents/guardians of the participants.

2. How do I signup to coach?

- a. Answer: If parent/guardian of a participant - During the registration process, complete the form field that ask about interest in coaching. . If the coach is not a parent/guardian of a participant, they should email Brad Cresse directly for instructions on volunteering (bcresse@tractionsports.com)

3. How are teams formed?

- a. Answer: Most teams are formed outside of Traction. Even if the team is formed outside of Traction, each participant must register individually and put team name/coach's name. Some teams are partially formed outside of Traction with the remaining players added to the team by Traction. Other teams are completely formed by Traction. If you have a group of kids that want to play together but not enough for a whole team, you can indicate that during the registration process.

4. Can I signup without a team?

- a. Answer: Yes, you can signup as a "free agent" and be placed on a team by Traction.

5. Can we use Traction's fields for practices?

- a. Answer: Yes. But for pre-season practices only. We allow teams to use our fields on either Monday OR Friday evenings before our league games start the first week of March. Teams are allotted 1 hour of practice time on a Traction field beginning January 11th. Once league games begin, teams are responsible for scheduling and finding their own practice field. Once league games start, we do not have the capacity to rent our fields.

6. How do we reserve pre-season practice times?

- a. Answer: Every team's head coach or team manager must email Brad Cresse at bcresse@tractionsports.com with their preferred practice night (Monday or Friday) and time slot (4-5pm, 5-6pm, 6-7pm, 7-8pm). Practice requests will be honored on a 1st come 1st served basis, starting Monday, December 7, 2020.

7. Do you have a rule book that I can view for your league?

- a. Answer: Yes

BASEBALL

8. Which age division does my child belong in? For example, my child is 6 years old right now but turns 7 years old in March. He is also in 1st grade. What age/grade division is the correct division for my child?

- a. Answer: **The age for all participants in our 2021 Spring Baseball League is their age on April 30th, 2021.** If a child turns 7 on or before that date they need to play in the 7u division? However, if your child is in 1st grade they can play in the 7u division. Our age groups are also attached to the corresponding grades: (Please note, a child can play up in age/grade but they cannot play down in age/grade)

6u Coaches Pitch/T-Ball Mix	Kindergarten
7u Coaches Pitch	1st Grade
8u Coaches Pitch	2nd Grade
9u Kids Pitch	3rd Grade
10u	4th Grade
11u	5th Grade
12u	6th Grade
13u	7th Grade
14u	8th Grade

9. My child is a first time player and wants to play in your league. Is it real serious for 3 & 4 year olds?

- a. Answer: Our Pee-Wee T-ball league is a beginner co-ed league and is built for teaching these young players the basic fundamentals of the game in a fun and structured environment. This division plays 2 inning games. Every player on the team bats each inning before switching sides and playing on defense. There are no umpires recording outs or runs scored. These games are around 45 minutes in length. All players on each team can play in the field each inning. We use safe foam balls and bats for this division (Provided by Traction) so no helmets are necessary.

10. My child has played in the Pee-Wee division last year as a 3 year old and is ready to play in a more competitive atmosphere with teams who practice weekly. Can he play up in the T-Ball division even if he is 4 years old?

- a. Answer: Yes. Your child can always play up in age if you feel they are ready for that level of structure and competition. The T-ball division uses the same safe foam ball but they need their own aluminum bats. Batting helmets are required for this division and up.

11. What is the difference between the T-Ball Division and the Coaches Pitch/T-ball mix division?

- a. Answer: First off, the age of players in the T-Ball division are 4 & 5 year old's. The age in our Coaches Pitch/T-Ball Mix Division are 5 & 6 year olds. The two divisions use the same safe foam balls and aluminum bats with batting helmets. The difference in rules is the Coaches Pitch mix division has a coach throw 3 pitches to each player to put into play in fair territory. If the player does not put a ball in play, the batting tee is brought in where they receive two swings to put the ball in play.
- T-Ball division allows 3 swings off the batting tee to put the ball in play.
 - Coaches Pitch Division - if a player hits the ball off a thrown pitch from the coach it is a live ball. If the player does not put the ball in play off a thrown pitch and has to hit off the tee, then the maximum a player (batter and baserunners) can

advance is 1 total base. Batter gets 2 swings off the tee to put the ball in play. If the 2nd swing does not put the ball in play, the batter is declared out.

- iii. Both divisions have end of the season championship tournaments for all teams. Teams are seeded according to regular season record. The tournament is single elimination.

12. What do we do for uniforms for our team in the T-Ball Divisions:

- a. Answer: Traction provides every player in our Pee Wee Division, T-Ball Division, Coaches Pitch/T-Ball Mix Division a hat and 2 game jerseys (Black – Away Team, Red – Home Team)

13. What do we do about uniforms for our team in the 7u Coaches Pitch Division?

- a. Answer: Uniforms are not provided by Traction. Teams competing in 7U – 14U divisions are responsible for their own uniforms.

14. What balls are used in the 7u Coaches Pitch Division:

- a. Answer: We use real baseballs in all coaches pitch divisions (7u & 8u). It is the same baseball used in all kids pitch divisions 9-14u.

15. Are there different levels of experience within your league in each age division?

- a. Answer: Traction provides a fun structured league for teams with a wide variety of experience. Each year we have teams with very little playing experience. We also have teams who play in our league that also play some weekend tournaments. We structure our game schedule to match competition level within the teams in each division. We monitor the games every few weeks and adjust the schedules accordingly, if necessary.

SOFTBALL

1. I noticed you only have 8u, 10u & 12u age divisions in your Softball League. My daughter is 9 years old does she have to play in the 10u division?

- a. Answer: Yes. Softball goes by even age divisions which means if they are an odd age they must play up in age in the division that has two age groups combined. The cut-off date for our softball league is January 1, 2021. That means their playing age is whatever they are on January 1, 2021.

2. What type of ball do you use in the 8u Coaches Pitch Division?

- a. Answer: We use a 11" Soft Compression Softball in this division to ensure safety for all participants.

3. What type of ball do you use in your 10u & 12u age divisions?

- a. Answer: We use an 11" Regular Softball in 10u and a 12" Regular Softball in 12u.

4. Can girls wear face masks to play defense?

- a. Answer: Yes. We recommend in the younger age divisions that they do use them and allow it in all age divisions.

5. How long are games during the season?

- a. Answer: Game lengths are 1 hour long for all softball age divisions.

6. I have heard in your league that in 10u & 12u Fastpitch divisions the coaches pitch after a walk from the kid pitcher. Is this correct?

- a. Answer: Yes. We are a developmental league that wants to provide hitters with the opportunity to hit the ball each at bat and give the defensive players more opportunities to make plays.

7. Is stealing allowed?

- a. No. We do not allow stealing to take place. This allows the tempo of play to speed up and give the girls more actual time to get in game repetitions.