**LCYO Shetland (T-Ball) Division Facts Sheet**

**GENERAL**

Philosophy: The Shetland division is one of the largest and most important divisions in Pony Baseball.  The focus in Shetland is on developing basic baseball skills, introducing sportsmanship, cooperation, and most of all HAVING FUN!!  No score is kept; the emphasis is on learning not winning.

Ages: The league is for 4-6 years olds.  Please see [www.PONY.org](http://www.PONY.org) to determine your player’s league age.

Team Managers: Our league is chronically short of Head Coaches, so please volunteer.  Coaching is a great way to enjoy time with your child.  We make every attempt to provide practice times that accommodate a coach’s schedule.  In late January, we conduct a coaching clinic to review practice techniques and drills to make your practices more productive.

Equipment: In the Spring, LCYO provides all players with a uniform, including cap, jersey, socks, belt and baseball pants.  In the Fall, LCYO provides all players with a jersey and cap. A baseball glove (preferably leather), bat and cleats are required  Kids batting helmets are no more than 16 oz. in weight and bats are typically 25” or 26” in size.

**PRE-SEASON**

Tryouts: Unlike all older baseball divisions, there are NO tryouts for Shetland.

Team Formation: You can request a specific coach or a teammate, or a specific school.  Please note such requests during the registration process.  We do our best to accommodate such requests, but we cannot make any guarantees. Teams are generally put together by school and/or geography. Requests made by volunteer coaches will be honored!

Player Notification: Coaches generally receive their roster by the end of January.  Coaches should notify their players directly by the end of the first week of February.

**REGULAR SEASON**

Rules: Batters hit a soft baseball off a tee, with coaches free to assist the players with hitting instruction during the at-bat.  Games consist of three innings and typically last one hour.  All players bat and field in every inning, with every player required to play a minimum of one inning in the infield and one inning in the outfield every game.

Season: LCYO‘s Spring Shetland Season begins in early February and ends in the middle of May.  LCYO attempts to not schedule games during Spring Break, but due to the multiple school districts our players attend, that is not always possible. LCYO’s Fall Season generally runs from early September to mid-November.

Practices & Games: Practices and games generally last between 1 and 1 ½ hours. Preseason begins in early February and consists of two practices per week (one weekday and one Saturday).  Games (one weekday game and one Saturday game) will begin in late February/early March.  For LCYO’s Fall Season, practices/games are only on Sundays. Teams no longer practice once games commence.

Shetland games and practices are held at Alga Norte Park in Carlsbad.

Please check the LCYO web site (www.lcyo.org) for up to date information or feel free to contact us by email.