

MEL OTT PreK – 1 (T-Ball) Division Rules updated November 13, 2019
Mel Ott Lutheran PreK-1 Rules (T-Ball)
For the 2021 Season

PreK-1 (T-Ball) Division (4 yrs. to Grade 1)
May 1, 2017 to September 1, 2014

Insurance Coverage: Each team's registration fee includes insurance coverage for players, coaches, and leadership. Policy includes basic accident medical, catastrophic medical, and general liability coverage.

Eligibility: Any player born prior to September 1, 2014 is **overage**. Likewise, any player, who has not reached his/her **fourth** birthday by that same day, is deemed **under age**.

By consent of the player, his/her parents, the team manager, and the Church coordinator an underage player might play. No overage players are permitted unless they are granted an exception by the League Coordinator.

Equipment:

- The minimum uniform consists of caps and numbered T-Shirts.
- All players are highly encouraged to wear an athletic supporter.
- No metal cleats are allowed on shoes.
- A batting helmet must be worn while **running the bases**.
- **A soft baseball RIF Level 1 will be used.**
- **60' Bases** will be used.
- Pitcher required to wear helmet with face shield.

Game:

- A regulation game is 1 hour.
- A **half-inning is considered over** after 3 outs are made, or 4 runs have been scored.
- Score will be kept and a batting order will be followed.
- Fielding Team Coach is the umpire.

Participation:

- **All children** on the team **must be in the batting order**.
- The defensive team is allowed to field ten (10) players. Five (5) Infield & 5 (five) Outfielders.
- No player can play any position for more than two innings in a game.
- No Catchers will be used.

Batting:

- T-Ball: Players may not enter the batting area until the ball is placed on the tee.
- T-Ball: Players are limited to five swings to hit the ball. Otherwise it is considered a strike out.
- T-Ball: Bunting is not allowed. Ball **must go past the t-ball circle around the plate. (15' radius)**

Base Running:

- Runners may not leave the base until the ball is hit.
- There is no limit on the number of bases a batter may attain. However, when a ball thrown or run in from the outfield reaches the infield, the **ball is dead**.
- A runner cannot advance to the next base unless they are more than halfway to the next base.
- Coaches are highly encouraged to place a chalk/paint line at the halfway point of each base.
- Two coaches will be allowed in the field to give directions to the players.

Keys to making this division a success:

- To expedite play, hold firm to the **max. 5 swing count. (no exceptions !!!!)**
- We are here to develop individual talent, not to win games.

RAINOUTS: The church coordinators are responsible for rescheduling rained out games as soon as possible after a rainout. Coaches should report rainouts to their coordinators. Text rainouts to Umpire Coordinator immediately upon decision - include Team Name, Game Number & Location.

SCHEDULES: Once the schedules have been prepared, all games are firm unless canceled by an act of God. By the first game should a reschedule be necessary, after the coaches agree on a reschedule date, the home team coach must request approval from the umpire scheduler.