

Modification to the second year of T-Ball to a mixed coach pitch and T-Ball.

The old 2008 Dunbar T-Ball Format:

In 1998 DLL had 2 divisions of T-Ball for Kindergarten (5 year olds) and First Grade (6 year olds). In both of these divisions the full season is played with a T for batting and a player stayed at bat until successfully hitting.

Change for 6 Year olds (First Grade; second year) for 2010 and beyond:

In the second year of T-ball First Grade (6 year olds) the format has been changed to 3 underhand coach pitches. If the batter does not hit one of these 3 pitches the T is placed on the plate and the batter continues off the T. **This is not being implemented in the first year of T-Ball.**

Objectives:

- To encourage our young players to develop one of the key skills in baseball.
- To increase the enjoyment of players with the game by hitting a pitched ball. It's fun.
- To start the move toward the game of baseball.

Issues:

- Speed of the game may be slowed down a bit. This is a minimal issue compared to the gain in player development.
- To speed things up the pitcher/coach should have three balls on the "mound" (and a glove) to pitch in succession then an at bat will go very quickly. The balls are returned to the pitcher **only** after the at bat. The batter is allowed only 3 pitches not 3 good strikes. Over the season this evens out.
- Having the same pitcher throughout the game would be good with coaches working the plate as usual.
- The pitcher will have to find their range (distance + accuracy).
- Not all kids will hit pitched balls at first. This is always the case but a significant percentage of players will hit the ball in the first game. By seasons end the majority of kids will be hitting the pitched ball at least once in a game. All kids will still get to hit off a T each inning.