



# LITTLE LEAGUE® TEE BALL GAME PLAY & TIPS

Little League® recommends that the 10 practices detailed in this curriculum are interspersed with games throughout the season. It is important to remember that Tee Ball Games should also be focused around the principals of fun, fitness, and fundamentals. Leagues are encouraged to implement or adapt the following concepts to improve game play for participants.

## LIMIT ROSTER SIZE

When possible, leagues are encouraged to limit the size of Tee Ball rosters to 6 to 10 players. Limiting roster size improves the game play experience by:

- Shortening game time
- Allowing for players to be more active in the field
- Shortening the wait to bat for players on the hitting team
- Allowing for coaches to provide more attention to each player

## USE TIME LIMITS

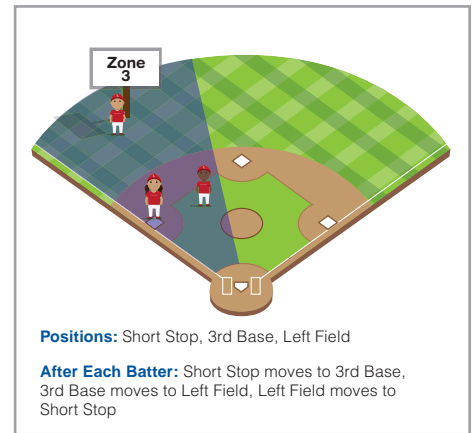
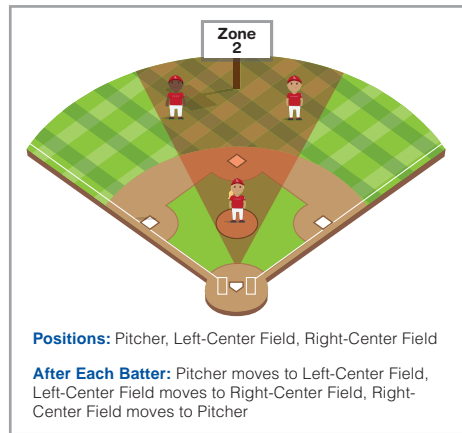
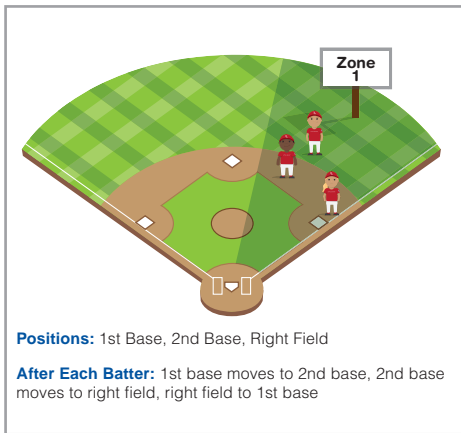
When scheduling and playing games, keep in mind the attention span of an average Tee Ball participant. Little League recommends setting a time limit of 1 hour to 1 hour and 15 minutes for games. If using smaller rosters, this should allow for 2-3 innings of play to be completed.

## DEFENSIVE TIPS



### ROTATE PLAYERS ON DEFENSE

Rotating players during the inning on defense is a great way to keep them engaged. An effective way to do this is to divide the playing field into 2 or 3 zones, assigning a coach to each zone, and rotating players within each zone after every batter (or after a predetermined number of batters). The following sample defensive rotation divides the field into 3 zones and ensures that every player gets to play an infield and outfield position every inning.



If you use a catcher, it is recommended that the catcher stay in position for the entire inning due to the need to wear catcher's equipment.

### TIPS:

- Make sure to assign a coach to each zone
- Once players have rotated, have them get in a ready position for each batter

### UTILIZE COACHES ON DEFENSE

Utilizing coaches on defense is a great way to keep players engaged in the field. The defensive team's coaches should divide the field into zones and work with players in their area to stay alert and engaged. Utilizing tactics such as having players get into a ready position, having players call out where they will throw the ball if hit to them, etc. keeps players active and focused. Coaches can also consider taking an extra ball or two onto the field with them to toss to players to keep them engaged during times when the ball is not hit in their direction.

