

COVID-19 Return to Play Rules: T-Ball Rules Modifications

June 1, 2020

The rules additions and modifications outlined below will be enforced for the NCIL Baseball and Softball Summer 2020 Season. Participants should note that there is risk to any social gathering in the current community situation, and these rules additions and modifications **do not remove all risk** from participation. These rules are intended to modify T-ball to be more fun for the kids during a time of increased requirements on the league.

These rules are a supplement to, and not a replacement of, the NCIL COVID-19 Return to Play Rules. Those rules will be required for T-ball in addition to the rules noted below.

Combination Clinic T-Ball Model

- Goal: To provide an environment emphasizing baseball skills training and related activities so kids learn to play in a manner that attempts to reduce risk, as the overarching NCIL COVID-19 Return to Play Rules are intended to do.
- Goal: To have smaller teams and therefore a smaller ratio of players to adult volunteers (approximately 10 kids per team).
- Goal: To hold actual games in the final two weeks of the season, if possible, so kids still gain some game experience.
- At least one parent or guardian must attend each practice (clinic) and game to assist in making sure kids adhere to NCIL COVID-19 rules during times players are not on the field.
- T-ball will meet twice per week throughout the entire NCIL season.
- T-ball practices (clinics) and games will not use dugouts. Players will sit with a parent or guardian anytime a player is not on the field. Parents, guardians, and players must maintain appropriate social distancing at all times.
- Practices (clinics) will be run by coaches with the assistance of 3-4 volunteers per team.
- Practices (clinics) will consist of multiple stations: Fielding and throwing; hitting; and baserunning.
 - Drills will be planned and executed in a manner to assure appropriate social distancing.
 - Example: Fielding and throwing station in right field; hitting station in left field; and baserunning station on the infield.
- Practices (clinics) will have a time limit of 45 minutes-1 hour.
 - Teams will enjoy 7-10 minutes per station with 3-5 min water/break between rotations.
- At the end of each practices (clinics), dependent on numbers and ability to do so, the team will split to mini skills games.
 - Approximately 10-15 minutes.
 - Examples: 5 in field 5 hit, timed base running game, throwing game, etc.