



T-BALL ORIENTATION

March 2018

What is YMCA T-Ball?

T-Ball is a preschool sport program for boys and girls ages 3-Kindergarten. Children will benefit from the socialization and physical activity of our organized play, while having the opportunity to learn basic T-Ball fundamentals, such as catching, throwing, batting, fielding, and base-running, in a non-competitive environment. Emphasis is on teaching the values of good sportsmanship, teamwork, and skill development in a fun atmosphere for all.

Why YMCA T-Ball?

This program helps children develop fundamental skills and incorporates teamwork through instructional play. Whether it's gaining the confidence that comes from learning to play or building the positive relationships that lead to good sportsmanship and teamwork, participation in sports at the Y is focused on youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility. The YMCA preschool sport programs help kids become not only better players, but better people as well. We encourage fair play, friendly competition, and family involvement.

How will fundamentals be taught?

The YMCA's T-Ball program provides a safe and fun environment for young children to develop the basic skills necessary for baseball/softball. It's a progressive program that is designed to provide children with the opportunity to learn the basic skills, improve their hand-eye coordination, and experience the game situation. This program consists of structured drills and 2-inning games.

Program Details:

When: April 10th – May 12th

Times:

Practices:

Tuesdays from 6:30–7:00 p.m. & 7:15–7:45 p.m.

Thursdays from 6:30–7:00 p.m. & 7:15–7:45 p.m.

Games: Saturday mornings at 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 11:30 a.m.

****All times are Eastern Time****

Where:

Practices will be held at 18th Street Park in Ferdinand

Games will be held at 5th Street Park in Ferdinand

****Please watch our Facebook page and website for cancellations. We will also send out an email informing parents of a cancellation. Cancellations will be made at least 1 hour prior to the first practice or game. Cancelled practices and games will be made up at the end of the season.**

Schedules:

Schedules and team rosters will be emailed out to parents and coaches by Monday, April 2nd. If you did not list an email address, you will be contacted with your first practice time and printed copies will be available the first night of practice.

What to Bring:

Your child should bring his/her own mitt. Your child may bring other equipment. Please place his/her name on all equipment (hat, bat, ball, etc.).



Practice Example:

PRAYER: Staff will lead the children in devotion

WARM-UP: Staff will lead the children through several warm-up exercises

THROWING/CATCHING: Show which foot to step with and look at the target
Demonstrate the arm motion with leg motion
Demonstrate the proper use of the glove
Parents and coaches pitch back and forth with the children

GAME SITUATION: Practice hitting off the tee and running the bases

FIELDING: Explain what fielding is and allow players to rotate standing on the pitcher's mound to retrieve the ball

HITTING: Show and practice proper grip on the bat
Demonstrate which side of the plate to stand

Game Day Example:

PRAYER: Staff will lead the children in devotion

WARM-UP: Staff will lead the children through several warm-up exercises

GAME: The teams will play a two inning game

Recognition Day

A special game will be played on the last day of the season (May 12th). After the game, the players and coaches will be recognized for their participation.

T-shirts

T-shirts will be provided. We ask the child to wear his/her shirt on practice and game days. They will be handed out at the first practice.

Pictures

Pictures will be professionally taken for memories and keepsakes by Victory Photography. The specific picture date for each team will be listed on the schedule. Envelopes will be handed out at the first practice. Pictures will be returned on Recognition Day.

Volunteer Coach's Meeting

There will be a volunteer coach's meeting immediately following the parent orientation.

Thank you to all of the parents who help make this available to the children.

Contact Information:

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